Panorama Investigation & Outbreak Management Terminology

Acquisition Event (AE): Describes details of a subject’s exposure to a potential source of Communicable Disease. Acquisition Events can be linked to Transmission Events (TE). AE’s may be generated automatically when someone is identified as a known contact from an Exposure Screen or can be manually created.

Acquisition Event Intensities: Used to describe the level of an exposure a person may have been subjected to.

Authority is the authority who defines the case classification.
- National: Nova Scotia follows the National case definitions for the majority of diseases.
- Provincial: For a few diseases, Nova Scotia determines the case definition.
- Outbreak: Only used in the event of an outbreak when the outbreak case definition is different from the National or Provincial case definition.

Context: A specific record that a Panorama user is currently working with. This could be a Client, Investigation, Outbreak, or Encounter.

Encounter: A point of service for any type of subject that is defined by date, time, location and the type of activity. (e.g. immunization, disease screening, or lab results). An encounter can be associated with an investigation record.

Encounter Group: The business or functional area to which the subject and the health service are related. In Panorama, these are categorized as Communicable Disease, STI, TB, and Immunizations. Data access can be restricted by Encounter Group by associating a specific Role with an Encounter Group. Encounter Groups are frequently be used to filter drop-list data for appropriate display.

Etiologic Agent: Any microorganism that can cause infection. Etiologic Agent is used interchangeably with microorganism in Panorama.

Exposure: Describes the epidemiologically-relevant details (subject, location, time) between a potential source of transmission of a pathogen (e.g. an infectious case or a contaminated food item) and potential acquirers (e.g. susceptible contacts). An Exposure in Panorama is comprised of Acquisition Event(s) and Transmission Event(s). Exposure data is intended to expand upon or compliment data captured in the Risk Factor screens.

Intervention: A public health action recommended or ordered during case, contact or outbreak management. Examples of interventions include hospitalization, treatment, prophylaxis, counselling, education, and quarantine/isolation.

Follow-up: An action performed to fulfil the Intervention at a point in time.

Risk Factor: are factors that might increase the probability that the Client could acquire the disease.
Sensitive Occupation/Setting: Environments/occupations that might increase the probability that the Client could transmit the disease.

Service Delivery Location: A predefined physical location where a health service may be provided.

Subject: a human, animal or thing that is the focus of the services being recorded in Panorama. A subject is defined by a unique identifier (ID) and a type which categorizes the subject as human or non-human. Human subjects have a subject type of Client; non-human subjects have types such as food/water, fomite, animal/vector.

Transmission Event (TE): Describes details of a subject's potential transmission of a Communicable Disease to another subject. Cases and contacts are linked together via TEs. TEs may be created against an Outbreak, Non-Human Subject or Human Subject.

Treatment Profile: Describes general treatment, associated immunizations, active prescription, and intervention details and associated follow-up history for a particular encounter/case/contact.

User Defined Form (UDF): Questionnaires that may be created and updated to capture supplemental data in the system. This allows new data to be collected in response to the changing needs of public health. UDFs can be associated to investigations and outbreaks.