

Office of Emergency Preparedness

Southern Tier Briefing

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ELEVATED

Volume 2, Issue 29

Threat Level

July 16, 2004

Due to the upcoming Democratic National Convention scheduled for July 26-29, 2004 in Boston and the Republican National Convention scheduled for August 30-September 2, 2004 in New York City, southern tier hospitals are encouraged to review their hazard vulnerability assessment checklists as a precautionary measure. U. S. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge's July 14 update on threat and efforts to ramp up security can be viewed at: <http://www.dhs.gov/dhspublic/>.

Training & Education

- Connecticut's inaugural National Disaster Life Support training program will be held from Sept. 28 – Oct. 1, 2004. The program will include Basic Disaster Life Support (BDLS), Advanced Disaster Life Support (ADLS), and the ADLS Instructor course. Physicians, nurses, and paramedics will be selected from hospitals and EMS agencies throughout the state. The entire cost of this four-day program will be funded by a grant from HRSA, and brochures will be distributed during the next few weeks. For additional information, please contact David Burich at (203) 688-3721 or david.burich@ynhh.org
- The southern tier hospitals and other health care delivery organizations throughout Connecticut continue to implement EM101 as part of their emergency preparedness efforts. Acute care hospitals have trained 11,267 staff, and other health care delivery organizations have trained 840 staff.

Bed Status Reporting Process

- DPH is currently reviewing requiring bed status reporting twice a day from July 24-31, 2004. Bed reporting will need to be done by 7 a.m. and again by 7 p.m. each day. For more information, contact Richard Kleindienst at (203) 688-3912 or (203) 650-5973 (cell).

Medical Reserve Corps

- A presentation on the YNHHS MRC and the State of Connecticut Emergency Credentialing Program was given at the MRC National Leadership conference held recently in Baltimore. The conference was attended by more than 350 MRC grantees nationwide. Surgeon General Dr. Richard Carmona gave the opening address. Work groups focused on training, liability, credentialing, and funding.

MedSat Satellite Radio System

- In conjunction with the Democratic National Convention (DNC) being held in Boston, the Connecticut Department of Public Health will be conducting **daily** tests of the MedSat satellite radio system. These tests of the MedSat communications system will begin at 9:00 a.m. (new time) Saturday July 24, 2004 and conclude on Saturday July 31, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. The testing will follow the existing procedure, in alphabetical order beginning with the southern tier hospitals followed by the northern tier. Weekly testing will resume on Thursday, Aug. 5, 2004 at **10:00 a.m.** Your participation in both the daily and weekly testing process is absolutely critical to the State of Connecticut's health care system's overall state of readiness.
- Hospitals that have not completed the inventory control sheet of the MedSat satellite equipment provided to each hospital are requested to complete that process as soon as possible. Please forward the bar code numbers and additional information required to David Hunt, Connecticut Department of Public Health Communications Unit. Please contact Mr. Hunt at (860) 509-7270 with any questions.

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

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Updates

- At noon on Aug. 5, 2004 the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Public Health Training Network will present an hour-long webcast on "Recognition of Illness Associated with Chemical Exposure." The goal is to increase the likelihood that health care providers will recognize illnesses related to a chemical release and that public health authorities will implement the appropriate emergency response and public health actions. For more information visit:
<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/PHTN/chemical-exp/default.asp>
- CDC has redesigned the "Mass Trauma" web page. It provides information on coping with a traumatic event, rapid assessment of injuries, explosion and blast injuries, and fact sheets and preparedness tools. Visit:
<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/masstrauma/index.asp>

ED Syndromic Surveillance

- A memo from the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health regarding participation in a statewide ED Syndromic Surveillance System will be sent to the acute care hospital Chief Executive Officers, ED Directors, Hospital Epidemiologists, Chief Information Officers, and Hospital Disaster Coordinators. The YNHHS Center of Excellence encourages the hospitals that collect ED Chief Complaint data electronically to participate in this initiative. Please contact Elaine Forte at (203) 688-3391 or elaine.forte@ynhh.org if you have questions or would like more information.

Trauma/Burn Hospital Capacity Assessment Tool

- An assessment to evaluate hospital capacity to provide care to victims in a trauma/burn emergency has been developed and distributed to all acute care hospital CEOs, Hospital Emergency Management Coordinators, Chiefs of Emergency Medicine, Chairmen of Departments of Surgery, and Chiefs of Trauma Surgery in Connecticut. The assessment should be completed by July 22, 2004 and returned to James Paturas via mail (OEP, One Church St., 5th Floor, New Haven, CT 06510) or fax at (203) 688-4618.

Hospital Smallpox Planning Template

- The *Hospital Post-Event Smallpox Mass Vaccination Template* was distributed and discussed at the southern tier hospital meeting on July 8, 2004. A copy has been sent to each acute care hospital CEO accompanied by a letter from Commissioner Galvin. The plan outlines the process to vaccinate hospital personnel and patients within 48 hours. The completed template and appendices A through D should be sent by Aug. 19, 2004 to Christopher Cannon, OEP, One Church St., 5th Floor, New Haven, CT 06510.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
CT DPH MONTHLY BT MEETING	7/19/04	1:00 PM	CHA
Y-NHH EMERG MGMT COMMITTEE	7/20/04	1:00 PM	ED CONF RM
Y-NHH TABLETOP DRILL	7/28/04	1:00 PM	GRACE LOUNGE A & B
OEP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	7/29/04	10:00 AM	OEP
STATE DPH QUARTERLY MEETING	7/29/04	3:00 PM	CHA

ONGOING TRAINING & EDUCATION			
<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION MASS CASUALTY PERSONNEL DECONTAMINATION ASSISTANT CHIEF GARY ALLYN GSALLYN@WESTHARDFORD.ORG (860) 570-3807	7/15-17/04	8:30 AM	CT FIRE ACADEMY
UNDERSTANDING AIR QUALITY IN THE AGE OF TERRORISM	7/19/04	5:30 PM	UConn HEALTH CENTER CLASSROOM Q
RADIATION PREPAREDNESS	7/20/04	5:00 PM	UConn HEALTH CENTER LINK ROOM
PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT (PPE) TRAIN-THE-TRAINER TRAINING DONNA.CAMPBELL@UCONN.EDU (860) 566-1133	8/7-8/04	8:00 AM	CANTON, CT

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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