

Office of Emergency Preparedness Southern Tier Briefing

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ELEVATED

Volume 2, Issue 14

Threat Level

April 2, 2004

Training & Education

- ◆ A meeting was conducted on March 31, 2004 with health educators from Stratford Community Health Center and the Area Health Education Center (AHEC) to discuss the adaptation of EM 101 for community health centers.
- ◆ A draft version of EM 101 for extended care facilities will be presented at the April 15, 2004 membership meeting of the Connecticut Association of Health Care Facilities (CAHCF). Over 100 extended care facility representatives are expected to be in attendance.
- ◆ The following acute care hospitals have implemented EM 101 as part of their emergency preparedness training strategy: Bridgeport Hospital, Greenwich Hospital, Milford Hospital, Norwalk Hospital, and Yale-New Haven Hospital. An additional four hospitals are anticipated to implement EM 101 shortly.
- ◆ Two home health care agencies, CT VNA and On Duty Home Care, plan to implement EM 101 in early May.

Communication

- ◆ The final version of the MEDSAT policy and protocol has been approved by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) and is attached to this briefing for review. YNHHS is working with DPH to schedule in-service training to be held at CHA.

Questions, comments, or suggestions should be forwarded by FAX to (203) 688-4618 or by e-mail to OEPWEB@ynhh.org.

Drills & Exercises

- ◆ Each of the southern tier hospitals will participate in the CREPC drill scheduled for May 15, 2004. The primary focus will be to test the communications process. In addition, Bridgeport Hospital will send members of the Burn/Trauma team to the site via helicopter to test the aeromedical transport capability in the state.
- ◆ Bridgeport Hospital and St. Vincent's Medical Center have established a working group for coordination of a regional decontamination drill for the Fall of 2004.



Zumro Decontamination Unit Setup

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Stockpile Coordination

CT DHS Memorandum of Understanding regarding First Responder Stockpiles

- ◆ A follow-up letter from DHS to the acute care hospitals regarding the present Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is forthcoming. DPH, DHS and the Centers of Excellence will meet to discuss development of protocols, policies and processes related to the MOU and recommend specific items to be purchased.

CT DPH MOA regarding the Strategic National Stockpile

- ◆ Acute care hospitals with questions or concerns are asked to contact Patrick Schmincke, Medical Stockpile Coordinator, at (203) 688-9580 as soon as possible. Forwarded issues are brought to the attention of DPH for further explanation or resolution.

Acute Care Hospital Stockpiling Point of Contact

- ◆ Acute care hospitals are requested to forward their stockpiling point of contact information to Patrick Schmincke at (203)688-9580 or at patrick.schmincke@ynhh.org. This information has been requested by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health and the Division of Homeland Security for numerous future initiatives related to stockpiling.



Strategic National Stockpile delivery

Regional Planning

- ◆ Members of the Quad Hospital Committee (Milford Hospital, St. Raphael's Hospital, West Haven VA Hospital, and Yale-New Haven Hospital) have established working groups to review the current status of regional planning and prioritization of future critical capacities that need to be addressed. A subgroup has also been working on the development of guidelines for staff support services at the hospitals in the event of a large-scale disaster requiring staff to be away from family for extended periods of time.
- ◆ A site visit was conducted this week at St. Vincent's Medical Center to discuss the hospital assessment and provide assistance with planning efforts.

Emerging Infectious Diseases & Public Health Threats

Smallpox

- ◆ The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention published a fact sheet on their website entitled, "What You Should Know About a Smallpox Outbreak." The fact sheet was created to provide the public with basic information regarding the possible use of smallpox as a biological weapon and steps to take should an incident of this nature occur. The document can be downloaded from <http://www.btc.cdc.gov/agent/smallpox/basics/outbreak.asp>.
- ◆ Work continues with the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health on the development of smallpox hospital staff vaccination guidelines. It is expected that a draft document will be available within the next two months.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

WE HAVE CHANGED THE FORMAT OF THE OFFICE OF EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS BRIEFING AND WELCOME YOUR COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS ON THE NEW LAYOUT. PLEASE FORWARD YOUR INPUT TO OEPWEB@YNHH.ORG. THANK YOU.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
BH EM COMMITTEE	4/6/04	8:00 AM	ACR
SOUTHERN CT HOSP BT PLANNING COMM	4/8/04	8:30 AM	CHA
CHERET	4/23/04	8:30 AM	CHA

ONGOING TRAINING & EDUCATION

EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
CRISIS AND RISK COMMUNICATION HTTP://WWW.ALBANY.EDU/SPH/CONED/T2B2	4/15/04	9:00 AM ET	SATELLITE BROADCAST
INCIDENT MANAGEMENT/UNIFIED COMMAND FOR WMD/TERRORISM INCIDENTS (MGT-313) GSALLYN@WESTHARTFORD.ORG	4/20-23/04	8:00 AM	CT FIRE ACADEMY

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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