

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**

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Threat Level

September 30, 2005

Emergency Credentialing Program Activated for Texas Response: **New**

- In anticipation of a formal Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) request to Governor Rell to provide medical volunteer disaster relief to Texas hospitals affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, DPH activated Connecticut's Emergency Credentialing Program earlier this week. Through the activation process coordinated by YNHHS OEP, 7 physicians and 12 registered nurses were identified and prepared to deploy to Texas on Saturday. On Thursday, staff at Connecticut's Office of Emergency Management (OEM) were contacted by their colleagues in Texas who expressed gratitude for the volunteer support we were prepared to offer but, upon further assessment, concluded that our volunteers were not needed at this time. Should these needs change in the weeks or months to come, Connecticut will again employ its Emergency Credentialing Program to identify volunteers interested in offering their assistance to their colleagues in Texas or elsewhere in the Gulf region. For additional information please contact Carol Luddy at 203-688-5544 or carol.luddy@ynhh.org.

National Preparedness Month: **Updated**

- The Yale New Haven Health Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response joined a coalition of more than 50 national organizations to engage Americans in emergency preparedness during September National Preparedness Month. National Preparedness Month is a nationwide effort held each September to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools. National Preparedness Month 2005 is being co-sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the American Red Cross. The DHS website features "30 Tips for Emergency Preparedness" at <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/>. The YNHHS CoE developed red "In Case of Emergency" (ICE) stickers to be placed on mobile phones programmed with emergency contact information under the entry ICE. The ICE campaign began in Europe to encourage people to store emergency contact information in their mobile phones. The ICE sticker easily identifies that an ICE contact has been stored in the phone for use in an emergency. If you are interested in obtaining ICE sticker or other personal and family preparedness information contact Scott.selig@ynhh.org, 203-688-2587.

Infectious Disease and Dermatologic Conditions after Hurricanes: **New**

- Following the hurricanes along the Gulf Coast of the United States, state and local health departments, with assistance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), initiated enhanced infectious disease surveillance and outbreak response activities. Outbreak monitoring included direct reporting of conditions of public health significance to public health agencies; daily contact between CDC and local public health officials; canvassing of reports from CDC, public health departments and news media for potential infectious disease outbreaks; and investigation of reports of infectious disease with outbreak potential. A summary of the infectious disease and dermatologic conditions reported during the first three weeks after Hurricane Katrina is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm54d926a1.htm>.

Training/Education: **Updated**

- Twenty nine thousand seven hundred and forty nine (29,749) 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.
- Introduction to Emergency Management (EM 103) has been launched on both the YNHHS OEP learning management system <http://ynhhs.emergencyeducation.org/>. 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.
- EM 120, an on-line PPE/decontamination course aligned with OSHA-defined competencies for first responder awareness level, has undergone review by subject matter experts and is expected to be available in mid-November. An advanced decontamination operations level course to be delivered in concert with an instructor-led practicum is under development for release next year. Questions regarding the course may be directed to Mark Schneider at (203) 688-2577, mark.schneider@ynhh.org.

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Smallpox Pre-event Vaccination System Database Training: New

- The Department of Public Health will be conducting the Smallpox Pre-event Vaccination System (PVS) Database training October 20, 2005, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. in Hartford. Each southern tier hospital should have at least 2 staff trained to use the PVS database. Hospital personnel attending this training should have data entry or information technology background. To register please log in to <http://ct.train.org>.

CDC Clinical Outreach Communication Activity October 11, 2005: Upcoming Flu Season: New

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is sponsoring a clinical outreach communication activity (COAC) call that will take place on October 11, 2005 at 1:00 p.m. EDT. The topic of the call will be the upcoming flu season and is presented by Dr. Ray Strikas and Kari Sapsis from the National Immunization Program at CDC. More details will be available soon at <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/coca/>.

Hospital Risk Communication Planning Template: New

- The Office of Emergency Preparedness is developing a Hospital Risk Communication Planning template with the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health for use by hospitals to enhance the emergency/disaster preparedness sections of their existing emergency operation plans (EOP). The template will include sample forms, emergency messages, pre-packaged educational materials, and a list of hyperlinks to on-line resources. For further information contact James.Paturas@ynhh.org, 203-688-3496.

CDC Disaster Related Health Information: New

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has free health related information related to disasters available online at <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/hurricanes/printindex.asp>. The materials are available in eight languages and include topics such as hurricanes, disaster safety, floods, power outages and extreme heat. New CDC emergency preparedness and response resources are updated on an ongoing basis at <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/whatsnew.asp>.

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>
NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR HOSPITAL-BASED FIRST RECEIVERS	10/6 – 10/7/05		WASHINGTON, DC
SOUTHERN TIER MEETING	10/13/05	8:30 A.M. TO 10:30 A.M.	CONNECTICUT HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
A VISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN CONNECTICUT	10/21/05	8:00 A.M. TO 4:30 P.M.	HARTFORD MARRIOTT ROCKY HILL, CT

UPCOMING TRAINING & EDUCATION

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
OVERVIEW OF BIOTERRORISM PREPAREDNESS	10/4/05	7:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.	UCONN HEALTH CENTER PATTERSON AUDITORIUM HTTP://CME.UCHC.EDU/CE/MMS.HTML REGISTER 800-535-6232
INFLUENZA AND THE RISK OF PANDEMIC FLU THE RISK OF TULAREMIA	10/11/05	7:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.	UCONN HEALTH CENTER PATTERSON AUDITORIUM HTTP://CME.UCHC.EDU/CE/MMS.HTML REGISTER 800-535-6232
SMALLPOX RADIATION EMERGENCIES AND EXPOSURES	10/18/05	7:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.	UCONN HEALTH CENTER PATTERSON AUDITORIUM HTTP://CME.UCHC.EDU/CE/MMS.HTML REGISTER 800-535-6232
UNDERSTANDING AIR QUALITY IN THE AGE OF TERRORISM PERSONAL PROTECTION	10/25/05	7:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.	UCONN HEALTH CENTER PATTERSON AUDITORIUM HTTP://CME.UCHC.EDU/CE/MMS.HTML REGISTER 800-535-6232
ELIMINATING TB CASE BY CASE: A TB CASE SERIES FOR PROVIDERS AND CLINICIANS	10/26/05	12:00 NOON	ACCESS THE TB CASE SERIES (SW88568) ONLINE AT WWW.MYMEETINGS.COM/NC/JOIN.PHP?I=SW88568&P=&T=C
CHEMICAL TERRORISM CHEMICAL AGENTS OF OPPORTUNITY	11/1/05	7:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.	UCONN HEALTH CENTER PATTERSON AUDITORIUM HTTP://CME.UCHC.EDU/CE/MMS.HTML REGISTER 800-535-6232

UPCOMING TRAINING & EDUCATION CONTINUED

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
CHEMICAL TERRORISM CHEMICAL AGENTS OF OPPORTUNITY	11/1/05	7:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.	UCONN HEALTH CENTER PATTERSON AUDITORIUM HTTP://CME.UCHC.EDU/CE/MMS.HTML REGISTER 800-535-6232
INTRODUCTION TO PUBIC HEALTH HTTP://CT.TRAIN.ORG	11/1/05 11/9/05	8:30 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M. 8:30 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M.	WESTERN CT STATE UNIV. STUDENT CENTER KENSINGTON GARDEN, SOUTHBURY
EMS OPERATIONS AND PLANNING FOR WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION	11/ 1 TO 11/3/05	8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.	RHODE ISLAND MICHELLE SAN SOUCI, TRAINING OFFICER 401-462-7122 MICHELLE.SANSOUCI@RI.NGB.ARMY. MIL
LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES IN EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS	11/8/05	7:00 P.M. TO 9:00 P.M.	UCONN HEALTH CENTER PATTERSON AUDITORIUM HTTP://CME.UCHC.EDU/CE/MMS.HTML REGISTER 800-535-6232

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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