Dr. Gonzalo Bearman, associate hospital epidemiologist at VCU Medical Center, is on the front line when it comes to infectious diseases.

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Hospital epidemiologists are experts in the investigation of hospital-acquired infections. They work with infection control nurses, laboratory teams, and medical doctors to identify outbreaks and prevent them from spreading. They also assist in the management of outbreaks, provide education to healthcare workers, and help implement control measures.

The role of a hospital epidemiologist is crucial in ensuring a safe environment for staff and patients. They work alongside the infection control nurses to prevent the spread of infections, using various methods such as surveillance, outbreak investigation, and infection control education.

"We promote hospital policies that encourage vaccination and adherence to infection control best practices," Bearman said.

Hospital epidemiologists work with various departments, including nursing, administration, medicine, and pharmaceuticals, to monitor and control infections. They also help develop policies and procedures to prevent infections from spreading.

"It's a dual role," he said. "I'm responsible for infection control and management.

The role of a hospital epidemiologist is often multifaceted, involving both educational and research responsibilities. They work with healthcare providers to develop strategies to prevent infections and provide education to staff on infection control practices.

"We also have the responsibility to address the needs of patients," Bearman said. "We have to work with the family to ensure they have a sense of freedom, trust, and confidentiality.

Bearman has experience in the field of epidemiology, including 22 years of sales management, and he is confident that his skills, abilities, and knowledge would be valuable for a prospective employer.

"My experience includes gaining access to a variety of resources and working with hospitals and pharmaceutical companies to identify and prevent infections. I have a strong understanding of the role of a hospital epidemiologist in controlling infectious diseases.

Bearman is looking to start a career that will allow him to continue his work in the field of epidemiology and prevent the spread of infections. He is confident that his skills and experience would be valuable for a prospective employer.