

Center of Excellence for Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response

Emergency Preparedness Briefing

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ELEVATED

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Threat Level

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Register Now for the International Congress on Disaster Medicine and Emergency Management

- Register now for the Yale New Haven International Congress on Disaster Medicine and Emergency Management to be held September 12-13, 2005 at the Omni New Haven Hotel, 155 Temple St., New Haven, CT. A pre-conference workshop, *Health Disaster Management: Guidelines for Evaluation and Research*, and a post-conference National Disaster Life Support (NDLS) course will also be offered for an additional fee. Please note that limited space is available for the NDLS program. Online registration and forms can be accessed at <http://yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency/commu/natconf.html>.

Special Meeting of Southern Tier Emergency & Terrorism Preparedness Committee Scheduled for September

- The Southern Tier Hospital Emergency and Terrorism Preparedness Committee meeting originally scheduled for September 8 has been rescheduled for September 15, 2005, 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. at CHA in Wallingford to give committee members an opportunity to meet with Dr. Marvin Birnbaum, President of the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine (WADEM). Dr. Birnbaum, a world renowned expert in disaster medicine will discuss the nature of disasters and the need for a standardized vocabulary and framework for disaster evaluation and research. Such standardization is essential to ensure that lessons can be learned from disasters and applied to improved response in the future. We hope you will all be able to join us for an exciting and educational presentation.

Mandatory Connecticut Pre-Event Vaccination System Training

- The State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) has required all acute care hospitals to maintain a minimum of two staff persons who are trained to use and access the CT-PVS database by August 30, 2005. Courses will be scheduled throughout August and September. Hospitals that have registered two individuals for training, whether that training has been completed by August 30 or not, will be considered to have met this contractual obligation. Individuals should enroll through <http://ct.train.org> as soon as possible. For questions, please contact Rory Angulo, MD, MBA, at the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health at (860) 509-7691 or Carol Luddy, RN at the YNHHS CoE, (203) 688-5544.

Mark I Kit Update

- The State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) and the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH), along with the Connecticut State Legislature, recently approved the use of the Mark I Nerve Agent Antidote kits by first responders. The Centers of Excellence (CoE) at Yale New Haven Health System and Hartford Hospital have been tasked with providing Train-the-Trainer programs to instructors from participating towns. YNHHS CoE has conducted nine train-the-trainer programs. The final Train-the-Trainer program for the Southern Tier is scheduled for Tuesday, August 30 in New Haven. Those communities who have completed the required training of their first responders and implemented a method of managing storage and quality control for the kits, will receive Mark I kits from the State through the community's point-of-contact. For additional information regarding the Mark I program, or to register for the August 30 training, please contact David Burich at (203) 688-3721 or david.burich@ynhh.org

ChemPack Update

- Representatives from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) were in Connecticut the week of August 8 conducting site visits at facilities who have agreed to house the ChemPack. These site visits were designed to ensure that plans for ChemPack storage met the terms of the memorandum of understanding. The CDC representatives found no issues with the identified sites that could not be corrected. Each facility will now address the items contained in a checklist provided by the CDC. Once the checklist items have been addressed, each facility will need to contact the Connecticut Department of Public Health to arrange for delivery scheduled for late October.

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Emergency Credentialing Program

- Three thousand four hundred and seventy (3,470) professionals licensed by the State and representing all disciplines have been recruited for the Emergency Credentialing Program (ECP). Potential volunteers can now access ECP recruitment information through the YNHHS CoE website at <http://yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency/progsrvcs/capacitybuilding.html>. Each hospital that has agreed to participate in the ECP should provide the name of a contact person who will be asked to support the program within their institution. Hospitals are encouraged to use part of their surge capacity budget to support the minimal resources needed at their institution for program recruitment and maintenance. If your facility has not already done so, please forward the name and contact information for your hospital designated Emergency Credentialing Program contact person to Carol Luddy, RN at (203) 688-5544 or carol.luddy@ynhh.org.

Training/Education

- Twenty eight thousand seven hundred and sixty (28,760) personnel representing healthcare delivery agencies in the southern tier of Connecticut have completed EM 101 or EM 102 as part of their emergency preparedness efforts.
- Physicians who participated in evaluating the Bioterrorism for Clinicians (EM 201) course have received communication regarding the final phase of the course evaluation. The evaluation must be completed online by September 15. Following evaluation of the data and feedback from participants, the course will be made available to all clinicians online. The course has been approved for 1.0 CME for eligible participants.

Bioterrorism Collection Kit Training

- The Bioterrorism (BT) workgroup at the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health Laboratory has recently upgraded the bioterrorism collection kit to include materials that will be required to collect patient specimens from a chemical weapon of mass destruction exposure. Representatives from the BT workgroup of the State laboratory will deliver the training at each hospital. Each session will last 45 minutes and can be scheduled for Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays after 9 a.m.. The emergency departments and laboratories at each hospital are asked to send a representative to the training. One point of contact in charge of scheduling the training should be designated by each hospital. The designated contact from each hospital should contact Virginia Kristie, Laboratory Program Advisor at 203-688-2594 or Virginia.kristie@ynhh.org to schedule a date for the training or to address any questions.

Questions, comments or suggestions should be forwarded by FAX to (203) 688-4618 or by e-mail to: Center@ynhh.org

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
YALE NEW HAVEN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON DISASTER MEDICINE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	9/12-13/05		OMNI NEW HAVEN HOTEL
SOUTHERN TIER HOSPITAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE MTG	9/15/05	8:30 A.M.	CT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR HOSPITAL-BASED FIRST RECEIVERS	10/6-7/05		WASHINGTON, DC

UPCOMING TRAINING & EDUCATION

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
INTRODUCTION TO PUBLIC HEALTH	9/13/05 9/26/05	8:30 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M.	TOLLAND FIRE TRAINING CENTER CT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
EMS OPERATIONS AND PLANNING FOR WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION RHODE ISLAND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY	11/1/2005 – 11/3/2005	8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.	CONTACT MICHELLE SAN SOUCI, TRAINING OFFICER 401-462-7122 MICHELLE.SANSOUCI@RI.NGB.ARMY. MIL

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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