

Office of Emergency Preparedness Southern Tier Briefing

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ELEVATED

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Threat Level

December 30, 2004

The United States Department of Homeland Security recommends that while the Nation is under threat level yellow, Americans should continue to be vigilant, take notice of their surroundings, and report suspicious items or activities to local authorities immediately.

Training/Education

- Evaluation of EM 201: Bioterrorism Preparedness for Clinicians, the intervention portion of an Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) agreement led by Dr. Louise Dembry, is currently underway and will continue through January 31, 2005. Following completion of the study, the course will be made available to all physicians via OEP's learning management system. Participants who complete the course will be eligible to receive 1.0 CME category 1 credit.

MEDSAT Testing

- In order to ensure that all current lines of communication and reporting are operational in the event of an unforeseen incident occurring on New Year's Eve, the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health is requesting that all acute care hospitals participate in a MEDSAT roll call that will be conducted between 1600-1700 (4:00-5:00 PM) this Friday (New Year's Eve) December 31, 2004. Please make responsible staff aware of the MEDSAT test as we are anticipating 100% participation.

JCAHO Updates

- YNHHS OEP is continuing to work with the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) to define standards for identifying, training and utilizing disaster volunteers within accredited facilities during an emergency event.

DPH Influenza Advisory #5

- The State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) Commissioner J. Robert Galvin sent Influenza Advisory #5: Expanded Recommendations for the Use of Inactivated Influenza Vaccine to all acute care hospitals in the state. Consistent with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), DPH has expanded the list of priority groups recommended to receive inactivated influenza vaccine this year. Included in the advisory is a table identifying January 2005 Influenza Vaccination Clinics co-sponsored by DPH. The advisory is attached to this briefing.

TOPOFF3 Update

- If your hospital has not yet done so, please provide complete contact information to Mukesh Roy at YNHHS Center of Excellence (CoE) for Hospital Controllers and Hospital Evaluators/Data Collectors to be added to a master database for the full-scale TOPOFF 3 exercise. Questions or concerns on TOPOFF 3 can be directed to Mukesh at Mukesh.roy@ynhh.org or (203) 688-2563.

Stockpile Recommendations

- Physician representatives of the YNHHS System Clinical Advisory Committee are developing recommendations for pharmaceuticals as part of acute care hospital stockpiles for response to biological, chemical, trauma/burn and radiological emergencies. Included will be recommendations as to medication formulation and quantity to have on hand. These recommendations will be available for review and comment shortly and will be distributed electronically to all representatives of the Southern Connecticut Bioterrorism Planning Committee. Hospitals will be encouraged to use the final approved stockpile recommendations to coordinate stockpile approaches within their Public Health Emergency Planning Regions.

New Year's Resolution

- Following the lead of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the YNHHS Office of Emergency Preparedness encourages all of its partners and colleagues to "Resolve to be Ready" in the New Year. Make, and keep, a resolution to create your own personal or family preparedness plan. A variety of materials and information, including the "PEACE" of Mind kit developed by OEP, are available to assist you in preparing your family for a disaster. Contact OEP at (203) 688-3224 for more information.



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ONGOING TRAINING & EDUCATION

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM (CERT) FOR CERT TEAM TRAINERS DONNA LEE CAMPBELL (860) 566-1188	1/5-7/05	8:00 AM	NEW CANAAN FIRE DEPARTMENT
GRAND ROUND SERIES: ASSESSING CHEMICAL EXPOSURE: A DIFFERENT APPROACH HTTP://WWW.PHPPO.CDC.GOV/PHTN/FLYER/JAN05UOFA-SPH-CPHP.PDF	1/6/05	9:00 AM EST	CDC SATELLITE BROADCAST
COMPUTER-AIDED MANAGEMENT OF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS (CAMEO)-OPERATIONS LEVEL (PER-224) DONNA LEE CAMPBELL (860) 566-1188	1/25-27/05	8:00 AM	NORWALK COMMUNITY COLLEGE
"LIVE RESPONSE: A WMD INTERACTIVE DISCUSSION PROGRAM: MANAGE AND COORDINATE A LARGE SCALE INCIDENT WHILE MAINTAINING ROUTINE OPERATIONS HTTP://WWW.DLNETS.COM/NTPI_26JAN05.HTM	1/26/05	2:00 PM EST	NATIONAL TERRORISM PREPAREDNESS INSTITUTE (NTPI) BROADCAST

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
SEPC	1/5/05	8:30 AM	BH EDUC CONF RM
SCAC	1/6/05	12:00 PM	OEP
SOUTHERN CT HOSP BT PLANNING COMM	1/13/05	8:30 AM	CHA

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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