

THE PREPAREDNESS REPORT

The Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response

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ELEVATED THREAT LEVEL

Seasonal Flu: Updated

For the week ending March 21st, CDC reported widespread influenza activity in 35 states (Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and West Virginia). Regional influenza activity was reported by 14 states (Arkansas, California, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, Wisconsin, and Wyoming). Local influenza activity was reported by the District of Columbia and Utah. Sporadic activity was reported by Puerto Rico. The complete report can be accessed by going to: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>.



Credit: CDC

New Form of Destructive

Terrorist Material Unlikely: New

Gerard Harbison, Ph.D. and colleagues speaking at the 237th National Meeting of the American Chemical Society in Salt Lake City, Utah, used computer simulations to analyze a variety of potential peroxide-based explosives in the same chemical class as triacetone triperoxide (TATP). Initially working on detection methods of peroxide explosives for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the group instead began to investigate the structure of a similar compound to evaluate likelihood of its use as a terrorist's weapon. Their analysis indicated that potentially new and destructive terrorist materials, which would tax current detection capabilities, may be too unstable for a practical use. To read the entire article, please visit: <http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/03/090324200927.htm>.

Avian Influenza: New

The WHO reports the cumulative number of confirmed human cases of avian influenza A (H5N1) as of March 11, 2009 to be 411 cases with 256 deaths resulting in a case mortality rate of 63%. To view the cumulative and individual country indexes, please visit: http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/country/cases_table_2009_03_11/en/index.html.

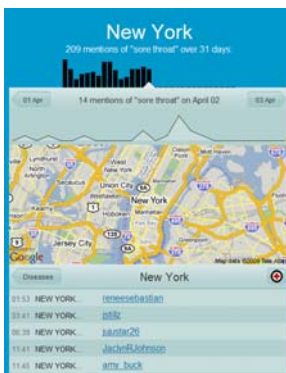
Press release Sanofi Pasteur

Sanofi Pasteur, the vaccines division of Sanofi-Aventis Group announced that its pandemic influenza vaccine for human use, Emerflu®, has been granted marketing authorization from the Australian Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA). Emerflu® vaccine is now approved for the prevention of pandemic influenza in Australia upon official declaration of a pandemic. Emerflu® vaccine is intended to be manufactured and distributed with the identified pandemic strain and used in Australia in accordance with official Australian government guidance. To read the entire press release, please visit: http://en.sanofi-aventis.com/binaries/2009-03-26_emerflu_australia_en_tcm28-24445.pdf. In a related finding, The European Medicines Agency said its experts were concerned over the ability of Sanofi's Emerflu to trigger the production of enough antibodies against the flu virus. Please visit: <http://www.reuters.com/article/email/idUSLJ96033420090319> for additional information



Lab accidents involving avian flu and Ebola viruses have increased biosecurity fears in Europe, where public health experts say research on dangerous pathogens needs to be more strictly monitored. Health authorities and industry groups reviewing European lab safety standards concluded in a new report that scientists and managers needed to be better trained in ways to prevent, handle and report such incidents.

Security experts warn that viruses and other biological agents could be used as weapons, as occurred in 2001 in the United States when envelopes containing anthrax were sent to media outlets and U.S. lawmakers, causing five deaths. For an in-depth discussion of these concerns, please visit: <http://www.reuters.com/article/email/idUSLJ556939>.



Twitter has been great for tracking things like earthquakes, forest fires, and other natural disasters, but what about human health? SickCity, a new Twitter application is doing just that, by tracking people's posts about being sick, having sore throats and other physical maladies. The tool allows the user to track these occurrences both by city and by each specific ailment with statistics that go back to the last 31 days, which can show trending. Such an application, operating in real-time, might give an early warning indicating the emergence of a pandemic. For further information, please visit: http://news.cnet.com/8301-17939_109-10199195-2.html.



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US DHHS Region I (New England) Emergency Planning Office (Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response – ASPR)

The following resources have been identified to assist your preparedness activities:

http://www.ynhhs.org/emergency/US_DHHS_web_sites.pdf

Highlighted Resources:

Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Guidance for Healthcare Workers and Healthcare Employers - OSHA:

http://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA_pandemic_health.pdf

The "Census of Government": an official tally, which is at governmental level and mostly about the governmental bureaucracy at local, state and federal levels:

<http://www.census.gov/govs/www/cog2007.html>

NORAD Move Raises

Security Concerns: **New**



Last year, the military completed a move of the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) from a nuclear-hardened bunker burrowed into nearby Cheyenne Mountain to the basement of

Building No. 2 at Peterson Air Force Base.. An internal document summarizing a recent security evaluation "recommends implementing difficult and costly retrofits and new construction to correct numerous physical vulnerabilities" to the building on Peterson Air Force Base. The building was "not designed to house" NORAD, says a summary of a security evaluation by the Pentagon's Defense Threat Reduction Agency. The document says its recommendations "do not eliminate risks associated with Command Center proximity to runway (aerial threat) and base boundary (VBIED threat)" - the latter a military acronym for a bomb in a car or truck. For more information, please visit:

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2009/mar/27/norad-move-raises-concerns/>.

Questions, Comments, Suggestions or to Subscribe

For questions, comments, suggestions or to subscribe to the Preparedness Report, please e-mail us at center@ynhh.org.
www.yalenehavenhealth.org/emergency

Avian Influenza: **New (Continued)**

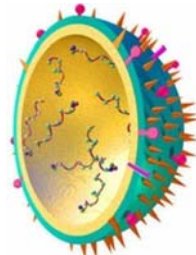


Credit: Greg Knobloch/CDC

According to a recently released review of HHS' efforts to assure the nation is prepared to meet a possible influenza pandemic head-on, the agency says it expects point-of-care influenza rapid test devices to be ready by the end of the year. Availability of such tests means that doctors and other health care professionals would be able to diagnose avian or any other potentially pandemic forms of influenza quickly and easily. This ability to rapidly test is vital as it is possible that many milder cases of H5N1 infection in humans have been

under reported or not been reported at all. To read the entire article, please visit:

<http://www.aafp.org/online/en/home/publications/news/news-now/health-of-the-public/20090316avian-flu.html>.



Credit: NIAID/Wikipedia

Rice University scientists have developed a new computerized method of testing that could help world health officials to better identify flu vaccines that are effective against multiple strains of the disease. The scientists who created the method say tests of data from bird flu and seasonal flu outbreaks suggest their method can better gauge the efficacy of proposed vaccines than can tests used today. With the new method, flu virus mutations are assigned numerical scores. Michael Deem, Rice's John W. Cox Professor of Bioengineering and professor of physics and astronomy, and colleagues developed the method so they could assign a number that captured the amount of difference or similarity between strains. The method can also be used to test how effective a vaccine will be against divergent strains. For verification, the

team checked their results against flu vaccine data collected by the World Health Organization from 1971 to 2004. To learn more about this method, please visit:

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/03/090317125219.htm>.

- Many scientists are now sure that a version of H5N1, or the avian flu, will cause a pandemic in the future. While speaking to health officials at the National Emergency Management Summit, several experts said the issue was no longer an "if" issue, it was now "when." Without knowing when a pandemic will hit, many hospitals and the government are doing what they can to try to prepare the U.S. for the event. A mental health consultant from Colorado said once the pandemic comes, people will likely shrug their shoulders when they are told to prepare for it, until there is nothing left with which to prepare. Once store shelves are empty or the pandemic hits close to home, people will start listening. "There is so much information coming at us, we don't know the seriousness of an event. You are going to get no action from the public when the pandemic hits," she said. "It's the primal shrug -- the attitude of 'so what,' until we get to the tipping point and they realize what it means. It's when they go to the ER and they can't get in, or they go to a mobile triage site and they are told to go home. That is when they'll start to realize." For further information, please visit: <http://www.disasternews.net/news/article.php?articleid=3856>.

"When you tell people to listen to warnings, they don't listen. . . There are warning labels on everything. We've heard the warnings over and over and over again, that we've become deaf to them. Ignoring the warning has become an art."

—P.J. Havice-Cover, Colorado

YNH-CEPDR will Present at the Safe Hospitals

Expo - April 6-7, 2009: **New**



The World Health Organization/Pan American Health Organization/ (WHO/PAHO) will sponsor a "Safe Hospitals Expo," which will be held from April 6-7, 2009 in Washington, D.C. This Expo is being organized within the context of World Health Day 2009, which is on 7 April. The theme of this year's celebration is Health Facilities in Emergencies and our slogan is "When Disaster Strikes, Safe Hospitals Save Lives." YNH-CEPDR will be present a display that discusses community sustainability after a crises. The display will also demonstrate how Hospital Emergency Support Functions (HESF) contribute to efficiency by strengthening hospital operability during a disaster. For more information, please contact Joseph Albanese, PhD at (203) 688-3316 or joseph.albanese@ynhh.org.

DHS Releases Conficker/Downadup Computer Worm Detection Tool: **New**



The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) announced today the release of a DHS-developed detection tool that can be used by the federal government,

commercial vendors, state and local governments, and critical infrastructure owners and operators to scan their networks for the Conficker/Downadup computer worm. The department's United States Computer Emergency Readiness Team (US-CERT) developed the tool that assists mission-critical partners in detecting if their networks are infected. This worm can infect Microsoft Windows systems from thumb drives, network share drives, or directly across a corporate network if network servers are not protected by Microsoft's MS08-067 patch. To read the press release, please visit:

http://www.dhs.gov/ynews/releases/pr_1238443_907751.shtm.

Personal Health and Safety during a Flood: **New**



During a flood and its aftermath, know how to protect your personal health and safety. In winter and early spring, it is

especially important to understand the health threats associated with exposure to cold weather and cold water. Standing in water that is cooler than 75° F (24° C) will remove body heat more rapidly than it can be replaced, resulting in hypothermia. For more on this topic, please visit:

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/>.

Third generation Smallpox Vaccine Proven Safe and Immunogenic: **New**

A study conducted by a team of Japanese researchers who vaccinated more than 3,000 Japanese military personnel from 2002-2005 with a tissue-cultured third generation smallpox vaccine reported no adverse events detected via passive surveillance. Third generation smallpox vaccines are attenuated vaccine strain viruses that possess a reduced tendency to elicit adverse reactions, as compared with first and second generation vaccines. The full study may be accessed at: <http://jama.ama-assn.org/cgi/content/full/301/10/1025>.

Preparedness: **New**

- The Obama administration is moving to strengthen one of the most significant shifts of resources put into place under President George W. Bush: the transformation of the Justice Department and the Federal Bureau of Investigation into agencies where the top priority is counterterrorism rather than conventional law enforcement. The administration's position underscores the extent to which Mr. Obama's legal team has found itself following many of the Bush administration's counterterrorism policies, even as Attorney General Eric Holder has stated that the Justice Department will differ markedly by being more respectful of civil liberties and constitutional limits. To read the *New York Times* article, please visit: <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/03/26/us/politics/26justice.html?emc=eta1>.



Robert S. Mueller, III
FBI Director

FBI Director Robert S. Mueller III urged lawmakers to renew intelligence-gathering measures in the USA Patriot Act that are set to expire in December, calling them "exceptional" tools to help protect national security. The law, passed shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, created divisions between proponents, who said it was necessary to deter terrorism, and privacy advocates warning that it tramples on Americans' civil liberties. Portions of the law are up for reauthorization this year. For further information on this story, please visit: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/03/25/AR2009032501862.html>.

- The head of the Pentagon's Strategic Command, General Kevin Chilton, warned Congress that the United States is vulnerable to cyber attacks "across the spectrum" and that more needs to be done to defend against the potential of online strikes, which could "potentially threaten not only our military networks, but also our critical national networks." "The responsibility of protecting civilian networks currently rests with the Department of Homeland Security but that may change after a 60-day review is completed, he added. As Stratcom commander, Chilton has responsibility to not only operate and defend military networks, but also to prepare cyber attack capabilities against an enemy when a president orders it. This article, which appeared in the *Washington Post*, may be viewed at: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/03/17/AR2009031702715.html?referrer=emailarticle>.



A plan to check every package of business cargo for explosives before it is loaded onto passenger aircrafts faces major obstacles, according to a government report scheduled for release. The report by the Government Accountability Office says the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) may not have enough inspectors nor adequate equipment to guarantee all cargo is checked for explosives. Passenger aircraft carry about 7.6 billion pounds of cargo a year, including electronics, auto parts, clothes, fresh produce and medical supplies.

The cargo is placed alongside luggage in an aircraft hold. While all suitcases have been screened since 2002, cargo has been subject to much looser inspection requirements, raising concerns that terrorists could slip an explosive into a package. To read the *USAToday* article, please visit: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2009-03-16-TSA_N.htm?POE=click-refer.



Possible threats against sponsors of next year's Vancouver Olympics have federal security agents wringing their hands over "extremist elements," a newly released intelligence report reveals. The report by the Canadian government's threat assessment center cites vandalism of a corporate backer's premises, theft of the Games flag and skirmishes between protesters and police during unveiling of the Olympic countdown clock. The Royal Bank of Canada, a key Games sponsor, "has been named specifically in anarchist and anti-Olympic Internet postings," notes the analysis, "2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics: The threat assessment also looks at Osama bin Laden's al-

Qaeda network and radicals inspired by the terrorist movement, as well as "Lone Wolf" attackers like Kimveer Gill, a gunman who killed one student and wounded 19 others at Montreal's Dawson College. To read the article from *The Canadian Press*, Please visit: http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5q3g-mokNaFzhhREFUQ_8vvj8kzFg.

- The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) announced the implementation of the Secure Flight program, which shifts pre-departure watch list matching responsibilities from individual aircraft operators to TSA and carries out a key recommendation of the 9/11 Commission. To date TSA has assumed the watch list matching responsibility for passengers on domestic commercial flights with four volunteer aircraft operators and will add more carriers in the coming months. For more on this program, please visit: <http://www.tsa.gov/press/releases/2009/0331.shtm>.

Pandemic Influenza

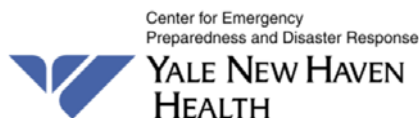
Planning: **New**



A pandemic influenza could result in an estimated 30-40% reduction of workforce and significant absenteeism for up to 12 weeks, negatively impacting patient care and essential services. How will your organization manage the increased demand for services, staff, supplies and other critical resources?

The Yale New Haven Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (YNH-CEPDR) can assist your organization in preparing for a pandemic through services such as:

- Development of a business impact analysis, continuity of operation plan and business continuity plan
- Development of pre-event communication messages, workforce surge impact, recovery resources and recovery team task lists
- Assessments of current pandemic influenza planning; review of emergency operations plans and emergency management plans (EMPs) for compliance with The Joint Commission, NIMS, CMS, OSHA, CDC and NFPA requirements
- Online, instructor-led or WebEx training courses recommended for health care workers in acute care hospitals, community health centers, home health agencies, urgent care centers, skilled nursing facilities and public health agencies to address the impact and preparations required pre-pandemic event and during a pandemic event
- Assistance with conducting tabletop exercises to discuss the Incident Command System (ICS), implementation of the EMP, communication practices and mitigation practices during a pandemic influenza event To learn more how YNH-CEPDR can assist your organization, please call (203) 688-3224 or e-mail center@ynhh.org.



Preparedness: **New** (Continued)



General Victor Renuart Jr.

The continuing terrorist threat against the U.S. homeland "is real," the commander of U.S. Northern Command told the Senate Armed Services as he outlined an aggressive defense program aimed at preventing another, Sept. 11, type attack. "Those who wish us harm have not gone away," Air Force Gen. Victor E. Renuart Jr., who also commands North American Aerospace Defense Command, told the senators. "The threat is real. It is there. While focused on external threats, Renuart also is the Pentagon's point man for providing Defense Department support to civilian authorities in the event of a natural disaster. Renuart cited the Oct. 1st standup of a dedicated force to respond to potential biological, radiological, nuclear and high-yield explosive incidents as a major step in supporting that mission. The team is trained and equipped to provide search-and-rescue, decontamination, medical, aviation, communications and logistical support. For more information on the role of the U.S. Northern Command, please visit: http://www.dvidshub.net/?script=news/news_show.php&id=31267.



A new Rice University report released exactly six months after Hurricane Ike slammed the Texas Gulf Coast, suggests that people did not practice the lessons learned from Hurricane Rita. The reports shows that significantly fewer people evacuated during Hurricane Ike than during Hurricane Rita, but a large portion of the population left areas that were not under an evacuation order. "The timing of evacuations showed no improvement over the experience during Hurricane Rita, when roadways experienced paralyzing gridlock," Stein said. "People evacuating from hurricane Ike all left too late, potentially creating the same conditions that existed during Hurricane Rita had a larger population evacuated." For more on this study, please visit:

http://www.media.rice.edu/images/media/0312_CCE_HurricaneIke_report.pdf.



Credit: NOAA

The National Weather Service has issued a report that analyzes forecasting performance and public response during the second deadliest tornado outbreak in U.S. history. The report, *Service Assessment of the Super Tuesday Tornado Outbreak of February 5-6, 2008*, also addresses a key area of concern: why some people take cover while others ride out severe weather. In reviewing the public response, the team found that two-thirds of the victims were in mobile homes and 60 percent did not have access to safe shelter. The majority of the survivors interviewed for the assessment sought shelter in the best location available to them, but most of them also did not have access to a safe shelter. Some indicated that they thought the threat was minimal because February is not within traditional tornado season. Several of those interviewed said they spent time seeking confirmation and went to a safe location only after they saw a tornado. Many people minimized the threat of personal risk through "optimism bias," the belief that such bad things only happen to other people. For further information, please visit:

http://www.noaanews.noaa.gov/stories2009/20090309_tornado-report.html.

Disasters around the World: **New**



Credit: Getty Images

Just as the flooding threat decreased in parts of North Dakota, a major snowstorm continued to impact the area early this week, threatening to dump as much as 16 inches of snow near the Red River valley, which could add to the level of the river. Volunteers put forth a Herculean effort, filling 3.5 million sandbags to protect the city of Fargo from the encroaching river, which crested at 40 feet, which is 22 feet above flood stage. Still, forecasters believe the river will eventually begin rising again after more snow begins to melt, so they do not believe the city is in the clear yet. Floodwaters also breached a dike at a school, swamping the campus. To follow this still developing crisis, please visit

http://www.cnn.com/2009/US/weather/03/30/north.dakota.flooding/index.html?eref=rss_topstories.



Early in the week, the second of two snowstorms produced blizzard conditions throughout the northern and central Great Plains, dropping 1-3 feet of snow on parts of Oklahoma, Kansas, Montana and Wyoming. Denver International Airport was closed to traffic after the area received 18 inches of snow from the same storm. For information on these weather events, please visit: <http://www.cnn.com/2009/US/weather/03/28/gulf.coast.weather/index.html#CNNSTCText>.

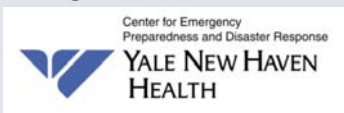
Protecting the Healthcare Workforce



Ensuring that all of your staff know how to protect themselves during a disaster

in which they may be exposed to a chemical, biological or radiological substance is an important factor in their decision to come to work and fulfill their role in a disaster and your facility's ability to provide ongoing health care services. OSHA requires that employees performing certain functions complete training programs that prepare them to don and doff appropriate levels of personal protective equipment (PPE) and recognize when such precautions may be necessary. YNH-CEPDR has developed a comprehensive suite of courses that addresses these OSHA requirements and provides an effective method to train your staff in proper PPE procedures. Whether your need is for fit testing N95 respirators or operations-level PPE and decontamination training for your decontamination team, YNH-CEPDR has a solution for your organization. For more information, please contact center@ynhh.org

Programs and Services



YNH-CEPDR is committed to developing and delivering effective and scaleable services that advance health care planning, preparedness and response for emergencies and disasters. YNH-CEPDR offers the following services to hospitals, other health care delivery organizations, emergency management professionals, the business community and others.

- **ASSESSMENTS:** Hazard Vulnerability Analysis, Business Impact Analysis and Gap Analysis
- **PLANNING:** Emergency management plans, emergency operations plans and business continuity plans
- **EDUCATION and TRAINING:** Course development and course delivery in various modalities (including web-based)
- **DRILLS and EXERCISES:** Design, development, facilitation and evaluation

For additional information about these services, please contact us at (203) 688-3224 or center@ynhh.org, or visit our web site at <http://www.yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency/index.html>.

Disasters around the World: *New (Continued)*



Credit: AP/Rogelio V. Solis

Early Spring severe weather struck many parts of the country, particularly the Deep South where a number of tornados, some occurring at night, struck the states of Mississippi and Alabama. No fatalities were reported but several victims were airlifted to the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson. For more on these storms, please visit: http://www.boston.com/news/weather/articles/2009/03/27/heavy_storms_hit_south_again_1_injured_in_la/.



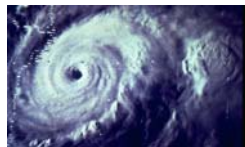
A Magnitude 6.3 earthquake struck near the north coast of New Guinea, P.N.G. on Wednesday, April 1st at 1:55 pm local time. The epicenter was located 455 miles NNW of Port Moresby, P.N.G. There are no reports regarding casualties and no threat of an ocean-wide tsunami exists. For further information, please visit: <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/eqcenter/recenteqsww/Quakes/us2009exaq.php#details>.



Alaska's Mount Redoubt volcano began a series of eruptions March 22. The Alaska Volcano Laboratory last week reported ash clouds as high as 65,000 feet. The Observatory set its alert level at red, the highest designation, which indicates that an eruption is under way or imminent and that the eruption will produce a "significant" emission of volcanic ash into the atmosphere. This prompted a closing of Ted Stevens Anchorage international Airport for two days. For continuing information on this event, please visit: <http://www.avo.alaska.edu/>.



The National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) has set Preparedness Level I (minimal large fire activity is occurring nationally; most geographic areas have low to moderate fire danger and require little or no commitment of national resources). Light fire activity was reported over the past week. Eleven large fires continue to burn over 16,000 acres in Florida, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, New Jersey and Texas. Additionally, the United States has mobilized two Burned Area Emergency Response teams, one 20-person suppression crew and 15 fire specialists and managers to Australia in continued support of their wildfire situation. To review the current fire situation in your area, please visit: http://www.nifc.gov/fire_info/nfn.htm.



The Tropical Meteorology Project at Colorado State University, headed by Dr. William Gray anticipates 14 named storms forming in the Atlantic basin between June 1 and November 30. Seven of the 14 storms are predicted to become hurricanes, and of those seven, three are expected to develop into intense or major hurricanes (Saffir/Simpson category 3-4-5) with sustained winds of 111 mph or greater. To read the entire report, please visit: http://www.cancunweathertoday.com/hurricane_forecast.php.



There is no significant tropical activity in the Northwest, Eastern or Central Pacific areas, the Indian Ocean or in the Southern Hemisphere/Western/South Pacific Areas. The Atlantic Hurricane season will begin June 1st.



Credit: AP/Elain Thompson

FEMA has declared two areas in the United States as disaster areas and eligible for assistance in recovery. Minnesota and North Dakota were declared disaster areas due severe winter storms and flooding beginning on March 15th and continuing now. For further information and instructions for applying, please visit: <http://www.fema.gov/news/event.fema?id=11269> (Minnesota) <http://www.fema.gov/news/event.fema?id=11268>. (North Dakota).

Education and Training Courses: Updated



The Yale New Haven Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (YNH-CEPDR) is pleased to announce that previews for National Incident Management System (NIMS) courses are available at <http://ynhhs.emergencyeducation.org/>. YNH-CEPDR is committed to ensuring that our courses remain current with applicable federal and accrediting agency requirements. The current course updates meet the requirements outlined in the FEMA February 2008 National Incident Management System (NIMS): Five-Year NIMS Training Plan.

- **EM 108: Emergency Preparedness for Healthcare with NIMS (New)** Hospitals and many healthcare organizations are still required to implement the National Incident Management System (NIMS) education and training for appropriate personnel. YNH-CEPDR has developed Emergency Preparedness for Healthcare Professionals with NIMS (EM 108) as an equivalent IS 700 NIMS course. This course is time-efficient and relevant to public health, hospital and healthcare workers. The course provides information and action steps all employees can take to ensure a work environment prepared for disasters.
- **EM 141: Role of the Medical / Technical Specialist during an Incident (New)** A course which explores the roles and responsibilities of medical and technical specialists when the ICS has been activated and includes an interactive case study. During a disaster, members of the command or general staff may require additional information about chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear (CBRN) emergencies, information technology or legal issues, which a designated medical or technical specialist can provide.
- **EM 142: Incident Command Systems for Healthcare with NIMS (New)** This course is designed to help healthcare leaders understand their role in managing continuous care for patients in the event of an emergency or disaster and to meet the federal requirements for IS 100.HC, An Introduction to Incident Command System and IS 200.HC, Applying Incident Command System to Healthcare Organizations. EM 142 is designed for all those who may serve in a leadership role in a healthcare organization during an emergency or disaster

YNH-CEPDR also offers a number of non-NIMS offerings that address important issues in healthcare preparedness, such as Special Populations, Protection of the Healthcare Workforce and compliance with Joint Commission/CMS regulations. These courses may also be previewed at <http://ynhhs.emergencyeducation.org/>. YNH-CEPDR is committed to ensuring that our courses remain timely and current with best practices and cutting-edge content.

- **EM 106: Emergency Preparedness for Healthcare – At Work and At Home (New)** Emergency preparedness is the responsibility of every healthcare employee. Whether meeting The Joint Commission, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services requirements or ensuring that employees will come to work during a disaster, emergency preparedness training is essential. This awareness-level course will provide the information and action steps all employees can take to ensure a work environment prepared for disasters and is recommended for all hospital and healthcare employees.
- **EM 120: Best Practices for the Protection of Hospital-Based First Receivers.** Information topics include special threats from specific agents; levels of biological, chemical and radiological protection and isolation; various levels of respiratory protection; principles of decontamination; decontamination procedures; mental health concerns regarding decontamination; and personal safety issues regarding decontamination.
- **EM 121: N95 Respirator and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Training for Healthcare Workers.** Information topics include reasons for respirator and personal protective equipment (PPE) use; proper methods for inspecting, donning and doffing a respirator and PPE; the effective use of a respirator and PPE; and common errors made in respirator and PPE use.
- **EM 122: N95 Respirator Fit Tester Training.** Information topics include identifying the need to conduct the N95 respirator fit test; conducting a fit test for N95 respirator use; and performing proper inspection and disposal of respirators.
- **EM 210: Advanced Radiological Emergency Preparedness for Clinicians (New)** This course is designed for clinicians with an interest in understanding radiation concepts, the medical effects of radiation on biological systems, radiation countermeasures and essential elements for dealing with radiological and nuclear emergencies in the healthcare environment.
- **EM 220: Best Practices for the Protection of Hospital-Based First Receivers, Operations Level** Information topics include preparation for healthcare workers, such as emergency department clerks and clinicians who are assigned to work in the contaminant-free areas but who may need to identify possible risks associated with unannounced patients; preparation for healthcare workers with designated roles for contaminant removal or who will be working in areas that are considered to be contaminated (training includes proper use of protective equipment); and preparation for hazardous materials specialists, including radiation safety officers.
- **EM 250: Small Victims, Big Challenges: Pediatric Triage, Treatment and Recovery for Emergencies (New)** A course which introduces clinicians acting as first receivers to the unique challenges encountered with children in a disaster. Children represent a special subset of individuals at-risk as they have unique physiological and pharmacological considerations. The federal Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA) encourages the Department of Health and Human Services to promote appropriate pre-disaster activities at the state and local levels to address the medical health needs of children.
- **EM 260: Geriatric Preparedness, Triage and Treatment in Disasters (New)** A course that introduces clinicians acting as first receivers to the unique challenges encountered with the elderly in a disaster. Senior citizens represent a special subset of individuals at-risk as they have unique physiological and pharmacological considerations. The federal Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA) encourages the Department of Health and Human Services to promote appropriate pre-disaster activities at the state and local levels to address the medical health needs of the elderly.

For more information on any of our courses or to develop a customized course for your specific needs, please contact us at (203) 688-3224 or center@ynhh.org.

UPCOMING

Upcoming Training and Education

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
4/14/09 To 4/16/09	8:30 am-5:00 pm	Public Works: Planning for and Responding to a Terrorism/WMD Incident <i>Sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security</i>	New Haven Fire Training Center 230 Ella Grasso Blvd New Haven, CT Please register by contacting: David Brown Email: david.brown@ct.gov Phone: 860-256-0849
4/14/09	7:45 am-4:00 pm	Responding to a Chemical Terrorism Attack: Training for the First Responder <i>Sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Public Health, in collaboration with members of the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Connecticut State Police, the 14th Civil Support Team of Connecticut, and the Department of Homeland Security.</i>	Hawthorne Inn 241 Berlin Turnpike Berlin, CT Free offering For information and registration, please call (860) 509-8500
4/22/09 to 4/24/09	See Website	The National Conference on Emergency Communications <i>Sponsored by The Department of Homeland Security's Office of Emergency Communications (OEC)</i>	Hilton-Chicago 720 South Michigan Avenue Chicago, IL 60605 Please Register at: https://luxlead.luxcg.com/LuxLEAD/DHS/ecNatConf/openEnroll.aspx .

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Preparedness Report Archive: http://www.yalenehavenhealth.org/emergency/commu/archives.html			
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