

Center of Excellence for Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response

Emergency Preparedness Briefing

1 Church Street, 5th Floor · New Haven, CT 06510 · (203) 688-3224 · FAX (203) 688-4618 · OEPWEB@ynhh.org

ELEVATED

Volume 3, Issue 34

Threat Level

August 26, 2005

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

CDC Role in the Event of a Nuclear or Radiological Terrorist Event

- Because of the terrorist events of 2001, people have expressed concern about the possibility of a terrorist attack involving radioactive materials. During and after such an incident, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) would assist state, local, and territorial authorities in protecting people's health and offer advice on steps that people can take to reduce their exposures to radiation. CDC has prepared a fact sheet to help people understand the roles and responsibilities of CDC during such an incident. The fact sheet can be accessed at <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/radiation/cdcrole.asp>.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Emergency Credentialing Program
- 2 Training and Education
- 2 Bioterrorism Collection Kit Training
- 3 Upcoming Training and Education

Emergency Credentialing Program

- The Department of Health and Human Services' Health Resources and Services Administration recently published a report by the American Hospital Association (AHA) summarizing hospital recommendations on an advanced registration system for health care workers interested in volunteering in disasters. Federal law requires that all states and territories in the U.S. put into place a registration system that will enable hospitals to quickly verify the identity, licensure and qualifications of volunteer doctors, nurses, behavioral health personnel and other healthcare professionals who step in to help in disaster situations. Among the meeting participants' recommendations are that states should work with the health care community to identify and close gaps in legal protections for hospitals using volunteers in emergencies (adapted from AHA News Now, c/o American Hospital Association, 325 7th St. NW, Washington, DC 20004, Friday, August 19, 2005). Having already incorporated resolutions to many of the concerns expressed at the meeting, the State of Connecticut Emergency Credentialing Program continues to be a model for the nation. To date, 3,473 professionals representing all disciplines and hospitals across the state have volunteered to participate. For more information about the program, contact Carol Luddy, RN at (203) 688-5544 or carol.luddy@ynhh.org.

Drills/Exercises

- Community Health Center, Inc of Middletown and Old Saybrook conducted a tabletop exercise on August 9, 2005, and on Aug 16, 2005. The scenario consisted of a pandemic flu outbreak. The main objective of the drill was to test the Incident Command System and the clinic response plan to an influenza outbreak. YNHHS CoE staff participated in providing evaluation of the drill. Please contact Mukesh Roy at (203) 688-2563 or Mukesh.roy@ynhh.org for further information on drills and exercises.

Training/Education

- Twenty eight thousand eight hundred and fifty six (28,856) 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.
- Emergency Management 103 (EM 103) is due to be launched shortly on both the YNHHS OEP learning management system as well as Health Stream. This updated version of Emergency Management 102 provides helpful guidance to all healthcare workers on the needs of special populations, including children, the elderly, the disabled and non-English speakers. As with EM 102, the course is able to be completed within approximately 25 minutes and will also be made available on a narrated CD-ROM and as an instructor-led program. A Spanish version is also under development. Please contact Mark Schneider, OEP Education and Training Supervisor, at 203-688-2577 or mark.schneider@ynhh.org for more information on EM 103 or to discuss further ways in which we might be able to help you with your emergency preparedness education and training needs.

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.

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	8:30 A.M. TO	TOLLAND FIRE TRAINING CENTER
	9/26/05	3:30 P.M.	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:

CHRISTOPHER CANNON	OEP SYSTEM DIRECTOR	(203) 688-3229	CHRISTOPHER.CANNON@YNHH.ORG
JIM PATURAS	OEP SYSTEM MANAGER	(203) 688-3496	JAMES.PATURAS@YNHH.ORG
JEFF ARNOLD, MD	OEP MEDICAL DIRECTOR	(203) 688-2535	JEFFREY.ARNOLD@YNHH.ORG
ELAINE FORTE	PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT MANAGER	(203) 688-3391	ELAINE.FORTE@YNHH.ORG
SCOTT SELIG	EDUCATION & TRAINING COORDINATOR	(203) 688-2587	SCOTT.SELIG@YNHH.ORG
RICHARD KLEINDIENST, SR.	MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS COORDINATOR	(203) 688-3912	RICHARD.KLEINDIENST.SR@YNHH.ORG
MUKESH ROY	REGIONAL PLANNING COORDINATOR	(203) 688-2563	MUKESH.ROY@YNHH.ORG
CAROL LUDDY	EMERGENCY CREDENTIALING PROGRAM COORDINATOR	(203) 688-5544	CAROL.LUDDY@YNHH.ORG

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