

THE PREPAREDNESS REPORT

The Center for Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response

Volume 6, Issue 20 | May 30, 2008

ELEVATED THREAT LEVEL

Definitive Care for the Critically Ill During a Disaster: **New**



Credit: UPMC

On May 15, 2008, the Center for Biosecurity reported that in a supplement to the May issue of *CHEST*, the journal of the American College of Chest

Physicians, four articles

outline an approach to planning and implementing mass critical care during a disaster. The first article reviews the existing state of emergency preparedness for mass critical illness and current mass critical care response capabilities and limitations. The second suggests an alternative approach, termed emergency mass critical care (EMCC) that would provide only essential critical care for surge capacity. The specific types of equipment and supplies, staffing requirements and treatment spaces required for EMCC are presented in the third article. In the final article, the Task Force suggests a framework for allocation of scarce critical care resources after all efforts at augmentation, including the implementation of EMCC, have been exceeded. The four articles in the supplement result from the work of the 37-member multidisciplinary Task Force for Mass Critical Care, which is composed of experts in critical care, emergency medicine, bioethics, law, and nursing and state, local and federal emergency planners. To read a summary of the four articles, please visit <http://www.upmc-biosecurity.org/index.html>, and click on the link for the Clinician's Biosecurity Network in the left-hand column.

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Urges Small Businesses to "Define Their Day After": **New**

On May 20, 2008, DHS reported that as hurricane season approaches, Homeland Security's Ready Campaign and The Advertising Council are reaching out to small businesses and encouraging them to "define their day after" by putting emergency preparedness at the top of their to-do list. A series of national public service advertisements (PSAs) entitled "Procrastination" were released nationwide Tuesday for radio, print, internet and outdoor media. These PSAs focus on what can happen when a business owner chooses to place making an emergency plan at the bottom of their to-do list. The theme taps into the natural tendency for individuals to put off making plans for another day. According to the US Census Bureau, small businesses employ more than half of all Americans. However, Institute for Business and Home Safety research shows that, at the minimum, one in four businesses never reopens following a disaster. To learn more about DHS's small business disaster preparedness campaign, please visit http://www.dhs.gov/xnews/releases/pr_1211302619193.shtm.

Avian Influenza: **New**

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the cumulative number of confirmed cases of avian influenza H5N1 as of May 28, 2008, is 383 cases and 241 deaths.



Bangladesh's first Infection hits
Credit: AFP/File

On May 28, 2008, WHO reported that the Ministry of Health in Bangladesh has confirmed its first case of human infection with H5N1 avian influenza. The case was identified retrospectively as part of seasonal surveillance activities run by the International Centre for Diarrhoeal Disease Research, Bangladesh (ICDDRDB). The case is a 16-month-old male from Komalapur, Dhaka, who developed symptoms on January 27, 2008, and has subsequently recovered. The case was confirmed as

being infected with A(H5N1) by the WHO H5 Reference Laboratory, US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). He was exposed to live and slaughtered chickens at his home. Specimens have been collected from his family members and neighbors, and all remain healthy to date. For more information, please visit http://www.who.int/csr/don/2008_05_28/en/index.html.

- On May 27, 2008, the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP) reported that Indonesia's health minister stated that 112 other nations have expressed support for her country's position on avian influenza virus sharing. At a press conference in Jakarta Monday, Siti Fadilah Supari said support for Indonesia's sample-sharing proposals came on May 21 at a Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) health ministers meeting, which was held alongside WHO's annual meeting in Geneva, the Jakarta Post reported. The NAM, founded in 1955, is an organization of countries that consider themselves not aligned with or against any superpower. In early 2007, Indonesia announced it had stopped sharing H5N1 influenza virus samples with WHO out of concern that developing countries that share such samples will not have access to vaccines that drug companies in rich countries may produce from the samples. The country has shared only a few samples since then. It has pushed for new virus-sharing policies that it considers more transparent and fair to it as well as other developing nations. For more information, please visit <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/may2708sharing.html>.



On May 19, 2008, CIDRAP reported that an H5N1 influenza vaccine made by the British pharmaceutical company GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) has become the first prepandemic vaccine to be licensed by the European

Union (EU). The European Medicines Agency has approved the adjuvant vaccine, called Prepandrix, for marketing in all 27 EU countries, GSK said in a news release. The vaccine offers European governments the opportunity to protect their populations "in advance or at the outset of a declared influenza pandemic," the company said. The product is licensed for adults aged 18 to 60. The EU approval comes about 13 months after the US Food and Drug Administration approved the first H5N1 vaccine for the United States, made by Sanofi Pasteur. "This vaccine marks a significant step in the world's ability to cope with an influenza pandemic," GSK CEO Jean-Pierre Garnier said in the release. To read this article in full, please visit <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/panflu/news/may1908glaxo.html>.

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

The following resources are identified to assist your preparedness activities:

New/Highlighted Resources:

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Guidance on Workplace Stockpiling of Respirators and Facemasks for Pandemic Influenza

<http://www.osha.gov/dsg/guidance/stockpiling-facemasks-respirators.html>

Extensively Drug-Resistant Tuberculosis (XDR-TB): Emerging Public Health Threats and Quarantine and Isolation

http://assets.opencrs.com/rpts/RL34144_20080401.pdf

IAEM Discussion Group: United Kingdom (UK) Department of Health 2008 Heat Wave Plan
http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_084670

Guide to Developing a Food Defense Plan for Warehouse and Distribution Centers, US Department of Agriculture, January 2008
http://www.fsis.usda.gov/PDF/Guidance_Document_Warehouses.pdf

Individual Preparedness Guide: "Are You Ready: Guidelines for Navy Family Emergency Preparedness," Naval Services Family Line January 2008 (ady0308.pdf)
http://www.lifelines.navy.mil/LifeLines/MilitaryLife/LIFE_005186

Free Training for ECP/MRC Volunteers Interested in Working in the Otilie W. Lundgren Memorial Mobile Field Hospital (MFH)



This 8-hour course provides an introduction and orientation to the medical equipment used in the Otilie W. Lundgren Memorial Mobile Field Hospital (MFH). Topics include working

in the austere environment of the MFH and the medical devices specific to the facility. This course will include didactic and hands-on training. Please visit TRAIN Connecticut to register for the training, <https://ct.train.org>. The course ID is 1013171, and the class title is Field Hospital Training. Please view the attached PDF file for training dates and sites, http://www.ct-esar-vhp.org/MFHinvite_2008.pdf.

Seasonal Influenza: **New**



Credit: www.foh.dhhs.gov

On May 19, 2008, Reuters reported that seasonal flu viruses are developing the ability to evade influenza drugs globally, but how and why this is happening is not clear, according to experts at a meeting of the Infectious Diseases Society of America. Europe is the worst-affected by strains of influenza that resist the effects of antiviral drugs, but the resistance is growing globally, they said. "A significant proportion of resistant viruses were observed in Europe this winter," Dr. Bruno Lina of Claude Bernard University in Lyons, France, told

the meeting. Their findings show that flu viruses, already known to mutate speedily, may be even more unpredictable than anyone thought. The viruses changed rapidly over the past 2007-2008 flu season, Lina said. "We started with something like 10 percent in Europe," he said, and by April of this year, 25 percent of the viruses tested were resistant to Tamiflu. For more information on flu virus resistance, please visit

<http://www.reuters.com/article/latestCrisis/idUSN19462422>.

Hurricane Awareness Day at Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA): **New**



Credit: FEMA

On May 20, 2008, FEMA reported that they teamed up with their federal partners to present Hurricane Awareness Day 2008. They hosted an event on Tuesday of last week which was open to all Washingtonians, visitors, Members of Congress and staff and the news media. Participants heard from Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff, FEMA Administrator R. David Paulison and other senior leaders from government and the private sector, all of whom spoke on the joint activities being planned this year and their efforts

to improve coordination when helping communities prepare for, respond to and recover from hurricanes. For more information, please visit

<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=43495>.

Hurricane Preparedness: **New**



Credit: HSPH

June 1st is the start of hurricane season and a great time to begin or update your emergency preparedness plan. According to the American Red Cross, only one in four Americans is prepared for a disaster. Disasters are inevitable; however, when you have a plan, you can adapt, recover and stay in control. If you would like to schedule a discussion on emergency preparedness for your group, please contact Eugenie Schwartz, Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator, YNH-CEPDR, at (203) 688-2659 or Eugenie.schwartz@ynhh.org.

California Officials Warn Residents to Be Prepared for Upcoming Heat Waves: **New**



Governor Schwarzenegger
Credit: gov.ca.gov

On May 14, 2008, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger directed his Office of Emergency Services, the California Department of Public Health and the California Labor and Workforce Development Agency to begin outreach efforts to remind residents to take precautions for the season's first heat wave. With temperatures expected to rise shortly throughout the state, officials are urging everyone to reduce the risk of heat-related problems and power outages that come with increased use of electrical power. To view a listing of recommendations to stay cool, please visit

[http://www.oes.ca.gov/Executive/Public/oespressroom.nsf/PDF/California+Officials+Urge+California+Residents+to+Be+Prepared+for+Upcoming+Heat+Waves/\\$file/HeatWave08PR.pdf](http://www.oes.ca.gov/Executive/Public/oespressroom.nsf/PDF/California+Officials+Urge+California+Residents+to+Be+Prepared+for+Upcoming+Heat+Waves/$file/HeatWave08PR.pdf).

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.yalenehavenhealth.org/emergency

FEMA Awards \$291 Million to States for Emergency Management: **New**



On May 16, 2008, FEMA officials reported that they have released \$291 million to

assist states and local governments to sustain and enhance all-hazards emergency management capabilities. This funding promotes state and local jurisdictions to engage in comprehensive national and regional planning processes that seek to enhance emergency management and catastrophic capabilities through strengthened national and regional relationships. The emergency management community has been awarded more than \$1 billion since fiscal year 2004 through the Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG) program. "FEMA remains committed to providing assistance to ensure states have the resources to effectively plan, coordinate, and prepare against all kinds of hazards, including both natural and man-made," said FEMA Administrator David Paulison. "An all-hazards approach to preparedness, including the development of a comprehensive program of planning, training, and exercises, sets the stage for an effective and consistent response to any threatened or actual disaster." To read this article in full, please visit <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=43471>.

FEMA Reports on Small Business Disaster Preparation: **New**



Arkansas storms
Credit: NWS/Reuters

On May 14, 2008, FEMA reported that restoring business is an important part of Arkansas' recovery from recent severe storms, tornadoes and flooding. Businesses that plan for disaster before it strikes

generally have less damage, economic loss and down time than those that do not. It's a good reason, say federal and state officials, to include disaster preparations in the normal course of business planning. FEMA, the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management (ADEM) and the US Small Business Administration (SBA) endorse disaster readiness for businesses, not only as a means to reduce damage and loss but also as a way to help a community recover after a disaster. State Coordinating Officer Richard Griffin of ADEM said, "Businesses that reopen quickly after disasters not only serve as engines of recovery, they also help to restore a sense of normalcy to the community." For more information, please visit <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=43465>.

Disasters around the World: **New**



Tornado deaths reach 110 in 2008
Credit: AP

On May 29, 2008, CNN reported that a tornado which touched down Sunday night in Parkersburg, Illinois, has claimed the lives of four people, with two additional deaths in the neighboring town of New Hartford. The victims are among at least 110 people killed in the US by tornadoes this year, putting 2008 on track to be one of the deadliest years in recent history. This year's death toll is already the highest since 1998, with seven months left in the year. To learn more about the incremental increase of tornadoes in the US, please visit <http://www.cnn.com/2008/TECH/science/05/28/tornado.year/index.html>.

Positions Available at YNH-CEPDR



YNH-CEPDR has an opening for an Evaluation Specialist. Please contact YNH-CEPDR at (203) 688-3224 or center@ynhh.org for more information, or apply online at <http://www.ynhscareers.org/>.

Protecting the Healthcare Workforce



Ensuring that all of your staff know how to protect themselves during a disaster in which they may be exposed to a chemical, biological or radiological substance is an important factor in their decision to come to work and fulfill their role in a disaster and to your facility's ability to provide ongoing healthcare services. OSHA requires that employees performing certain functions complete training programs that prepare them to don and doff appropriate levels of personal protective equipment (PPE) and recognize when such precautions may be necessary. YNH-CEPDR has developed a comprehensive suite of courses that addresses these OSHA requirements and provides an effective method to train your staff in proper PPE procedures. Whether your need is for fit testing N95 respirators or operations-level PPE and decontamination training for your decontamination team, YNH-CEPDR has a solution for your organization. For more information, please contact center@ynhh.org.

Education and Training Courses



At the request of the Bioterrorism Training and Curriculum Development Program of DHHS, 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 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 us at (203) 688-3224 or center@ynhh.org.



EM 120: Best Practices for the Protection of Hospital-Based First Receivers.

Information topics include: special threats from specific agents; levels of biological, chemical and radiological protection and isolation; various levels of respiratory protection; principles of decontamination; decontamination procedures;

mental health concerns regarding decontamination; and personal safety issues regarding decontamination. For more information, please contact us at (203) 688-3224 or center@ynhh.org.

Education and Training (*Continued*):



EM 121: N95 Respirator and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Training for Healthcare Workers. Information topics include: reasons for respirator and personal protective equipment (PPE) use; proper methods for inspecting, donning and doffing a respirator and PPE; the effective use of a respirator and PPE; and common errors made in PPE and N95 respirator use. For more information, please contact us at (203) 688-3224 or center@ynhh.org.

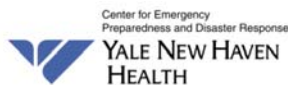


EM 122: N95 Respirator Fit Tester Training. Information topics include: identifying the need to conduct the N95 respirator fit test; conducting a fit test for N95 respirator use; and performing proper inspection and disposal of respirators. For more information, please contact us at (203) 688-3224 or center@ynhh.org.



EM 220: Best Practices for the Protection of Hospital-Based First Receivers, Operations Level. Information topics include: preparation for healthcare workers, such as emergency department clerks and clinicians who are assigned to work in the contaminant-free areas but who may need to identify possible risks associated with unannounced patients; preparation for healthcare workers with designated roles for contaminant removal or who will be working in areas that are considered to be contaminated (training includes proper use of protective equipment); and preparation for hazardous materials specialists, including radiation safety officers. For more information, please contact us at (203) 688-3224 or center@ynhh.org.

Programs and 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 us at (203) 688-3224 or center@ynhh.org.

Upcoming Training and Education

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
05.31.08	<i>Save the Date</i>	Second Annual Diabetes Management During a Disaster Training <i>Sponsored by the Texas Diabetes Institute</i>	Texas Diabetes Institute San Antonio, TX For more information, please contact Maryanne Kridner, MSN, RN, CDE (210) 567-3846 or kridner@uthscsa.edu .

Upcoming Meetings and Events

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
06.02.08 to 06.05.08	<i>Save the Date</i>	11 th Annual Emergency Management Higher Education Conference <i>Sponsored by FEMA</i>	FEMA's National Emergency Training Center (NETC) Emmitsburg, MD For more information, please visit http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/edu/educouference08.asp .

Upcoming Meetings and Events

DATE	TIME	EVENT	LOCATION
06.02.08 to 06.06.08	<i>Save the Date</i>	National Conference on Animals in Disaster (NCAD) 2008 <i>Sponsored by The Humane Society of the United States</i>	Doubletree Hotel Sacramento, CA For more information, please visit http://www.hsus.org/hsus_field/hsus_disaster_center/conference/national_conference_2008.html .
06.17.08	8:30am to 3:30pm	Emergency Preparedness: A Conference for Laboratory Professionals <i>Sponsored by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health Laboratory and Hartford Hospital Center of Excellence Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Program</i>	Connecticut Hospital Association Wallingford, CT For more information, please contact Virginia Kristie, (860) 545-1213 or vkristie@harthosp.org .

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