

## Office of Emergency Preparedness Southern Tier Briefing

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**ELEVATED**

Volume 2, Issue 21

Threat Level

May 21, 2004

### Training & Education

- **Nine thousand eight hundred thirty-two (9,832) health care personnel from health care delivery agencies in the southern tier have completed EM 101 training, bringing the total percentage trained thus far to 84%. YNHHS continues to work with the southern tier hospitals, Hartford Hospital, and other healthcare delivery agencies such as nursing homes, home health, and others to expand the program statewide.**
- EM 101 for Community Health Centers and EM 101 for Home Health Care Agencies were presented to personnel on May 14 & 19, 2004. For more information on EM 101 for Community Health Centers, please contact Elizabeth Rivera at (203) 688-2656 or [elizabeth.rivera@ynhh.org](mailto:elizabeth.rivera@ynhh.org) and for more information on EM 101 for Home Health, please contact Jennifer Wright at (203) 688-2590 or [jennifer.wright@ynhh.org](mailto:jennifer.wright@ynhh.org).

### Laboratory Response Network

- A day-long statewide laboratory conference has been scheduled for June 3, 2004 at CHA in Wallingford. Presentations will include laboratory response to biological, chemical, and radiological threats, syndromic surveillance, and biodetection systems. Please contact Elaine Forte, Laboratory Program Advisor, for more information at (203) 688-3391.

### Medical Reserve Corps

- The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Coordinator attended an MRC State Representative workshop in Boston on May 21, 2004. Agenda items include sustainability, additional funding, and interacting with emergency services on the state and local level.

### Regional Planning

- Letters to the acute care hospital CEOs introducing the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health regional planning process were sent out by OEP last week. The State of Connecticut Department of Public Health will officially initiate the regional planning process in June/July 2004. Hospitals and other healthcare partners will be encouraged to meet with other public health and public safety organizations to develop regional plans for emergency response and recovery.

### 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.
- The Capitol Region Emergency Planning Committee (CREPC) functional drill was held on May 15, 2004. All 17 southern tier hospitals participated in the testing of communication systems and surge capacity of selected pharmaceuticals. The drill was a very important and valuable exercise. Feedback on the exercise will be provided to the southern tier hospitals shortly.
- A tabletop exercise is scheduled for June 10, 2004 at Backus Hospital. The drill will include local public health, emergency medical services, police, fire, and the Office of Emergency Management (OEM).
- A tabletop exercise has been scheduled for Yale-New Haven Hospital (Y-NHH) on July 28, 2004.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Southern Tier Hospitals Special Meeting
- 2 Strategic National Stockpile
- 2 Calendar of Events
- 3 Current Disaster & Emergency Management Literature

## Southern Tier Hospitals Special Meeting

- A special meeting for the southern tier hospitals is scheduled for June 10, 2004 from 8:00 am – 11:00 am at the Connecticut Hospital Association in Wallingford. The keynote speaker will be Eric Noji, MD, MPH, Special Assistant to the United States Surgeon General for Homeland Security and Disaster Medicine. 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.

## Strategic National Stockpile

- Patrick Schmincke, Medical Stockpile Coordinator, will contact hospitals in early June to arrange site visits regarding potential delivery locations for Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) shipments. The visits will be coordinated with the Division of Homeland Security (DHS) and the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH). The intent of the visits is to identify delivery sites as well as ensure adequate receiving capability for SNS material. Questions or concerns regarding the site visit should be directed to Patrick at (203) 688-9580.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
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

## MaSH

- The Statewide MaSH Committee is developing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a MaSH facility and equipment. Additionally, the committee has begun discussion on the review for the elements of operation for the MaSH facility.

## Emerging Infectious Diseases & Public Threats

### SARS

- Three weeks have passed since the last case was placed in isolation in China's latest SARS outbreak and the World Health Organization (WHO) declared on May 18, 2004 that the chain of human-to-human transmission appears to have been broken. WHO experts and Chinese authorities are still trying to determine the exact cause of the outbreak although preliminary findings have yet to identify a single infectious source or single procedural error at the National Institute of Virology in Beijing where the April 22 outbreak was reported. WHO and Chinese authorities view with concern the occurrence of laboratory-associated SARS cases; WHO urges all Member States to view this latest outbreak as an opportunity to review the biosafety practices of institutions and laboratories working with SARS coronavirus.

### Avian Influenza (H5N1)

- The World Health Organization has issued an avian influenza (H5N1) update on the WHO website. Information can be downloaded from [http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian\\_influenza/assessment2004\\_05\\_14/en/](http://www.who.int/csr/disease/avian_influenza/assessment2004_05_14/en/).

### Smallpox

- In collaboration with the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health, hospital smallpox vaccination guidelines are being developed. Acute care hospitals will be provided with documentation to review the guidelines next month. Once feedback is provided, a final document will be distributed.
- An Emerging Infectious Diseases journal article entitled *Ring Vaccination and Smallpox Control* is available for download from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website at <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/eid/vol10no5/03-0419.htm>.

### Salmonella

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a health advisory regarding a Salmonella Enteritidis outbreak in Oregon. The advisory is attached to this briefing.

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

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ONGOING TRAINING & EDUCATION			
EVENT	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
LIVE RESPONSE: "COORDINATING LOCAL, STATE AND FEDERAL ASSETS" <a href="http://www.ctaned.org/ucaalendar/detail.asp?id=4029">HTTP://WWW.CTHANED.ORG/UCALENDAR/DETAIL.ASP?ID=4029</a>	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/conted/homeland">WWW.KEENE.EDU/CONTED/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/conted/homeland">WWW.KEENE.EDU/CONTED/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
BIOTERRORISM: THE CURRENT THREAT, IMPORTANT BIOLOGICAL AGENTS AND MEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES (860) 679-1510 OR MPH@NSO.UCHC.EDU	6/8/04	3:00 PM	LINK ROOM UCONN HEALTH CENTER

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

RUBIN, AL. [SAFETY, SECURITY, AND PREPARING FOR DISASTER AT SPORTING EVENTS](#). CURR SPORTS MED REP 2004; 3(3): 141-145.

[HTTP://WWW.CURRENT-REPORTS.COM/ARTICLE\\_FRAME.CFM?PUBID=SR03-3-1-03&TYPE=ABSTRACT](http://www.current-reports.com/article_frame.cfm?pubid=SR03-3-1-03&type=abstract)

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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