

Office of Emergency Preparedness

Southern Tier Briefing

1 Church Street, 5th Floor · New Haven, CT 06510 · (203) 688-3224 · FAX (203) 688-4618 · OEPWEB@ynhh.org

ELEVATED

Volume 2, Issue 35

Threat Level

August 27, 2004

Due to the elevated threat level in New York City and the upcoming Republican National Convention, 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. Please continue to participate in the daily test of the MEDSAT communications system and to report your hospital bed capacity twice daily via the BT website.

Training & Education

- Brochures have been mailed to directors of Nursing, Emergency Room directors, and Chiefs of Staff at each of the acute care hospitals regarding registration for Connecticut's inaugural National Disaster Life Support training program to be held from September 28 – October 1, 2004. Completed registration forms are now being accepted and it is anticipated that the courses will fill quickly. Emergency Room and Trauma staff from each hospital should coordinate with their supervisors to determine who should attend. The program will include Basic Disaster Life Support (BDLS), Advanced Disaster Life Support (ADLS), and the ADLS Instructor course and the entire cost of this 4-day program will be funded by a grant from HRSA. For additional information, please contact David Burich at (203) 688-3721 or david.burich@ynhh.org.
- Emergency Management 102 (EM 102), an enhancement of the EM 101 introductory course, is under development and will replace EM 101 in October, 2004. With the addition of a mental health component, EM 102 will prepare healthcare workers to address the emotional needs of the worried well, victims, families and other healthcare professionals.

Republican National Convention

- State of Connecticut Department of Public Health Commissioner Galvin has sent a memo to Connecticut's acute care hospitals asking for support of the preparedness efforts to be instituted with regard to the Republican National Convention August 30-September 2, 2004 in New York City. Commissioner Galvin's memo is attached to this briefing.

Emergency Credentialing Program

- Plans to expand the current emergency credentialing program to include nurses, respiratory therapists, radiographers, laboratorians, paramedics, pharmacists and behavioral health professionals have been developed with recruitment activities to begin shortly. Presentations on the emergency credentialing process for each of the allied health disciplines will be given at their respective Connecticut Hospital Association work group meetings during September. For more information, or to schedule an emergency credentialing program presentation at your hospital, please contact Elaine Forte at (203) 688-3391 or elaine.forte@ynhh.org.

Syndromic Surveillance

- Ten acute care hospitals in Connecticut are currently providing ED Chief Complaint data to the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health each day as part of Connecticut's preparedness for the Republican National Convention to be held August 30-September 2, 2004 in New York City. Any southern tier hospital that is not yet participating, but would like more information, should contact Elaine Forte at (203) 688-3391 or elaine.forte@ynhh.org.

Questions, comments or suggestions should be Forwarded by FAX to (203) 688-4618 or by e-mail to:

OEPWEB@ynhh.org

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Smallpox Planning Template
- 2 National Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Plan
- 2 Upcoming Meets & Events
- 2 OEP Contact Information

Smallpox Planning Template

- Most of the southern tier hospitals have completed and returned their Hospital Smallpox Vaccination templates to the YNHHS Office of Emergency Preparedness. As a reminder, these templates need to be submitted to the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health as soon as possible. Any hospital having questions or requiring further assistance in completing this document should contact Christopher Cannon at (203) 688-3224 or Sue MacArthur at (860) 545-3929.

National Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Plan

- Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy G. Thompson unveiled the HHS draft Pandemic Influenza Response and Preparedness Plan which outlines a coordinated national strategy to prepare for and respond to an influenza pandemic. The draft plan can be found online at <http://www.hhs.gov/nvpo/pandemicplan> and is available for public comment for 60 days.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
SEPC COMMITTEE	9/1/04	8:30 AM	EDUC CONF RM
MASH MTG	9/3/04	9:00 AM	OPM
SOUTHERN CT HOSP BT PLANNING COMM	9/9/04	8:30 AM	CHA

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

CHRISTOPHER CANNON	OEP SYSTEM DIRECTOR	(203) 688-3229	CHRISTOPHER.CANNON@YNHH.ORG
JIM PATURAS	OEP SYSTEM MANAGER	(203) 688-3496	JAMES.PATURAS@YNHH.ORG
JEFF ARNOLD, MD	OEP MEDICAL DIRECTOR	(203) 688-2535	JEFFREY.ARNOLD@YNHH.ORG
ELAINE FORTE	PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT MANAGER	(203) 688-3391	ELAINE.FORTE@YNHH.ORG
SCOTT SELIG	EDUCATION & TRAINING COORDINATOR	(203) 688-2587	SCOTT.SELIG@YNHH.ORG
RICHARD KLEINDIENST, SR.	MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS COORDINATOR	(203) 688-3912	RICHARD.KLEINDIENST.SR@YNHH.ORG
MUKESH ROY	REGIONAL PLANNING COORDINATOR	(203) 688-2563	MUKESH.ROY@YNHH.ORG
DARRIAN FITZPATRICK	MASH COORDINATOR	(203) 688-2577	DARRIAN.FITZPATRICK@YNHH.ORG