

## Office of Emergency Preparedness Southern Tier Briefing

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**ELEVATED**

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Threat Level

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### TOPOFF3 Update

- OEP would like to thank everyone for their hard work and dedication in the preparation and execution of the TOPOFF 3 National Exercise. All acute care hospital TOPOFF 3 controllers are requested to submit their after-action reports (AARs) using the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) AAR template attached to this briefing. Please email the AAR to DPH Drill Coordinator Jon Bergeson at [jon.bergeson@po.state.ct.us](mailto:jon.bergeson@po.state.ct.us) and to Mukesh Roy at [mukesh.roy@ynhh.org](mailto:mukesh.roy@ynhh.org). Controllers should also ensure collection of data collector/evaluator logs used during TOPOFF 3 and send all completed logs to Mukesh Roy for submission to TOPOFF 3 officials. In addition, the TOPOFF 3 overview presented at this week's Southern Tier Hospital Emergency and Terrorism Preparedness Committee meeting is attached to this briefing. Once all information is received more specific after action plans will be developed for review and determination of next steps.

### Influenza A (H2N2) Situation

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and the World Health Organization (WHO) are working with the College of American Pathologists (CAP) and other providers of proficiency testing panels to ensure that influenza A (H2N2) samples sent to laboratories in the U. S. and 17 other countries are destroyed immediately. The Influenza A (H2N2) samples sent out are similar to the A (H2N2) viruses that circulated in humans in 1957 at the beginning of the Asian influenza pandemic. More information is available at the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/h2n2situation.htm>.

### Instructions for Monitoring Health of Laboratory Workers and for Destroying Influenza A (H2N2) Samples

- On April 13, 2005, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention issued a Health Advisory (<http://www.phppo.cdc.gov/HAN/ArchiveSys/ViewMsgV.asp?AlertNum=00227>) describing the inadvertent distribution of Influenza A (H2N2) samples to domestic and international laboratories and recommending that those samples be destroyed immediately. An update to the advisory provides instructions for 1) monitoring for and reporting influenza-like illness among laboratory workers who might have been exposed to the A (H2N2) samples and 2) destroying Influenza A (H2N2) samples by use of autoclaves, incineration, or chemical decontamination and can be viewed at: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/han041505.htm>.

### Emergency Credentialing Program

- One thousand one hundred thirty four (1,134) new volunteers representing all disciplines throughout the state have been recruited for the Emergency Credentialing Program (ECP), bringing the total number of healthcare volunteers, which includes physicians, dentists and midlevel practitioners to 2,780. Hospitals are encouraged to use part of their surge capacity budget to support the minimal resources needed at their institution for program recruitment and maintenance. In cooperation with JCAHO, a "Just In Time" training program template for hospital disaster volunteers is under development. The online training, "EM102 for Hospital Disaster Volunteers" is scheduled for release later this month. Brief meetings are being scheduled with the designated ECP contact person at each participating hospital to explain more about the program. If your facility has not already done so, please forward the name and contact information for your hospital designated ECP contact person to Carol Luddy, RN at (203) 688-5544 or [carol.luddy@ynhh.org](mailto:carol.luddy@ynhh.org).

### International Congress on Disaster Medicine and Emergency Management

- The Yale New Haven International Congress on Disaster Medicine and Emergency Management will be held September 12-13, 2005 at the Omni New Haven Hotel, 155 Temple St., New Haven, CT. A pre-conference workshop, *Health Disaster Management Guidelines for Evaluation and Research in the Utstein Style*, and a post-conference National Disaster Life Support (NDLS) course will also be offered. The conference will provide hospital, pre-hospital, public safety, public health and emergency management professionals with information about: best practices in health emergency management, including healthcare and public health organizations; recent progress in clinical disaster medicine; lessons learned from recent international and national disasters; and latest research and development in disaster medicine and emergency management. Registration opens on April 25, 2005 and forms can be accessed at <http://yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency/commu/natlconf.html>. Abstracts are being accepted until June 15, 2005 at [http://yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency/commu/call\\_abstracts.html](http://yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency/commu/call_abstracts.html). The conference is co-sponsored by the Yale New Haven Health System Center of Excellence for Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response, Yale University School of Medicine, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine (WADEM).

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### Training/Education

- Thirteen thousand five hundred fifty four (13,554) personnel representing other healthcare delivery agencies in the southern tier of Connecticut have completed EM 101 or EM 102 as part of their emergency preparedness efforts.
- At the request of the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH), an electronic survey has been developed and distributed via email by YNHHS CoE to obtain the following information from acute care hospitals in the southern tier: 1) number of staff trained in the use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE); 2) number of staff trained in decontamination procedures; and 3) number of staff trained on the Incident Command System (ICS) or the Hospital Emergency Incident Command System (HEICS). Please contact Scott Selig at [scott.selig@ynhh.org](mailto:scott.selig@ynhh.org) or (203) 688-2587 for more information.
- *Disaster Preparedness for School Nurses-Independent Study Course*, an awareness level course for school-based nurses, was developed as a collaborative effort between the Yale New Haven Health System Center of Excellence (CoE), Yale University School of Public Health, the Connecticut Partnership for Workforce Development and the National Association of School Nurses. This course will be piloted from April 25, 2005 through May 25, 2005 with 30 Connecticut-based school nurses and nurse supervisors. For more information, please contact Scott Selig at (203) 688-2587 or [scott.selig@ynhh.org](mailto:scott.selig@ynhh.org).
- Emergency Management 140, Incident Command Systems for Healthcare, an introductory level course, will be available through the YNHHS OEP online learning management system in early May. The course provides: 1) a 30-minute overview of the Incident Command System (ICS)/Hospital Emergency Incident Command System (HEICS); and 2) optional in-depth discussions of ICS/HEICS including downloadable action sheets and other forms that can assist in building a facility command structure. Please contact Scott Selig at [scott.selig@ynhh.org](mailto:scott.selig@ynhh.org) or (203) 688-2587 for more information.
- The narrated version of EM 102 on CD has been made available to YNHHS delivery network and southern tier hospitals. Please contact Scott Selig at [scott.selig@ynhh.org](mailto:scott.selig@ynhh.org) or (203) 688-2587 for more information.

YALE NEW HAVEN CENTER FOR  
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND DISASTER RESPONSE  
A State of Connecticut Center of Excellence for Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response

ONLINE EDUCATION AND TRAINING



Questions, comments or suggestions should be forwarded by FAX to (203) 688-4618 or by e-mail to:  
[OEPWEB@ynhh.org](mailto:OEPWEB@ynhh.org)

### Statewide Laboratory Conference

- A day-long statewide laboratory conference has been scheduled for June 23, 2005 at CHA in Wallingford. Presentations will include: *The Role of the Sentinel Laboratory in a WMD Response, Safety in the BSL-2,3 Laboratory, Chemical Terror and the Poison Control Center, Food Safety, and A Hospital's Perspective on Emergency Planning*. Please contact Virginia Kristie, Laboratory Program Advisor, for more information at (203) 688-2594 or [virginia.kristie@ynhh.org](mailto:virginia.kristie@ynhh.org).



### National Disaster Life Support (NDLS)

- National Disaster Life Support (NDLS) courses have been scheduled for the New Haven area. Upcoming dates and times for all courses are included in the Ongoing Training & Education section of the briefing. The schedule includes the 4-hour Core Disaster Life Support (CDLS), the 8-hour Basic Disaster Life Support (BDLS), the 16-hour Advanced Disaster Life Support (ADLS) and the 6-hour National Disaster Life Support-Instructor (NDLS-I) courses. The courses were developed by the University of Texas and the Medical College of Georgia and have been adopted by the American Medical Association who provides CMEs to graduates of the programs. The courses were also recently endorsed by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP). Additional information and a downloadable version of the brochure will soon be available on the YNHHS OEP website or contact David Burich, MSN, APRN-BC, and NDLS Program Coordinator at (203) 688-3721 or [david.burich@ynhh.org](mailto:david.burich@ynhh.org).

### American Red Cross & the CDC:

*Preparedness Today: What You Need to Know*

- The American Red Cross and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have teamed up to answer common questions and provide guidance on steps to protect individuals and their families including what kinds of emergency supplies to put aside. The following websites provide information on food and water  
[http://www.redcross.org/preparedness/cdc\\_english/foodwater.asp](http://www.redcross.org/preparedness/cdc_english/foodwater.asp) and disaster supply kits  
[http://www.redcross.org/preparedness/cdc\\_english/dskit.asp](http://www.redcross.org/preparedness/cdc_english/dskit.asp).

**UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
OEP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	4/28/05	9:00 AM	CB 1048
SEPC	5/4/05	8:30 AM	BH EDUC CONF RM
STATEWIDE LABORATORY CONFERENCE	6/23/05	8:30 AM	CHA
YALE NEW HAVEN INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON DISASTER MEDICINE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT	9/12-13/05		OMNI HOTEL, NEW HAVEN

**ONGOING TRAINING & EDUCATION**

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
PUBLIC SAFETY WMD RESPONSE-SAMPLING TECHNIQUES AND GUIDELINES (PER-222) DONNA LEE CAMPBELL (860) 566-1133	5/3-5/05	8:00 AM	HOMELAND SECURITY EDUCATION CENTER
CDC/DPH CHEMPACK WORKSHOP MARY DULEY (860) 566-1133	5/5/05	12:00 PM– 4:00 PM	RADISSON HOTEL, CROMWELL
WMD CRIME SCENE MANAGEMENT FOR EMERGENCY RESPONDERS (AWR-103) DONNA LEE CAMPBELL (860) 566-1133	5/9/05	8:00 AM– 5:00 PM	WESTPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT
WMD HAZMAT EVIDENCE COLLECTION (PER-201) DONNA LEE CAMPBELL (860) 566-1133	5/10-11/05	8:00 AM	WESTPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT
EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC BIOLOGICAL INCIDENTS-OPS LEVEL (PER-220) DONNA LEE CAMPBELL (860) 566-1133	5/17-19/05	8:00 AM	REGIONAL FIRE TRAINING ACADEMY, NEW HAVEN
LIVE RESPONSE-THE NATIONAL RESPONSE PLAN NATIONAL TERRORISM PREPAREDNESS INSTITUTE <a href="http://DLNETS.COM/NTPI_25MAY05.HTM">HTTP://DLNETS.COM/NTPI_25MAY05.HTM</a> ED KRONHOLM (877) 820-0395	5/25/05	2:00 PM EDT	SATELLITE BROADCAST

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

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