

## Office of Emergency Preparedness

### Southern Tier Briefing

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**ELEVATED**

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Threat Level

August 20, 2004

**Due to the elevated threat level in New York City, southern tier hospitals are encouraged to complete the hospital threat readiness assessment attached to this briefing. This document provides a comprehensive checklist for review of systems and processes needed to effectively respond to a disaster.**

#### Training & Education

- Currently 14,190 healthcare personnel have completed EM 101 as part of their emergency preparedness efforts. 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.
- Connecticut's inaugural National Disaster Life Support training program will be held from September 28 – October 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 4-day program will be funded by a grant from HRSA. Brochures will be distributed during the next week. For additional information, please contact David Burich at (203) 688-3721 or [david.burich@ynhh.org](mailto:david.burich@ynhh.org).

#### Smallpox Planning Template

- Those hospitals that have not yet completed their Hospital Smallpox Vaccination Template are encouraged to do so as soon as possible. Completed templates and Appendices A through D should be sent to Christopher Cannon, OEP, 1 Church Street, 5th Floor, New Haven, CT 06510. Questions may be directed to Susan MacArthur at (860) 545-3929.

#### Republican National Convention

- In preparation for the upcoming Republican National Convention scheduled for August 30-September 2, 2004, a conference call between acute care hospitals, local health directors, and representatives from the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health was held on Friday, August 20th. Hospitals are asked to continue to provide bed capacity twice daily, and to participate in the daily test of the MEDSAT phone system until further notice.

#### Syndromic Surveillance

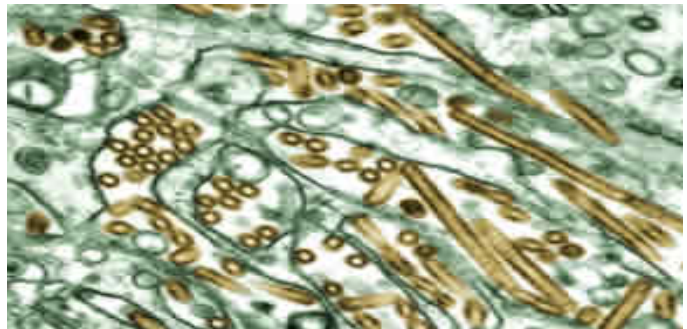
- In anticipation of the need for increased monitoring of potential health threats during the upcoming Republican National Convention in New York City, the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health, in collaboration with the statewide Emergency Department Syndromic Surveillance Committee, has sought ED syndromic surveillance information from the state's acute care hospitals, particularly those located in southern Connecticut along commuter corridors to New York City. The Office of Emergency Preparedness, a member of the statewide ED Syndromic Surveillance Committee, has been actively facilitating participation by southern tier hospitals in strategic geographic locations. To date, Greenwich Hospital, Bridgeport Hospital, Yale-New Haven Hospital, Norwalk Hospital, St. Vincent's Hospital, Stamford Hospital and Waterbury Hospital have provided the state with test files for this important initiative. Any additional southern tier hospitals interested in participating but needing additional information should contact Elaine Forte at (203) 688-3391.

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### Avian Influenza A (H5N1) Update

- According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the three fatal human cases of avian influenza reported last week in Vietnam have now been laboratory confirmed. For two of these cases, further testing has identified the H5N1 strain as the causative agent. The most recent case died on 8/6/04. No new cases have been identified since then. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Health Update on Avian Influenza A (H5N1) is attached to this briefing.



*Colorized transmission electron micrograph of Avian influenza A H5N1 viruses (seen in gold) grown in MDCK cells (seen in green). Photo courtesy: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)*

### UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
MASH MTG	9/3/04	9:00 AM	OPM
SOUTHERN CT HOSP BT PLANNING COMM	9/9/04	8:30 AM	CHA

### ONGOING TRAINING & EDUCATION

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
EMERGENCY LIFTS, DRAGS, AND CARRIES FOR TRANSPORTING PATIENTS RHONDA BATES (203) 294-7267	8/24/04	8:00 AM	CHA
INCIDENT COMMAND STRUCTURE AS IT RELATES TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH	8/24/04	3:00 PM	WEBCAST
FULL HOSPITAL EVALUATION PLANS RHONDA BATES (203) 294-7267	8/25/04	9:00 AM	CHA
COMNET: CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT NEWS, EQUIPMENT, AND TRAINING <a href="http://www.dlnets.com/ntp1_25AUG04.htm">HTTP://WWW.DLNETS.COM/ntp1_25AUG04.htm</a>	8/25/04	2:00 PM	WEBCAST
SET-UP AND OPERATIONS OF THE ACSI SURE CLEAN III DECON SHOWER SYSTEM RHONDA BATES (203) 294-7267	8/26/04	1:00 PM	CHA

### FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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