

Office of Emergency Preparedness Southern Tier Briefing

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ELEVATED

Volume 2, Issue 45

Threat Level

November 5, 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.

Training/Education

- Currently 17,940 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.
- Griffin Hospital is sponsoring the 3rd Annual Otilie Lundgren Infectious Diseases Memorial Education Program on Bioterrorism on Wednesday, November 10, 2004 at the Meditation and Learning Center. The keynote address, "Avian Influenza Update," will be delivered by Dr. Scott A. Harper, M.D., Medical Officer, CDC National Center for Infectious Diseases, with program and remarks to begin at 11:30 a.m. Interested persons are asked to RSVP to the Griffin Hospital Development Office at (203) 732-7504. The invitation is attached to this briefing.

DPH Influenza Surveillance System

- Isolation and identification of circulating influenza virus strains are an important part of the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health's (DPH) influenza surveillance system. DPH encourages physicians to submit throat swabs from patients with a typical influenza syndrome (abrupt onset of fever, myalgia and cough) to the DPH Laboratory for virus isolation. Healthcare providers can submit specimens for influenza testing at no charge from October 1, 2004 through March 31, 2005. For more information, please contact Dr. Matthew Cartter, DPH Epidemiology Program Coordinator at (860) 509-7994 or matt.cartter@po.state.ct.us.

Influenza Vaccine Survey

- The State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) has asked YNHHS OEP to assist the southern tier hospitals with a process to identify the ability to share available influenza vaccine with those hospitals that have not received vaccine. Cooperation among all of our acute care hospitals during this time will ensure that the individuals most at risk will be afforded vaccine protection. Your support of this process is greatly appreciated.

DPH Weekly Conference Calls

- The State of Connecticut Department of Public Health will be conducting weekly conference calls every Friday until further notice at 1:00 p.m. to discuss the current influenza season with acute care hospital and local health partners. The telephone number to call is (800) 857-7419 and the passcode to join the conference call is 78406; this information will remain consistent. For further information, please contact Mary Duley, Hospital Preparedness Coordinator, State of Connecticut Department of Public Health Office of Public Health Preparedness at (860) 509-7152. In addition, DPH has set up an Influenza Updates hotline at (800) 830-9426.

DPH Update on Vaccine Availability and Hospital Recommendations

- An updated version of the letter from DPH Commissioner Galvin to the acute care hospitals concerning the reduced influenza supply was sent on October 29, 2004 and is attached to this briefing. The letter provides information on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's goals for meeting the vaccine needs of the providers, recommendations for vaccine use and universal respiratory etiquette (URE) guidelines.

Learning Management System/Website Development


- On November 13, 2004, the OEP Internet website and Learning Management System (LMS) will be launched. Major sections include What's New, Education & Training, Programs & Services, Partnerships, Community Preparedness, the Center and a link back to the YNHHS homepage. The Education and Training section will link users to online courses which 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 System-related activities and topics of interest.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Personal/Family Preparedness Plan
- 2 CDC Influenza Vaccine Resources

Personal/Family Preparedness Plan

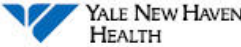
- The "PEACE of Mind" Preparedness Plan kit developed by OEP will be distributed to all YNHHS employees. In addition, it is also being distributed to acute care hospitals, public health and other organizations in Connecticut, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania. For more information, please contact OEP at (203) 688-3224 or OEPWEB@ynhh.org.



Personal/Family Preparedness Plan: "PEACE" of Mind

P Prepare your plan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Review Date
		Prepare and review my personal/family preparedness plan	
E Emergency disaster kits	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Expiration Date
		Home Kit	
		Travel Kit	
		Work Kit	
A Arrange for the care of others	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Caretaker:	Phone:
		Children	
		Parents	
		Pets	
C Contact numbers and locations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Contact Person and Location:	Phone:
		Primary Contact	
		Alternate Contact	
		Family Meeting Spot	
E Exercise and evaluate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	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 OEPWEB@ynhh.org



CDC Influenza Vaccine Resources

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has updated and issued a number of informational pieces about the current influenza season including:

Colleges and Universities 2004-05 Influenza Season
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/school/college.htm>

Tools to Prevent Spread of flu in the Workplace
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/treatment/0405antiviralguide.htm>

Questions about the Pneumococcal Shot Brochure
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/flu/gallery/flyers.htm#questions>

VIS Supplement on Inactivated Flu Vaccine
<http://www.cdc.gov/nip/publications/VIS/vis-flu-suplmt.pdf>

Influenza Antiviral Medications: 2004-05 Interim Chemoprophylaxis & Treatment Guidelines
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/treatment/0405antiviralguide.htm>

Updated Questions & Answers: 2004-05 Flu Season
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/qa/0405season.htm>

Questions & Answers: Information for Clinicians
http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/vaccination/qa_clinician.htm

Public Service Announcements & Video Clips for the 2004-05 Flu Season
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/0405psas.htm>

Satellite Media Tour Video Clips on the Flu Vaccine Shortage, October 2004
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/satellitetur04.htm>

Patient Education Materials: Vaccine Shortage Flyers
<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/flu/gallery/shortageflyers.htm>

Clinicians and hospital administrators are encouraged to review these materials and implement the recommendations as appropriate.

ONGOING TRAINING & EDUCATION

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
PPE TRAIN-THE-TRAINER WORKSHOP DONNA LEE CAMPBELL (860) 566-1133	11/6-7/04	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM	THOMPSON PUBLIC LIBRARY NORTH GROSVENORDALE, CT
3 RD ANNUAL OTTILIE LUNDGREN INFECTIOUS DISEASES MEMORIAL EDUCATION PROGRAM GRIFFIN HOSPITAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE (203) 732-7504	11/10/04	11:30 AM	GRIFFIN HOSPITAL MEDITATION & LEARNING CENTER
INCIDENT MANAGEMENT/UNIFIED COMMAND FOR WMD/TERRORISM INCIDENTS (MGT-313) DONNA LEE CAMPBELL (860) 566-1133	11/30-12/2/04	8:00 AM DAILY	DPS/DIVISION OF HOMELAND SECURITY BRAINARD FIELD

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
SEPC	11/10/04	8:30 AM	EDU CONF RM
MASH MTG	11/12/04	9:00 AM	CHA
STATE DPH WEEKLY CONFERENCE CALL	11/12/04	1:00 PM	1-800-857-7419 PASSCODE 78406
STATE BT ADVISORY COMMITTEE	11/15/04	1:00 PM	CHA
SOUTHERN CT HOSP BT PLANNING COMMITTEE	11/19/04	8:30 AM	CHA
MASH MTG	11/19/04	9:00 AM	CHA
STATE DPH WEEKLY CONFERENCE CALL	11/19/04	1:00 PM	1-800-857-7419 PASSCODE 78406

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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