

Office of Emergency Preparedness

Southern Tier Briefing

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ELEVATED

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Threat Level

October 15, 2004

Please remember the MEDSAT communication system continues to be tested every Thursday at 10:00 a.m. as well as the twice daily capacity reporting for the following areas: bed availability, clean water and electricity, pharmacy and medical supplies, blood supply, staffing, security, and equipment (e.g., monitors, ventilators, IV pumps, etc.). Participation is critical to the success of this emergency preparedness process. MEDSAT testing for the last two weeks was less than 50% for southern tier hospital participation. Proficiency in the use of this communication system requires continued testing.

Training/Education

- Currently 16,931 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.
- Emergency Management 102 (EM 102), an enhancement of the EM 101 introductory course, will replace EM 101. 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. Employees have the ability to test out of EM 102 through a pre-test process. As with EM 101, EM 102 will be shared with all of Connecticut's healthcare delivery facilities to assist them with providing awareness level emergency preparedness training for their staff.

Governor Rell Expands Efforts to Combat Flu Vaccine Price Gouging

- State of Connecticut Governor Rell issued a press release on October 14, 2004 to address efforts to combat price gouging for the flu vaccine. A telephone hotline and e-mail contact address have been established for the reporting of suspected price gouging. Additional information can be downloaded at <http://www.ct.gov/governorrell/cwp/view.asp?Q=285004&A=1720>.

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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CDC, Aventis Pasteur Announce Allocation Plan to Address Influenza Vaccine Shortages

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Aventis Pasteur announced on October 12, 2004 the first phase of the plan to allocate influenza vaccine in response to the recently announced loss of half of the nation's expected flu vaccine supply for the 2004-2005 season. The plan, announced by CDC Director Dr. Julie Gerberding and Aventis Pasteur, calls for CDC to work closely with Aventis to distribute in phases 22.4 million doses of unshipped vaccine to identified areas of need throughout the country. An electronic copy of CDC Advisory is attached to this briefing.

DPH Revisions to CDC Influenza Vaccine Supply Update

- The State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) released a revision to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Influenza Vaccine Supply Update on October 13, 2004. Recipients should note two changes as follows: 1) The 9th bullet is modified to include hospitals and private providers who care for young children; and 2) A new bullet is added (bullet 11) regarding hospitals and long-term care facilities that ordered from Chiron. The update is attached to this briefing. The DPH Infectious Diseases workgroup will be meeting next Monday afternoon at CHA to further discuss the influenza vaccine shortage and plans.

ASHP Survey on Flu Vaccine Shortages Effects on Hospitals and Patients

- The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) has conducted a survey of hospital pharmacy directors to assess the effect of the flu vaccine shortage on hospitals and patients. The survey report can be viewed at: <http://www.ashp.org/news/ShowArticle.cfm?cfid=800165&CFToken=72594739&id=8234>.

National Preparedness Month

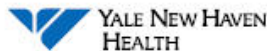
- To encourage and assist individuals and families with the development of their own preparedness plans, YNHHS OEP has developed a checklist "tool" and an informational brochure that guide the individual through the planning process. Contact OEP at (203) 688-3224 to obtain the YNHHS "PEACE of Mind" Preparedness Plan checklist and brochure which are now available for distribution.



Personal/Family Preparedness Plan: "PEACE" of Mind

P Prepare your plan	✓		Review Date
		Prepare and review my personal/family preparedness plan	
E Emergency disaster kits	✓		Expiration Date
		Home Kit	
		Travel Kit	
A Arrange for the care of others	✓		Caretaker: Phone:
		Children	
		Parents	
		Pets	
C Contact numbers and locations	✓		Contact Person and Location: Phone:
		Primary Contact	
		Alternate Contact	
		Family Meeting Spot	
E Exercise and evaluate	✓	Every 6 months:	Dates
		Exercise my plan	
		Review contact information	
		Update my supplies	

For more information, please contact the Yale New Haven Health System Office of Emergency Preparedness at (203) 688-3224 or OEP@YHHS.org



Learning Management System/Website Development

- Early November 2004 will see the launch of the OEP Internet website and Learning Management System (LMS). Main sections of interest on the Internet site include What's New, Education & Training, Programs & Services, Partnerships, Community Preparedness, About the Center and a link back to the YNHHS homepage. The Education and Training section will link users to online courses which at launch will include Emergency Management 102 (EM 102), an introductory course designed to help healthcare workers understand their roles and responsibilities in the event of an emergency or disaster. Enhancements will be made to the OEP Intranet website in the coming months and will continue to focus on emergency preparedness activities and topics of interest.

National Library of Medicine Grant

- An education and training grant proposal has been submitted to the National Library of Medicine (NLM), a resource of the National Institutes of Health. The grant focuses on the application of usability standards to OEP Learning Management System courses to make them easier to use, more effective and customized to meet the information needs of diverse healthcare disciplines at different types of facilities in different geographic and cultural settings.

Hospital Emergency Plan Annexes

- The Yale New Haven Health System has developed generic Hospital Emergency Management Plan Annexes for emergencies with Mental Health and Burn/Trauma disasters. These plans will be shared with the southern tier hospitals at the November and December meetings.

Clinical Waiting Room Materials

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have made available two printable flyers on the 2004-2005 vaccine shortage that can be posted in clinician waiting rooms and healthcare facilities. The two flyers are called Who Should Get a Flu Vaccination and Vaccination is Not the Only Way to Help Prevent the Flu. Both flyers come with alternate versions and can be downloaded from http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/flu/gallery/shortage_flyers.

Biodosimetry Laboratory

- Eighteen laboratories in Connecticut, representing 9 of the 10 public health preparedness planning regions, have been trained to provide specimen processing support to the State of Connecticut Biodosimetry lab during a radiation disaster. Please contact Dr. Joe Albanese at (203) 688-3316 to schedule a training session at your laboratory.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
STATE BT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MTG	10/18/04	1:00 PM	CHA
CHERET	10/20/04	2:30 PM	OEP
SOUTHERN CT HOSP BT PLANNING COMMITTEE	10/21/04	8:30 AM	CHA
STATE DPH QUARTERLY MTG	10/28/04	3:00 PM	CHA
MASH MTG	10/29/04	9:00 AM	CHA
SOUTHERN CT HOSP BT PLANNING COMMITTEE	11/19/04	8:30 AM	CHA

ONGOING TRAINING & EDUCATION

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
WMD RADIOLOGICAL/NUCLEAR AWARENESS (ARW-140) BOB MCGARRY (203) 805-6331	10/25/04	8:00 AM	OAKVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY OAKVILLE, CT
COMPUTER-AIDED MANAGEMENT OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS (CAMEO) TRAINING WORKSHOP KAREN GRANDCHAMP (860) 862-6194	10/26-28/04	8:00 AM DAILY	MOHEGAN TRIBAL FIRE DEPARTMENT
WMD RADIOLOGICAL/NUCLEAR OPERATIONS (PER-240) PREREQUISITE: ARW-140 DONNA CAMPBELL (860) 566-1133	10/26-28/04	8:30 AM DAILY	CT POLICE ACADEMY
TRAIN-THE-TRAINER WMD RADIOLOGICAL/NUCLEAR AWARENESS (AWR-141) PREREQUISITE: ARW-140 DONNA CAMPBELL (860) 566-1133	10/29/04	8:30 AM	CT POLICE ACADEMY

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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