

# THE PREPAREDNESS REPORT

The Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response

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ELEVATED THREAT LEVEL

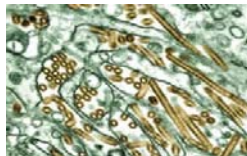
## Pandemic Influenza - Stockpiling of Disposable Ventilators: New

In order to ensure a consistent approach, the Connecticut Respiratory Care Directors group has developed recommendations to guide hospital planning related to the development of statewide respiratory care capacity for a pandemic influenza event. This group will work with representatives from the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health and The Hospital Centers of Excellence to develop and implement a survey of existing ventilator capacity and related issues among all of Connecticut's acute care hospitals. The findings will be used to focus respiratory care planning efforts and recommendations on areas with the greatest demonstrated need. For more information, please contact Elaine Forte at 203-688-3391 or [elaine.forte@ynhh.org](mailto:elaine.forte@ynhh.org).

## HHS Announces \$100 Million to Accelerate State and Local Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Efforts: New

In On January 12, 2006, HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt announced that \$100 million dollars will be available for funding state and local preparedness. The funds are part of President Bush's plan to mobilize the nation to prepare for an influenza pandemic. Secretary Leavitt said, "Preparation works and it can save lives. We have the opportunity to become the first generation in history to prepare for a pandemic." To read further please visit <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2006pres/20060112.html>

## Pandemic Influenza: New



According to the World Health Organization (WHO) the cumulative number of confirmed cases of avian influenza H5N1 as of January 10, 2006 was 147 cases and 78 deaths.

- On January 5, 2006, the World Health Organization (WHO) reported that the Ministry of Health in Turkey has confirmed its first two cases of human infection caused by an avian influenza H5 virus subtype. For further information, please visit [http://www.cdc.gov/travel/other/avian\\_flu\\_ah5n1\\_010606\\_turkey.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/travel/other/avian_flu_ah5n1_010606_turkey.htm)
- There is currently a ban on the importation of birds and bird products from H5N1-affected countries. The [regulation](#) states that no person may import or attempt to import any birds (Class Aves), whether dead or alive, or any products derived from birds (including hatching eggs), from the following countries: Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Peoples' Republic of China, Romania, Russia, South Korea, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, and Vietnam (current as of December 29, 2005)
- The Centers for Disease Control has not recommended that the general public avoid travel to any of the countries affected by H5N1. For questions regarding travel within areas with reports of outbreaks of H5N1 among poultry or of human H5N1 please visit [http://www.cdc.gov/travel/other/avian\\_flu\\_ah5n1\\_010606\\_turkey.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/travel/other/avian_flu_ah5n1_010606_turkey.htm). In addition, a **877-FYI-TRIP** toll free where you can find information about ordering the Yellow Book and International Certificates of Vaccination and recorded messages on travel-related health topics.

## ACEP: Nation's Emergency Care System Needs Urgent Attention: New

A new report by the American College of Emergency Physicians assesses support for emergency care and prevention in each state and assigns the nation an average grade of C minus. The state and national grades are based on 50 measures including availability of emergency care resources, training for emergency physicians and EMS personnel, patient access to ambulances and 911 services, injury prevention and safety programs, and medical liability reforms such as caps on non-economic damages and legal protections for physicians who provide emergency care. The report notes, "These grades are not evaluations of physicians or hospital emergency departments, but they show the overall effort of states to support effective emergency medicine systems... State and national policymakers should take the results to heart and support efforts to improve emergency care. This report can be viewed at <http://my.acep.org/site/DocServer/2006-NationalReportCard.pdf?docID=221>.

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## Emergency Credentialing Program (ECP): **New**



Letters have been mailed to 171 Clinical Laboratory professionals who have received specialized training to support statewide laboratory surge capacity encouraging them to enroll in the Emergency Credentialing Program (ECP). Only those individuals who are enrolled in the ECP program will have access to state sponsored liability and workers compensation coverage during a Governor declared state of emergency when providing services anywhere besides their employing hospital. Included with the letters will be a self-assessment tool that is specific to the credentials of Clinical Laboratory professionals. Each volunteer will have his or her self assessment reviewed and validated by the employing hospital for inclusion in the statewide database. Although the inclusion of Clinical Laboratory professionals will further strengthen our personnel surge capacity bringing our total number of volunteers to nearly 4,200, our goal is to have a volunteer complement of at least 10,000 individuals who will represent all disciplines, all hospitals and all areas of the state. Please encourage colleagues at your hospital to participate in the program. Professionals interested in participating in the program can access the ECP recruitment information through the YNHHS CoE website <http://yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency/progsvcs/capacitybuilding.html> or by contacting Carol Luddy, RN, Emergency Credentialing Program Coordinator by phone at (203) 688-3224 or by email at [ECP@ynhh.org](mailto:ECP@ynhh.org)

## Pediatric Disaster Assistance Toolkit (PDAT): **New**

A pediatric disaster assistance toolkit (PDAT) has been developed under the leadership of Carol Baum, MD, Yale School of Medicine and Jim Wiley, MD, University of Connecticut Medical School. The PDAT was developed in response to needs identified by the Emergency Department Directors and Nurse Managers. It includes a treatment guide, a triage guide, a transportation algorithm and aftercare instructions among other components. The PDATs are in production and a copy will be distributed in each Connecticut hospital once they are available. For more information, please contact Mark Schneider, OEP Education and Training Supervisor at (203) 688-2577 or [mark.schneider@ynhh.org](mailto:mark.schneider@ynhh.org).

## Flu Season: **New**

- During the week of December 31, 2005, Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Texas, and Utah) reported widespread influenza activity. Idaho, Kansas, and Oregon reported regional influenza activity, and 9 states (Connecticut, Delaware, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and Washington) and the District of Columbia reported local influenza activity. Twenty-seven states (Alabama, Alaska, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Wyoming), and New York City, reported sporadic influenza activity. For more information please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/fluactivity.htm>.
- The Center for Disease Control has produced a fact sheet discussing influenza symptoms, protection, and guidelines for what to do if you get sick. To read further please visit <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/symptoms.htm>



## Training and Education: **New**

- Yale New Haven Center of Excellence for Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response and the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health are collaborating on an approach for hospital personnel to complete the FEMA sponsored Incident Command Systems (ICS) and Incident Management System (IMS) training programs. Completion of these courses, or their equivalent by targeted personnel, is a requirement of organization compliance with the National Incident Management System. These programs include IS 100, IS 200 and IS 700. For more information, please contact please contact Elaine Forte at (203) 688-3391 or [elaine.forte@ynhh.org](mailto:elaine.forte@ynhh.org).
- Introduction to Emergency Management (EM 103) on-line course is being created in different formats to better meet the varied needs of different healthcare organizations. A narrated CD-ROM conducive to instructor-led workshops, such as new employee orientation at hospitals will be provided as well as a VHS (video) version. To obtain a copy of these resources as they become available, please contact Mark Schneider [mark.schneider@ynhh.org](mailto:mark.schneider@ynhh.org).
- Best Practices for the Protection of Hospital Based First Receivers (EM 120) is now available on the YNHHS-CoE learning management system. The thirty minute awareness level course meets OSHA defined competencies for first receivers to respond to a hazardous exposure. This course is recommended for all emergency department staff (clinical and non-clinical) and any other health care workers with potential roles near a hospital decontamination zone. The course may be accessed at <http://ynhhs.emergencyeducation.org/>

### What do you think of the new format?

Questions, comments or suggestions should be forwarded by fax to (203) 688-4618 or by e-mail to [center@ynhh.org](mailto:center@ynhh.org) [www.yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency](http://www.yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency)

## Upcoming Meetings and Events

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
2.9.06	11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.	Yale New Haven System-wide Drill	Assigned Locations
2.15.06	8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.	Southern Tier Meeting	Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA)

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT

**Christopher Cannon**

Director

(203) 688-3229

[christopher.cannon@ynhh.org](mailto:christopher.cannon@ynhh.org)**James Paturas**

System Manager

(203) 688-3496

[james.paturas@ynhh.org](mailto:james.paturas@ynhh.org)**Mukesh Roy**

Regional Planning Coordinator

(203) 688-2563

[mukesh.roy@ynhh.org](mailto:mukesh.roy@ynhh.org)**Louise-Marie Dembry, MD**

Associate Medical Director

(203) 688-4634

[louise-marie.dembry@ynhh.org](mailto:louise-marie.dembry@ynhh.org)**Elaine Forte**

Program Development Manager

(203) 688-3391

[elaine.forte@ynhh.org](mailto:elaine.forte@ynhh.org)

1 Church Street, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor • New Haven, CT 06510 • Tel. (203) 688-3224 • Fax (203) 688-4618  
[center@ynhh.org](mailto:center@ynhh.org) • [www.yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency](http://www.yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency)