

## Office of Emergency Preparedness

### Southern Tier Briefing

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**ELEVATED**

Volume 2, Issue 20

Threat Level

May 14, 2004

#### Training & Education

- Nine thousand one hundred forty-one (9,141) health care personnel have completed EM 101 training. YNHHS continues to work with the southern tier hospitals and Hartford Hospital to expand the program statewide.

#### Drills & Exercises

- Region 7 hospitals (St. Mary's Hospital, Waterbury Hospital, and Griffin Hospital) will participate in the Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments Tabletop drill on June 12, 2004. Drill objectives include evaluation of the unified command system, incident command and internal agency communication, resource allocation, recognition and identification of a biological threat, and health department and hospital response roles.
- The Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee (CREPC) has scheduled a functional drill for May 15, 2004. Objectives of this exercise include communication activation and interoperability among participating support agencies, activation and coordination of resources for emergency support functions, and stockpile activation, receipt, delivery, and distribution process review. The southern tier hospitals will participate to evaluate communication and surge capacity.

#### Laboratory Response Network

- Dr. Joseph Albanese, state biosimetrist, gave a presentation on biosimetry to the southern tier hospitals on May 13, 2004. A copy of the presentation is attached to this briefing.

#### Regional Planning

- The regional planning template developed by Focus Area A has been sent to all acute care hospital CEOs accompanied by letters from the Commissioner of the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health, J. Robert Galvin, and the State of Connecticut Office of Emergency Management Director, Kerry Flaherty. A specific regional contact list was also included and all three documents are attached to this briefing. Acute care hospitals are encouraged to begin (or continue) integrating their emergency preparedness planning with that of other organizations and agencies within their region.
- Letters to the CEOs of the other healthcare delivery partners such as community health centers, nursing homes, urgent care centers and home health agencies introducing the regional planning process will be sent out beginning next week.
- The Connecticut General Assembly passed Senate bill (SB) 803 supporting the bond funding of the MaSH and the HEPA upgrades for acute care hospital ED rooms and has forwarded this legislation to Governor Rowland for his signature. A 100-bed MaSH facility can support disaster response, provide surge capacity in any location in the state during a mass casualty event, and can provide isolation care for any type of infectious disease. Funding will be available to the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health in the fall. The HEPA upgrades to ED isolation rooms will be part of the acute care hospital contracts for the next fiscal year. As a reminder, hospitals will be reimbursed for 50 % of the cost to upgrade ED rooms to HEPA filtration, up to \$25,000 per hospital.
- State bills (SB) 478 and 801 were passed by the Connecticut General Assembly this month. SB478 focuses on the creation of the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS), and establishment of a 24-member statewide advisory council to advise DEMHS effective January 1, 2005; SB801 provides additional capital equipment funding for DMAT.

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Southern Tier Hospitals Special Meeting
- 2 JCAHO Roundtable
- 2 Calendar of Events
- 3 Current Disaster & Emergency Management Literature

### Emergency Credentialing

- Twenty-nine of the 32 Connecticut acute care hospitals have signed participating hospital agreements, and 1,232 physicians have volunteered to be listed in the database. The statewide Emergency Credentialing System Committee continues to develop the policies and protocols for other healthcare disciplines such as nursing, radiography, and respiratory care.

### Strategic National Stockpile

- The State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH), the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) are identifying 25 strategic sites around Connecticut to house ChemPack stockpiles, some of which may involve acute care hospitals. Patrick Schmincke, Medical Stockpile Coordinator, will be working closely with hospitals designated as strategic sites. These stockpiles will provide additional chemical antidotes for immediate dispensing and any costs incurred to retrofit a storage area for this material will be covered through federal grant funding.

### Medical Reserve Corps

- Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator Richard Kleindienst, Sr., gave a presentation on the Yale New Haven Health System Medical Reserve Corps and the Emergency Credentialing program at the Medical Reserve Corps Region II Symposium held at the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York, on Friday, May 14, 2004.

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
BT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	5/17/04	1:00 PM	CHA
MASH MEETING	5/28/04	11:00 AM	CHA
STATEWIDE LABORATORY CONFERENCE	6/3/04	8:30 AM	CHA
SOUTHERN TIER HOSPITALS SPECIAL MEETING	6/10/04	8:30 AM	CHA

### Southern Tier Hospitals Special Meeting

- A special meeting for the southern tier hospitals is scheduled for June 10, 2004 from 8:00 am – 12:00 noon at the Connecticut Hospital Association in Wallingford. The keynote speaker will be Eric Noji, MD, MPH, Advisor, United States Surgeon General and the White House, Disaster Threats. Medical and administrative and clinical personnel from each of the southern tier acute care hospitals are encouraged to attend and invitations to the hospital CEOs are forthcoming. This meeting will take the place of the June southern tier hospital meeting.

### JCAHO Roundtable

- YNHHS was requested to participate in a Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) Emergency Preparedness Roundtable to discuss integration of hospitals and the healthcare delivery system with the community. The Connecticut approach with public/private partnerships was presented. Organizations at the roundtable included the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NAACHO), the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), academic institutions and the military. Guidelines are under development for healthcare institutions to support community integration of emergency preparedness planning.

### CDC Announces New Goals & Organizational Design

- On May 13, 2004, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Director Dr. Julie Gerberding announced new goals and integrated operations that will allow the federal public health agency to have greater impact on the health of people around the world. The CDC will align its priorities and investments under two overarching health protection goals: 1) preparedness: all people in all communities will be protected from infectious, environmental, and terrorist threats; and 2) health promotion and prevention of disease, injury, and disability: all people will achieve their optimal lifespan with the best possible quality of health in every stage of life. The integrated organization coordinates the agency's existing operational units into 4 coordinating centers to help the agency leverage its resources to be more nimble in responding to public health threats and emerging issues as well as chronic health conditions.

**ONGOING TRAINING & EDUCATION**

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
EMERGENCY RISK COMMUNICATION CDCYNERGY HTTP://WWW.CTHANED.ORG/UCALENDAR/DETAIL.ASP?ID=4030	5/17/04	8:30 AM	TRUMBULL MARRIOTT
LIVE RESPONSE: "COORDINATING LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL ASSETS" HTTP://WWW.CTHANED.ORG/UCALENDAR/DETAIL.ASP?ID=4029	5/26/04	2:00 PM	UCONN HEALTH CENTER
WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION RESPONSE AWARENESS TRAINING (800) 449-6742 <a href="http://WWW.KEENE.EDU/CONTEG/HOMELAND">WWW.KEENE.EDU/CONTEG/HOMELAND</a>	5/26 OR 5/28/04	8:30 AM	COAST GUARD ACADEMY NEW LONDON
SECOND ANNUAL NEW ENGLAND HOMELAND SECURITY CONFERENCE (800) 449-6742 <a href="http://WWW.KEENE.EDU/CONTEG/HOMELAND">WWW.KEENE.EDU/CONTEG/HOMELAND</a>	5/27/04	8:30 AM	COAST GUARD ACADEMY NEW LONDON
COMPETENT CRISIS RESPONSE: CONSIDERING CULTURE AND RACE SCOTT SELIG/OEP (203) 688-2587	5/27/04	9:00 AM	KELLER AUDITORIUM UCONN HEALTH CENTER
TERRORISM: EXPLORING THE CENTRALITY OF PSYCHOSOCIAL SEQUELAE SCOTT SELIG/OEP (203) 688-2587	5/27/04	1:00 PM	KELLER AUDITORIUM UCONN HEALTH CENTER

**CURRENT DISASTER & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT LITERATURE ([WWW.SAFETYLIT.ORG](http://WWW.SAFETYLIT.ORG))**

LARAQUE D, BOSCARINO JA, BATTISTA A, FLEISCHMAN A, CASALINO M, HU YY, RAMOS S, ADAMS RE, SCHMIDT J, CHEMTOB C. *REACTIONS AND NEEDS OF TRISTATE-AREA PEDIATRICIANS AFTER THE EVENTS OF SEPTEMBER 11TH: IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES*. PEDIATRICS 2004; 113(5): 1357-1366. CORRESPONDENCE: DANIELLE LARAQUE, MOUNT SINAI SCHOOL OF MEDICINE, NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10029-6574, USA; EMAIL: DANIELLE.LARAQUE@MSSM.EDU

MILLER L. *PSYCHOTHERAPEUTIC INTERVENTIONS FOR SURVIVORS OF TERRORISM*. AM J PSYCHOTHER 2004; 58(1): 1-16. CORRESPONDENCE: LAWRENCE MILLER; EMAIL: DOCMILPHD@AOL.COM

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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