

Office of Emergency Preparedness Southern Tier Briefing

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

ELEVATED

Volume 3, Issue 18

Threat Level

May 6, 2005

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. Any acute care hospital TOPOFF 3 controllers that have not yet done so 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 and to Mukesh Roy at mukesh.roy@ynhh.org by May 10, 2005. 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. Once all information is received more specific after action plans will be developed for review and determination of next steps.

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. Registration is now open and forms can be accessed at <http://yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency/commu/natconf.html>. Abstracts are being accepted until June 15, 2005 at http://yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency/commu/call_abstract_s.html. YNHHS personnel are encouraged to submit abstracts for inclusion in the conference. 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).

Influenza A (H2N2) Situation Updated

- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), all influenza A (H2N2) samples that were prepared by a private contractor laboratory and distributed to laboratories and healthcare facilities in 18 countries as part of influenza proficiency testing panels have been accounted for and are reported by the proficiency testing organizations that sent out the panels as being destroyed. In addition, CDC is working with the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to raise the recommended Biosafety Level for laboratory work involving some human influenza A (H2N2) viruses. The CDC Health Update is attached to this briefing.

DHS Information Bulletin for Hospitals

- A Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Information Bulletin (attached) regarding false hospital inspections was sent out through the American Hospital Association on April 25, 2005 and is attached to this briefing. The bulletin provides information regarding several cases of individuals falsely representing the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), federal or regulatory agencies requesting information about hospital facilities, operations, capacity, services and distribution points for antidote medicines. Suspicious individuals entered the hospitals during the early morning hours and when challenged by hospital personnel left the facilities. A summary of the DHS Information Bulletin Suggested Protective Measures section includes the following actions:
 - Enforce access control through badging and other methods of identification of all hospital employees and any contract personnel
 - Maintain control over all entry and exit points through monitoring by security presence and closed circuit TV
 - Maintain vigilance regarding unannounced or suspicious visitors and those posing as representing federal, regulatory or accrediting bodies
 - Pay attention to suspicious packages left in public or unoccupied areas and vehicles left for extended periods of time
 - Ensure that areas such as the pharmacy, laboratory, mechanical floor, computer mainframe area, telecommunications and the operating rooms are secure.

Your assistance in providing the DHS Information Bulletin to your leadership team including facilities, security, laboratory, pharmacy, information services, telecommunications, the Emergency Department, materials management and others you deem appropriate is appreciated. Please call (203) 688-3224 for more information.

EM 102 on CD

- 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 or (203) 688-2587 for more information.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Training/Education
- 2 Statewide Laboratory Conference

Training/Education

- A CHEMPACK Cache Site Managers workshop was conducted on May 5, 2005 at the Radisson Hotel and Conference Center in Cromwell, Connecticut. Presentations included information regarding the Division of Strategic National Stockpile (DSNS) structure, components, partnerships (both federal and private), formulary contents and activation. Once host sites in Connecticut have been retrofitted, site surveys will be scheduled by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) and conducted with CDC representatives in order to ensure that the room meets specifications. In addition, CDC representatives will implement the installations. Facilities that have agreed to be a host site for the CHEMPACK should ensure that the MOA has been executed and returned to Joseph Marino at DPH. The anticipated deadline to complete this project is August of this year.
- 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 or (203) 688-2587 for more information.
- On May 17, 2005, Yale University is sponsoring a one-day symposium on "Ethical Aspects of Avian Influenza Pandemic Preparedness." The symposium flyer is attached to this briefing. To register, please contact Jonathan Moser at (203) 432-5680 or jonathan.moser@yale.edu.

Statewide Laboratory Conference

- A day-long statewide laboratory conference, *Emergency Preparedness: A Conference for Laboratory Professionals*, 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*. As with last year, there will be no charge to attendees. Please contact Virginia Kristie, Laboratory Program Advisor, for more information at (203) 688-2594 or virginia.kristie@ynhh.org.



ONGOING TRAINING & EDUCATION

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
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
ETHICAL ASPECTS OF AVIAN INFLUENZA PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS JONATHAN MOSER (203) 432-5680 JONATHAN.MOSER@YALE.EDU	5/17/05	8:30 AM	YALE UNIVERSITY, HORCHOW HALL
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 HTTP://DLNETS.COM/NTPI_25MAY05.HTM ED KRONHOLM (877) 820-0395	5/25/05	2:00 PM EDT	SATELLITE BROADCAST
BASIC DISASTER LIFE SUPPORT DAVID BURICH (203) 688-3721	5/25/05	8:00 AM	NEW HAVEN AREA

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
SOUTHERN TIER HOSPITAL EMERGENCY & TERRORISM PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE	5/12/05	8:30 AM	CHA
SCAC	5/12/05	2:00 PM	OEP
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: A CONFERENCE FOR LABORATORY PROFESSIONALS	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

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