

THE PREPAREDNESS REPORT

The Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response


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ELEVATED THREAT LEVEL

Gaps in Pediatric Pandemic Preparedness: **New**

On October 17, 2007, the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) and Trust for America's Health (TFAH) issued a report identifying gaps in the nation's preparedness planning for treating and caring for children and teens between the ages of 0-19 during a possible influenza pandemic. Key areas of concern included availability of vaccine and medications in child-appropriate doses, management and treatment of pediatric patients, strategies to halt infection in communities and the issue of who will care for this population group should childcare facilities and schools close. The report also found that this age group accounts for almost 46% of avian influenza H5N1 deaths. Specific gaps identified in the report includes the low availability of antivirals for children in the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS); drugs shown to be effective against the H5N1 virus are not licensed for children under the age of 1; appropriate vaccine would not be available until at least 6 months after start of pandemic; and N95 masks are not produced in children's sizes. The AAP and TFAH provide specific recommendations that call for inclusion of pediatric pandemic preparations at all levels of government pandemic planning, additional studies on vaccines in young children, personal protective equipment (PPE) for children and infection control education in all schools. Additional recommendations and more information may be accessed in the full report at <http://healthyamericans.org/reports/fluchildren/KidsPandemicFlu.pdf>.

ANA Altered Standard of Care Policy Document

 The American Nurses Association (ANA) has developed a document regarding adapting standards of care during major natural or manmade disasters open for public comment until October 24, 2007. The document **Adapting Standards of Care under Altered Conditions** discusses the sometimes difficult decisions registered nurses and other health professionals must make about patient care during disasters that may differ from the established scopes and standards of care, professional ethics and other legal and regulatory frameworks that are applied in non-emergency situations. To read more about this document, access a link to the draft and submit your comments, please visit <http://www.nursingworld.org/HomepageCategory/Announcements/PublicCommentsAdaptingStandardsOfCareUnderAlteredConditions.aspx>.

Avian Influenza: **New**

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the cumulative number of confirmed cases of avian influenza H5N1 as of October 17, 2007, is 331 cases and 203 deaths.



Bird Flu
Credit: Beasiharta/Reuters

On October 17, 2007, WHO confirmed the death of a 12-year old boy from the Tangerang District in Indonesia's Banten Province of avian influenza H5N1. The investigation into the source of the infection has been traced back to the boy's direct contact with dead chickens days prior to the onset of symptoms. To read this release in full, please visit http://www.who.int/csr/don/2007_10_17/en/index.html.

- The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) announced on October 17, 2007, that the United States will contribute \$38 million to support the FAO avian influenza control and prevention program. The FAO program assists more than 100 countries in efforts to prevent and control avian influenza, including surveillance, response, planning, training, technical, laboratory and communication projects and activities involving local communities throughout the world. To read this FAO release in full, please visit <http://www.fao.org/newsroom/en/news/2007/1000681/index.html>.
- On October 16, 2007, the China Center for Disease Prevention and Control (China CDC) said that as many as 200 million in China could be infected during an influenza pandemic with predicted death toll between 460,000 and almost 7 million should a pandemic hit now. It was emphasized that flu vaccination can reduce mortality rates greatly and especially people in high risk groups are urged to be vaccinated. To read this article in full, please visit <http://209.190.25.146/viewNews.php?id=1236>.

Influenza Pandemic Drive-Through Triage: **New**

During an emergency medicine conference held at Stanford University in California early September 2007, the concept of a drive-through triage system was presented by Drs. Gregory Gilbert and Peter D'Souza. This system is designed to help alleviate strained emergency rooms and hospitals during a pandemic that is likely to cause an overload of patients seeking treatment with a reduced number of staff over a longer period of time. The system will be set up away from the hospital with directional staff and signs sending suspected influenza patients through triage manned by physicians, nurses and other healthcare staff to determine if home care, hospital admittance or other specialized care is the appropriate next step. To read more about this system, please visit http://www.mdconsult.com/das/news/body/79947160-2/mnfp/0/188769/1.html?nid=188769&WT_mc_id=20071004_twim&date=week&pos=&general=true&mine=true.

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US DHHS Region I (New England) Emergency Planning Office (Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response – ASPR)

Flu Stafford Act Reimbursement: A

memorandum available on the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) web site describes FEMA's policy for Stafford Act reimbursement for pandemic influenza. The document, titled "Disaster Assistance Policy 9523.17: Emergency Assistance for Human Influenza Pandemic," is dated March 31, 2007, and outlines the legal mechanisms, triggers and areas of eligibility for reimbursement following a pandemic. The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) is currently examining the policy for its implications for state health agencies. To access the memorandum, please visit http://www.fema.gov/government/grant/pa/9523_17.shtm.

The following resources are identified to assist your preparedness activities:

New/Highlighted Resources:

A collection of resources for emergency management and specifically medical issues: http://www.ynhhs.org/emergency/US_DHHS_web_sites.pdf

A new, electronic newsletter focusing on emergency preparedness and response is now available for health educators. "Emergency Preparedness and Response News U Can Use" is produced biweekly by the Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE). If you are interested in receiving the newsletter list or to learn more about what SOPHE is doing related to emergency preparedness and response, please contact Tanya Maslak at tmaslak@sophe.org

Retention and Recruitment for the Volunteer Emergency Services, Challenges and Solutions. U.S. Fire Administration, May 2007: <http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/downloads/pdf/publications/fa-310.pdf>

Planning for a Possible Influenza Pandemic – A Framework for Planners Preparing to Manage Deaths. United Kingdom: http://www.ukresilience.info/news/manage_deaths_guidance.aspx

Center for Domestic Preparedness Training Site, Anniston, Alabama, Medical Training Courses: <https://cdp.dhs.gov/resident/healthcare.html> (Courses offered and for the most part fully funded by the federal government)

ICS All Hazard Core Competencies, FEMA: http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/ics_competencies.shtm

Disasters around the World: **New**



California Sandstorm
Credit: KCAL

On October 16, 2007, more than a dozen vehicles were involved in a highway accident north of Los Angeles in California during a sandstorm in an area that has received less than two inches of rain this year. High winds and poor visibility is believed to be a contributing factor to the accident that killed 2 people and injured 16 other. To read this article in full, please visit

<http://www.cnn.com/2007/US/10/17/sandstorm.pileup.ap/index.html>.

- The United Nations' World Food Program (WFP) announced on October 16, 2007, that in order to reach flood-devastated areas in northern and eastern Uganda with aid, it has been forced to use air drops after vital roads were washed away. Torrential rains and flash floods have plagued Uganda the last few months, affecting 300,000 people by destroying villages, food crops and animal stocks. To read this article in full, please visit <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/L1759457.htm>.

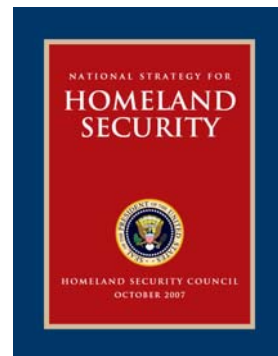


Bangladesh Floods
Credit: REUTERS/Rafiqur Rahman (Bangladesh)

Heavy rain and wind on October 15, 2007, caused by a depression over the Bay of Bengal led to mudslides and collapsing houses that killed 18 people and injured 100 in the Chittagong district in Bangladesh. Throughout this years monsoon season, over 1,000 people have been killed in Bangladesh, an estimated 2.1 million acres of crops were damaged and 84,000 houses have been destroyed. To read this article in full, please visit http://coe-dmha.org/apdr/index.cfm?action=process3&Sub_ID=18&news=23245&pubDate=10/16/2007.

- Incident command can be used to provide management over various resources. The management of logistics over a large area is important to priority setting in a large-scale event. Use of incident command can help decide who to evacuate, what property to protect, what types of people and resources are required, healthcare concerns and more. Incident Command for Hospitals, HICS IV, was recently updated by the California Emergency Medical Services Authority. The update not only ensures compliance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) but cross communication between multiple agencies and jurisdictions in the event of an emergency such as the Los Angeles wildfire. YNH-CEPDR has developed workshops that discuss the HICS IV organizational chart, job action sheets and forms as well as provide an overall context for implementation. For more information on how your hospital or healthcare organization can receive HICS IV training, please contact Kimberly Spaulding at (203) 688-4482 or kimberly.spaulding@ynhh.org.

National Strategy for Homeland Security Updated



On October 5, 2007, President George W. Bush announced and issued the updated National Strategy for Homeland Security. This Strategy is an update from the first National Strategy for Homeland Security that was issued in July 2002 and is designed to guide, organize and unify homeland security efforts among federal, state, local and tribal governments, private and nonprofit sector partners and individuals. The updated Strategy focuses on protecting against and disrupting terror attacks, protecting citizens and critical infrastructure and responding to incidents and incorporates lessons learned from actual disasters and exercises. To read more, including an overview of the Strategy, please visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/homeland/nshs/2007/index.html>. To access a copy of the Strategy, please visit <http://www.whitehouse.gov/infocus/homeland/nshs/NSHS.pdf>.

Emergency Credentialing Program



EMERGENCY CREDENTIALING PROGRAM
for Healthcare Professionals



YALE NEW HAVEN HEALTH

Just like the Marine Corps, we are looking for a "few good men and women" to become volunteers in the State of Connecticut Emergency Credentialing Program for Health Care Professionals. Professionals in Medicine, Nursing, Radiology, Physical Therapy, Behavioral Health, Respiratory Therapy as well as many others are needed. This is a program that pre-credentials hospital disaster volunteers from many

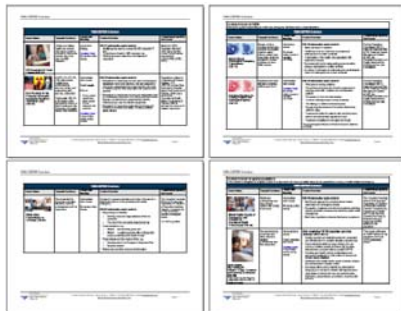
disciplines who have offered to respond when a natural or manmade event overwhelms a facility, region or state. Volunteers who agree to assist are given facility and event specific "just-in time" training to assist them to function in their new setting, and volunteers are covered for liability and workers' compensation. Please check out our web site at www.ct-esar-vhp.org to see if this program is for you. Enrollment is completed on-line, and basic disaster related education is provided. If you have any questions, please contact us at ecp@ynhh.org, or call Joseph Filakovsky, DNP, APRN, Emergency Credentialing Program Coordinator at (203) 688-4468.



Preparedness Tools for Families and Individuals

A California-based on-line disaster planning portal, AccessPoints, offers a checklist that outlines how individuals and families can prepare for a disaster and expedite the recovery process utilizing technologies such as the Internet, laptops and cell phones among others. The portal recommends using the Internet to stay informed about what natural disasters are most likely to affect your location and to register to receive real-time weather and homeland security updates. Other recommendations include signing up for identity theft protection services, storing video of personal possessions electronically, utilizing surge protectors, micro chipping pets and updating cell phone address books including contact information for supervisors at work. To access the website, please visit https://www.accesspoints.com/for_individuals_and_families.php.

Yale New Haven Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response: Fall 2007 Course Guide



YNH-CEPDR develops, delivers and evaluates educational programs designed to prepare the healthcare delivery workforce for effective response to all types of disasters and emergencies. YNH-CEPDR creates and adapts courses for healthcare organizations based on the latest research and developments in emergency response, incorporating national standards and regulations relevant to healthcare emergency preparedness, adhering to industry standards for instructional design and considering the special needs of busy adult learners. To view the new Fall 2007 Course Guide, please visit

http://www.ynhhs.org/emergency/YNH-CEPDR_Courses_Fall07.pdf. For more information, please contact Mark Schneider at (203) 688-2577 or mark.schneider@ynhh.org.

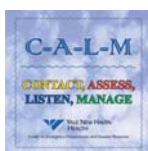


National Preparedness Month a Success: **New**

DHS announced on October 5, 2007, that a record number of national, regional, state and local organizations participated in the 2007 National Preparedness Month reaching a broad audience of individuals, families and communities with the message of emergency preparedness. The 2007 National Preparedness Month was broken into four theme areas that included preparedness for kids, business preparedness, multicultural preparedness and home and family preparedness and featured events and activities throughout the country. To read the DHS press release, please visit

http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1191616786962.shtm. YNH-CEPDR provided information and support to delivery network personnel related to National Preparedness Month and distributed information related to family and individual preparedness at Bridgeport Hospital, Greenwich Hospital and Yale-New Haven Hospital. For more information, please contact Samantha Kopp at (203) 688-2563 or samantha.kopp@ynhh.org.

Stay CALM in an emergency



Healthcare workers play an important role in emergency response as healthcare organizations may receive victims of disasters and are perceived as areas of refuge for the general public. Do you know what to do if a disaster arises while you are at work? Remembering the acronym, CALM, can help you through the first few minutes of your disaster response and prepare you to assume your assigned response role in your organization.

- C** CONTACT your immediate supervisor for information and instructions
- A** ASSESS your personal needs (clothes, money, medications, etc.) and ARRANGE for the care of any dependents
- L** LISTEN to your immediate supervisor and follow his or her directions
- M** MANAGE your assigned response role to the best of your ability

YNH-CEPDR has developed a pocket card that you can carry with you so that, when a disaster strikes, you can remain CALM. For more information on the CALM card and its accompanying stress relief tool, please contact Samantha Kopp at (203) 688-2563 or samantha.kopp@ynhh.org.

Positions Available at YNH-CEPDR



YNH-CEPDR has openings for Deputy Director, National Network Development and Contracting; Network Development Specialist; Regional Education Specialist; and a Grant Research Specialist. Please contact Mark Schneider at (203) 688-2577 or mark.schneider@ynhh.org for more information, or apply online at <http://www.yalenewhavenhealth.org/info/jobs.html>.



National Response Framework

On October 9, 2007, DHS announced that the deadline for public comment for the draft of the National Response Framework (NRF) has been extended to October 22, 2007. The NRF will replace the current National Response Plan that was released in 2005. The NRF focuses on providing all-hazard disaster responders with a user-friendly operating structure and details roles and responsibilities across all levels of government and all sectors of communities and includes recommendations from federal, state, local and tribal governments, non-governmental agencies and associations and the private sector. Supporting documents such as Emergency Support Functions and Support and Incident Annexes have been updated and remain an integral part of the NRF. To read more about the NRF, please visit http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_11_89450382144.shtm. You may also want to visit the NRF Resource Center at <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nrf/>.

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

Education and Training Courses



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_CompencyCrosswalk.pdf. EM 103 w/NIMS and EM 140 w/NIMS were 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.



HealthStream

YNH-CEPDR has developed a strategic partnership with HealthStream to distribute EM 103 w/NIMS and EM 140 w/NIMS. This partnership supports 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 Mark Schneider at (203) 688-2577 or mark.schneider@ynhh.org.



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 <https://www.healthstream.com/HLC/Login/Login.aspx?organizationID=6e27bcaa-71bd-db11-bf7b-000423d6b5c1>.

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.



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

<https://www.healthstream.com/HLC/Login/Login.aspx?organizationID=6e27bcaa-71bd-db11-bf7b-000423d6b5c1>. 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 coordinate 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.



Best Practices for the Protection of Healthcare-Based First Receivers, Awareness Level (EM 120) is available at <http://ynhhs.emergencyeducation.org/>. Yale New Haven Health System employees should access the course via the learning management system at

<https://www.healthstream.com/HLC/Login/Login.aspx?organizationID=6e27bcaa-71bd-db11-bf7b-000423d6b5c1>. 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. For more information, please contact Mark Schneider at (203) 688-2577 or mark.schneider@ynhh.org.

Education and Training Courses *(continued)*:



The online publication *Emerging Infectious Diseases* article entitled "Respirator Donning in Post-Hurricane New Orleans" states 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 provides an in-depth look at the fit testing process used to test the seal of the N95 respirator and meets 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 who 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. The anticipated release is the fall 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. It 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.

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.

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

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

UPCOMING Upcoming Training and Education

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
10.29.07 and 10.30.07	7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.	Emergency Triage Toolbelt: A 2 day Comprehensive Seminar <i>This continuing nursing education activity is offered by the Northeastern Maine Regional Resource Center</i>	Spectacular Event Center, Bangor, Maine For more information, please contact Lorraine Solomon at (207) 973-5756 or lsolomon@emh.org .

UPCOMING Meetings and Events

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
10.23.07	1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.	Seasonal Influenza Vaccination – Now is the Time! <i>Conference call sponsored by CDC Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA)</i>	For Dial-in Number, Passcode and more information, please visit http://www.bt.cdc.gov/coca/callinfo.asp .
10.26.07 and 10.27.07	Save the Date	The New England MRC Leadership and Education Conference <i>Emergency Preparedness Conference sponsored by Joint Commission Resources (JRC)</i>	For more information, please contact Jennifer Frenette at Jennifer.frenette@hhs.gov .
11.8.07	Save the Date	Regional Evacuation Summit focusing on cross-border evacuations and best practices <i>Sponsored by the I-95 Corridor Coalition</i>	Baltimore Convention Center in Baltimore, MD The I-95 Corridor Coalition website http://www.i95coalition.org will contain additional information as the event nears.

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

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