

THE PREPAREDNESS REPORT

The Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response

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ELEVATED THREAT LEVEL

Jim Paturas of YNH-CEPDR Selected as a Member of National FEMA Advisory Council:

New



On June 19, 2007, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Administrator David Paulison announced the membership of the National Advisory Council which will advise the Administrator of FEMA on all aspects of preparedness and emergency management. The National Advisory Board Council will focus attention on the development and revision of the national preparedness goal, the national preparedness system, the National Incident Management System, the National Response Plan and other related plans and strategies. James Paturas, Deputy Director of the Yale New Haven Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (YNH-CEPDR), has been appointed to serve on the standards setting category of the National Advisory Council. Other members that have been appointed represent a geographic and disciplinary cross section of officials from emergency management and law enforcement, and include homeland security directors, adjutants general, emergency response providers from state, local, and tribal governments, private sector and nongovernmental organizations. To read this release in full, please visit <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=37154>. For more information, please contact James Paturas at (203) 688-3496 or james.paturas@ynhh.org.

Personal and Family Preparedness: New

Do you know how to prepare yourself and your family for a natural or man-made emergency? Whether you're a medical professional, community member, student, or someone who has a question, turn to the Medical Reserve Corps for reliable and current resources on personal and emergency preparedness. The Medical Reserve Corps at Yale New Haven Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (MRC-YNH CEPDR) is proud to be known as "the source" for accurate and current information and education and training on emergency preparedness. The MRC-YNH CEPDR has an expert staff that will provide effective education and training resources to audiences around the state. Find out how to set up training and access other resources by contacting Eugenie Schwartz at eugenie.schwartz@ynhh.org or at (203) 688-2659.

Avian Influenza: New

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the cumulative number of confirmed cases of avian influenza H5N1 as of June 15, 2007, is 313 cases and 191 deaths.



On June 14, 2007, HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt announced the award of two contracts to expand the domestic influenza vaccine manufacturing capacity that could be used in the event of a potential influenza pandemic. The department has awarded two cost-reimbursable contracts totaling \$132.5 million to Sanofi Pasteur and MedImmune over five years to retrofit existing domestic vaccine manufacturing facilities on a cost-sharing basis and to provide warm-base operations for manufacturing pandemic influenza vaccines. In warm-base operations, the contractor does not shut down the facility.

Upon completion, these facilities will expand domestic pandemic vaccine manufacturing capacity by 16 percent. Additionally, these facilities will afford year-round production of pre-pandemic influenza vaccines for the national stockpile, which is limited currently to three months each year. For more information, please visit <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2007pres/06/pr20070614a.html>.

Joint Commission Resources 3rd Annual Emergency Preparedness Conference, Abstracts Welcomed

Earthquakes, tornados, heat waves, floods, oil spills, fires, nuclear accidents, dirty bombs, pandemic flu, terrorism threats, hurricanes, blackouts, blizzards; the list of disasters is endless – and continues to grow. On average, natural disasters cause 185 deaths per day. The loss of human life, the physical and environmental damages, the disruption to school, homes, business and productivity and the financial impact can be devastating to any community or country. But the impact of many disasters can be sharply reduced if an effort is made to assess risk and develop and test contingency plans for disaster response before it happens, rather than after the damage has been done.

Joint Commission Resources (JCR) will present its third annual emergency preparedness conference at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center in Alexandria, Virginia, on October 10 and 11, 2007. This outstanding program will provide attendees with new ideas, concrete tools, tips, checklists and strategies to help them prepare their organizations and jurisdictions for peak performance, self-sufficiency and constant readiness. Once again, JCR is partnering with the Yale New Haven Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response (YNH-CEPDR) on the scientific abstract session for the conference. Providing a forum for attendees to share their experience and expertise with colleagues from around the country, the abstract session will be even bigger and better than last year, with 25 submissions being selected for poster presentation and two selected for platform presentation during the conference plenary sessions on October 11, 2007. For more information on the abstract submission process, please go to <http://yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency/disasterconference/>. For more information or to register for this conference, please visit <http://www.jcrinc.com/24835/>, or call JCR Customer Service at (877) 223-6866.

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HHS Creates Biodefense Advisory Panel: **New**

On June 19, 2007, United States Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) Secretary Mike Leavitt announced the establishment of a public health advisory board to provide expert advice and guidance regarding chemical, biological, nuclear or radiological agents. The National Biodefense Science Board will advise the Secretary on preventing, preparing for and responding to release of such agents, whether they are naturally occurring, accidental, or deliberate.

The National Biodefense Science Board was authorized by the Pandemic and All Hazards Preparedness Act and Board members will soon be selected. There will be thirteen members, appointed by the Secretary, from among leading experts in science, public health and medicine. To submit a resume or curriculum vitae for consideration to be a board member, email nbsbnominations@hhs.gov. For further information, contact Dr. Susan Cibulsky at (202) 260-7000 or email nbsbquestions@hhs.gov. For more information, please visit <http://www.hhs.gov/aspr/omsph/nbsb/>.

2007 Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) Industry Day – August 3, 2007: **New**

The BARDA Industry Day is a forum for representatives from relevant industries, academia, federal agencies and international agencies interested in working with the Federal Government to showcase technological advances in medical countermeasures to manmade and naturally occurring threats. Also included is a discussion on the HHS Pandemic Influenza Plan, the HHS PHEMCE Strategy and Implementation Plan and Project BioShield. The 2007 BARDA Industry Day will be held on August 3, 2007, at the Fairmont Washington DC in Washington, DC, and will consist of breakout sessions on vaccines, therapeutics, medical diagnostic products and non-pharmaceutical countermeasures. Industry stakeholders will present their product information to representatives from throughout the federal government, international agencies, industry and academia. For more information and to register, please visit <http://www.hhs.gov/aspr/ophemc/barda/>.

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.yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency

Avian Influenza (*continued*): **New**

- Over the last several months, there has been discussion between Indonesia and WHO regarding doses of H5N1 influenza vaccines. On June 13, 2007, GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) promised to give 50 million doses of its H5N1 "pre-pandemic" influenza vaccine to the WHO for distribution to poor countries. After the production of the vaccines, WHO wanted the vaccines stockpiled and used only when a pandemic occurs, but Indonesia would like the vaccines used when the next bird flu cluster occurs. Health Minister Siti Fadilah Supari said that Indonesia together with US drug manufacturer Baxter Healthcare Corp already fabricated two million tablets and completed clinical tests of the products. Further discussion between Indonesia and WHO is expected in July. For more information, please visit http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2007-06/20/content_6269155.htm and <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/jun1307gsk.html>.
- Health officials in Vietnam said the country is set to launch the first human trial of its own H5N1 avian flu vaccine. Nguyen Tran Hien, Director of the National Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology (NIHE) in Hanoi said the trial will begin as early as July, with the health ministry's approval, and should be finished next year. He said researchers will enroll 20 to 30 volunteers for the study. Experts from the United States will provide Vietnam with technical assistance to develop the vaccine. For more information, please visit <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/jun2007drugs.html>.

New Global Disease-Control Rules Take Effect: **New**

On June 15, 2007 the revised International Health Regulations (IHR) took effect aiming to help protect the world from a host of emerging diseases and health threats such as pandemic influenza and bioterrorism. The revised rules, updated for the first time since 1969, were approved by WHO member countries at the World Health Assembly in May 2005. The rules define the commitments and responsibilities of countries for limiting the global impact of epidemics and other public health emergencies. The new rules state that smallpox, polio, SARS, and new human influenza strains must be reported immediately to the WHO. In addition, the IHR call for reporting several other diseases and also require countries to report natural, accidental, or deliberate use of biological or chemical agents or radio-nuclear material.

To encourage more openness about health threats and to speed the international response, the new rules require member countries to notify international officials of a public health emergency within 24 hours of assessment; designate a national IHR focal point to stay in constant communication with the WHO; develop and maintain core public health capacities for monitoring and responding to emerging threats, including those related to chemicals, radiation and food; and report health measures, such as border screening and quarantine, implemented in response to disease outbreaks, with a focus on measures that could impair international trade or travel. The United States formally accepted the revised IHR in December 2006 and immediately implemented the new rules according to US federalism principles. For more information, please visit <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/jun1507regulations.html>.

US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Expands Graduate Education Program for Government Officials

DHS announced that it is increasing homeland security graduate education opportunities for government officials by establishing the "DHS Homeland Security Academy" for the National Capital Region. The first class for the academy will begin June 6 at the US Office of Personnel Management's Eastern Management Development Center in Shepherdstown, W.VA., and will include DHS, state, local and military officials. The Homeland Security Academy master's degree program is taught and the degree awarded by the Naval Postgraduate School's (NPS) Center for Homeland Defense and Security. All classes are taught by local, state and federal government officials representing public health, law enforcement, fire, emergency management and other disciplines that together support homeland security. For more information, please visit http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1181075311087.shtm.

NIMS Compliance: **New**



At the request of the Bioterrorism Training and Curriculum Development Program of the HHS, the YNH-CEPDR EM 103 w/NIMS and EM 140 w/NIMS courses were reviewed by the NIMS Integration Center. These courses provide a solution to address elements 9 through 11 of the NIMS Implementation

Activities for Hospitals and Healthcare Systems. These courses meet all of the required objectives defined by the NIMS National Standard Curriculum Training Guidance as demonstrated on the YNH-CEPDR NIMS Competency Crosswalk, which may be accessed at http://www.ynhhs.com/emergency/YNH_CEPDR_NIMS_CompetencyCrosswalk.pdf.

EM 103 w/NIMS and EM 140 w/NIMS have also been approved as being NIMS compliant for healthcare education and training requirements by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health and the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. To download a brochure, please visit http://www.ynhhs.org/emergency/NIMS_Brochure-Final.pdf. For more information, please contact Mark Schneider at (203) 688-2577 or mark.schneider@ynhh.org.

- YNH-CEPDR has developed a strategic partnership with HealthStream to distribute EM 103 w/NIMS and EM 140 w/NIMS. This partnership will support a broader dissemination of these courses as a strategy for hospitals and healthcare systems to become compliant with NIMS education and training requirements. For more information, please contact Scott Selig at scott.selig@ynhh.org or (203) 688-2587 or Kimberly Spaulding at kimberly.spaulding@ynhh.org or (203) 688-4482.

Education and Training

Introduction to Emergency Management with NIMS (EM 103 w/NIMS) is available at <http://ynhhs.emergencyeducation.org/>. Yale New Haven Health System employees should access the course via the learning management system at <http://cmecourses.com/ynhh/>. EM 103 w/NIMS meets the required objectives of IS 100, IS 700 and IS 800 for healthcare organizations and provides awareness-level emergency preparedness training for the healthcare delivery workforce. EM 103 w/NIMS is designed to assist healthcare workers in understanding their role in providing continuous care for existing patients and additional patients in the event of an emergency or a terrorist event. For more information, please contact Mark Schneider at (203) 688-2577 or mark.schneider@ynhh.org.



Photo Credit: <http://www.ready.gov/america/npm07/index.html>

DHS will sponsor the fourth annual National Preparedness Month this September to encourage Americans to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and communities. This year's effort has a growing coalition of more than 625 national, regional, state and local organizations pledging support. YNH-CEPDR will be featuring preparedness kiosks at each of the delivery network hospitals. Dates for each hospital will be listed in upcoming Preparedness Reports.

"It is vital that Americans take steps to prepare for emergencies at home, work or school," said Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff. "Personal preparedness is paramount to effectively reacting to the effects of a disaster. By preparing yourself, your family, and your businesses, you allow first responders to prioritize efforts and aid." For more information, please visit http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1181763393616.shtm.

Emergency Credentialing Program



Further development of the database used to support the State of Connecticut Emergency Credentialing Program for Healthcare Professionals (ECP) has resulted in new enhancements such as deployment tracking and the ability to download the database in the event of a network failure which will be explained in more detailed to the designated hospital contacts. Hospital contacts are only responsible for ensuring that credentials are verified by the appropriate manager for behavioral health professionals, clinical lab professionals, diagnostic imaging/radiographers, nurses, pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and respiratory therapists. Physicians and mid-level providers (APRNs, dentists and physician assistants) will continue to be recruited by and credentialed through the medical staff office at each hospital. It is important to remember that the database is a volunteer resource for hospital personnel surge capacity and will contain confidential information provided by ECP volunteers. Like all personnel information, access to the information and the database should be made available only to those individuals who will be validating volunteer credentials or hold a recognized position in a hospital's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) organization. Joe Filakovsky will schedule time with each ECP hospital contact to provide information about the credential verification process and about desktop management of the ECP database using FileMaker™ when it becomes available. Like Adobe Acrobat Reader, FileMaker™ is "user-friendly", free-of-charge and will not require any special application license.

The Connecticut ECP remains "ahead of the curve" when compared to the capability of similar programs across the country. Its success to date can be attributed to the commitment of the Statewide Credentialing Committee, colleagues representing their professional associations, Connecticut hospitals and the Connecticut Department of Public Health for ensuring citizens have uninterrupted access to healthcare during a large-scale disaster or public health emergency. Please visit www.ct-esar-vhp.org to learn more about the program, or contact Joe Filakovsky at joseph.filakovsky@ynhh.org DNP, APRN at 203-688-4486.

Education and Training

Incident Command Systems (ICS) for Healthcare with NIMS (EM 140 w/NIMS) is a 50-minute course which offers an introduction to ICS for healthcare workers and is available at <http://ynhhs.emergencyeducation.org/>. Yale New Haven Health System employees should access the course via the learning management system at <http://cmecourses.com/ynhh/>. EM 140 w/NIMS meets the required objectives of IS 200, IS 700 and IS 800 for healthcare organizations. This course describes the ways an ICS can provide a consistent approach to command, control and coordination of all efforts aimed at protecting life, preserving property, supporting the emergency response and stabilizing the operations of a healthcare site during an emergency or disaster. For more information, please contact Mark Schneider at (203) 688-2577 or mark.schneider@ynhh.org.

Education and Training Services

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

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

For additional information about these services, please contact Scott Selig at scott.selig@ynhh.org or (203) 688-2587 or Kimberly Spaulding at kimberly.spaulding@ynhh.org or (203) 688-4482.

Positions Available at YNH-CEPDR

YNH-CEPDR has openings for Exercise Specialists, Regional Education Specialists, a Web Education Specialist and a Courseware Development Intern. Please contact Mark Schneider at (203) 688-2577 or mark.schneider@ynhh.org for more information, or apply online at <http://www.yalenehavenhealth.org/info/jobs.html>.

Education and Training

- **Introduction to Radiological Response (EM 110)** is a 30-minute narrated CD-ROM course which provides the learner with the basic principles of radiation, definitions of terms commonly encountered in radiological and nuclear incidents, a description of the health risks associated with radioactive material, recommendations for safeguarding personal safety during a radiological or nuclear incident and an outline of the strategies for addressing the psychological impact of radiological and nuclear incidents. This introductory course has been designed for nurses, doctors, radiology technicians, radiation oncologists, radiation safety officers, patient care associates, technical assistants, nuclear medicine workers, EMS workers and mental health professionals. An online version of EM 110 is scheduled for release in the summer of 2007. A more advanced radiological preparedness course is under development and planned for release in the fall of 2007. EM 110 CD-ROM is available for a fee and can be obtained by contacting Mark Schneider at (203) 688-2577 or mark.schneider@ynhh.org.
- **Best Practices for the Protection of Healthcare-Based First Receivers (EM 120)** is available at <http://ynhhs.emergencyeducation.org/>. EM 120 is aligned with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) required awareness-level competencies for first receivers. Sample job classifications that may be required to complete EM 120 in order to ensure compliance with OSHA standards include: (1) All employees who work in the emergency department (such as clinicians, housekeeping, security, patient registration, etc.); (2) All employees who are regularly scheduled to be on call for the emergency department; (3) Volunteers and residents assigned to the emergency department; (4) Employees involved in setting up, taking down or maintaining decontamination facilities, regardless of their primary job role and location; (5) Nursing leadership who function as potential nursing administrators on call; (6) All members of the hospital decontamination team. This course is a prerequisite to a series of operations-level courses currently under development and planned for release in the fall of 2007. For more information, please contact Mark Schneider at (203) 688-2577 or mark.schneider@ynhh.org.
- The online publication *Emerging Infectious Diseases* article entitled "Respirator Donning in Post-Hurricane New Orleans" makes the observation that "An observational study of 62 healthcare workers in three California hospitals found that 40 (65%) improperly put on N95 FF respirators before entering the room of a patient in isolation for tuberculosis," <http://www.cdc.gov/eid/content/13/5/700.htm>. Properly fit personal protective equipment can help control the spread of airborne infections including pandemic influenza. YNH-CEPDR is currently developing **N95 Respirator Fit Tester Training (EM 122)**. This 20-minute online course will provide an in-depth look at the fit testing process used to test the seal of the N95 respirator and will meet OSHA fit-testing requirements. The N95 respirator is worn by healthcare workers treating patients with infectious airborne diseases, including pandemic influenza. This course is designed to provide just-in-time training to healthcare workers that must perform fit tests. The use of text and video combined with a cue card, available to print, gives fit testers a more robust learning experience and a useful job aid. This course is anticipated to be released in the summer of 2007. For more information, please contact Mark Schneider at (203) 688-2577 or mark.schneider@ynhh.org.
- **Best Practices for the Protection of Healthcare-Based First Receivers, Operations Level (EM 220)** is a four-hour online course followed by a four-hour hands-on training. EM 220 is designed to advance healthcare workers from the awareness level to the operations level of training for healthcare-based decontamination teams. Prior to enrolling in this operations-level course, participants are required to have successfully completed the awareness-level course, EM 120. EM 220 is recommended for healthcare workers with roles in their facility's decontamination process including medical practitioners (MD/DO, PA, NP), nurses (RN, LPN), allied health (ED techs, nurses aides, etc.), maintenance staff, environmental services staff, facilities staff, engineering staff, security and outside contractors. This course prepares healthcare workers to identify possible risks associated with unannounced patients and fulfill specific roles in the decontamination process and trains healthcare workers to properly use protective equipment. The course meets OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.120 and the Best Practices for Healthcare-Based First Receivers of Patients, which was a result of the OSHA revisions of February 2005 to address concerns of hospital responders. For more information, please contact Mark Schneider at (203) 688-2577 or mark.schneider@ynhh.org.

Upcoming Training and Education

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
6.26.07 6.28.07	9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Infectious Substances Packaging and Shipping Training <i>Sponsored by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health</i>	For more information, please visit http://www.ynhhs.org/emergency/Packaging Brochure.pdf .
6.29.07	11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. EST	Mass Shelters: Environmental Health Issues <i>Sponsored by the Alabama Department of Public Health</i>	For more information, please visit https://www.adph.org/alphn/vcomm.asp?action=conflistone&templatenbr=3&deptid=143&templateid=1252
7.10.07	11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. EST	EM 103 w/NIMS Train-the-Trainer, Family Planning	To register please visit https://ynhh.webex.com .
7.11.07	11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	EM 103 w/NIMS Train-the-Trainer, Community Health Centers	To register please visit https://ynhh.webex.com .
7.12.07 7.17.07	1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	EM 103 w/NIMS Train-the-Trainer, Home Health Agencies	To register please visit https://ynhh.webex.com .
7.19.07	11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. EST	Pandemic Influenza for First Receivers <i>Sponsored by the Alabama Department of Public Health</i>	For more information, please visit https://www.adph.org/alphn/vcomm.asp?action=conflistone&templatenbr=3&deptid=143&templateid=1252
7.16.07 and 7.21.07		All Hazard Incident Management Teams (AHIMT) Training <i>Sponsored by the Connecticut Fire Academy</i>	Windsor Locks, CT For more information, please visit http://www.ynhhs.org/emergency/AHIMTClass.pdf or contact Jackie Kilby-Richards at (860) 627-6363 x 285 jacklyn.kilby-richards@po.state.ct.us

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

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UPCOMING

Upcoming Meetings and Events

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
6.27.07	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	NATHCER Exercise Missouri Institute of Mental Health, St. Louis, MO <i>Sponsored by YNH-CEPDR</i>	For more information, please contact Deanna Bourgeault at deanna.bourgeault@ynhh.org .
7.11.07	9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.	NATHCER Exercise Area Health Education Center of Southern Nevada, Las Vegas, NV <i>Sponsored by YNH-CEPDR</i>	For more information, please contact Deanna Bourgeault at deanna.bourgeault@ynhh.org .
7.12.07	8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.	Statewide Interhospital Working Group	Connecticut Hospital Association
7.12.07	9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.	Regions 1, 2 and 5 Hospital Meeting	Connecticut Hospital Association
7.26.07 and 7.27.07	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. 8:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.	4 th Annual Arkansas Statewide Preparedness Conference <i>Sponsored by Arkansas Medical Services, UAMS Regional Programs, Arkansas Children's Hospital, AR DHHS, AR Hospital Association, AR Dept. of Emergency Management, Arkansas Office of the FBI</i>	For more information, please visit http://www.ynhhs.org/emergency/AKStatewidePreparednessConf.pdf .
8.3.07	<i>More Information to Come</i>	2007 Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) Industry Day <i>Sponsored by HHS</i>	For more information and registration, please visit http://www.hhs.gov/aspr/ophemc/barda/
9.19.07	<i>Save the Date</i>	2007 National Summit <i>Sponsored by the New York Primary Care Development Corporation</i>	For more information, please visit http://www.pcdcnv.org/