

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 20

Threat Level

May 20, 2005

Information about Influenza Pandemics

- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), an influenza pandemic is a global outbreak of disease that occurs when a new influenza A virus appears or “emerges” in the human population, causes serious illness, and then spreads easily from person to person worldwide. Pandemics are different from seasonal outbreaks or “epidemics” of influenza; seasonal outbreaks are caused by subtypes of influenza viruses that are already in existence among people, whereas pandemic outbreaks are caused by new subtypes or by subtypes that have never circulated among people or that have not circulated among people for a long time. Please visit the CDC website at: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/avian/gen-info/pandemics.htm> for more information about influenza pandemics.

Laboratory Training

- The Bioterrorism Response unit of the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) Laboratory is sending a letter of invitation to all microbiology laboratory supervisors to have their staff members participate in mini-wet lab workshops that will take place at the State Public Health Laboratory in Hartford. These workshops will start on June 14, 2005, last for 2 hours and be available in a choice of morning or afternoon timeslots. These training sessions have been developed as a result of the bioterrorism drill performances and education and training survey requests. The wet lab will enable attendees to see the capabilities of the State laboratory and get invaluable hands-on experience with a few select agents. There will be a review of the CDC’s Bioterrorism Response Guide Level A Protocol, personal protective equipment in a Level 3 lab and the sentinel lab checklist. For details and registration information, please refer to the letter of invitation or call Diane Barden, Bioresponse Coordinator at the State of Connecticut Laboratory, at (860) 509-8618 or Virginia Kristie at (203) 688-2594 for further information.

Laboratory Shipping & Packaging Seminars

- David Shortt from the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health Laboratory will be providing updated 2005 shipping and packaging seminars on June 7, 2005 at Norwalk Hospital and June 8, 2005 at Manchester Memorial Hospital. This day long training will include regulatory changes that were made this year. Laboratory directors and managers are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity as documentation of this training is now a College of American Pathologists (CAP) requirement for individuals involved in the shipping and packaging of infectious and diagnostic clinical specimens. Registration brochures have been mailed to all microbiology managers and a copy is attached to this briefing. Please contact Virginia Kristie, Laboratory Program Advisor, at (203) 688-2594 or Virginia.kristie@ynhh.org for more information.

National Response Plan Now on CD

- The Department of Homeland Security National Response Plan (NRP) is available on CD. Please contact Scott Dilley at (203) 688-2665 or scott.dilley@ynhh.org to receive a copy for your facility. The NRP, along with the National Incident Management System (NIMS), provides a comprehensive approach for integrating the efforts of Federal, State, local, tribal and private sector partners to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from the full spectrum of complex 21st century threats. Fiscal year 2005 is an NRP/NIMS initial implementation year. Full NRP/NIMS compliance will not be required until fiscal year 2007. Facilities are encouraged to familiarize themselves with NRP/NIMS concepts and take steps to institutionalize the Incident Command System (ICS).

International Congress on Disaster Medicine and Emergency Management

- Registration is now open for 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*, and a post-conference National Disaster Life Support (NDLS) course will also be offered. Registration 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_abstracts.html. Connecticut healthcare personnel are encouraged to submit relevant 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).



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Training/Education
- 2 Statewide Laboratory Conference

Training/Education

- Fifteen thousand four hundred thirty (15,430) 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.
- The narrated version of EM 102 on CD is now available. Please contact Scott Selig at scott.selig@ynhh.org or (203) 688-2587 for more information.
- Emergency Management 140, *Incident Command Systems (ICS) for Health Care* (EM 140), has officially launched and can be accessed via the YNHHS OEP Learning Management System at: <http://ynhhs.emergencyeducation.org>. New features include:
 - A complete course glossary
 - "A Closer Look": Additional information about ICS and managing emergencies at hospitals
 - "At the Scene": A scenario featured throughout the course with review questions to enhance learning.

Please contact Scott Selig at scott.selig@ynhh.org or (203) 688-2587 for more information.

Statewide Laboratory Conference

- One or two members of hospital laboratory staff are requested to attend a day-long statewide laboratory conference, *Emergency Preparedness: A Conference for Laboratory Professionals*, 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>
LIVE RESPONSE-THE NATIONAL RESPONSE PLAN	5/25/05	2:00 PM	SATELLITE BROADCAST
NATIONAL TERRORISM PREPAREDNESS INSTITUTE		EDT	
HTTP://DLNETS.COM/NTPI_25MAY05.HTM			
ED KRONHOLM (877) 820-0395			
2005 SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE AND PREPAREDNESS: AN OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC HEALTH FUNCTIONS AND PREPAREDNESS	5/31-7/7/05	5:30 PM-9:00 PM	UConn HEALTH CENTER CLASSROOM H, FARMINGTON
(860) 679-1510 OR MPH@NSO.UCHC.EDU			
LABORATORY SHIPPING & PACKAGING SEMINAR	6/07/05	9:00 AM-3:00 PM	NORWALK HOSPITAL
VIRGINIA KRISTIE (203) 688-2594 VIRGINIA.KRISTIE@YNHH.ORG			
LABORATORY SHIPPING & PACKAGING SEMINAR	6/08/05	9:00 AM-3:00 PM	MANCHESTER MEMORIAL HOSPITAL
VIRGINIA KRISTIE (203) 688-2594			

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
CHERET	5/25/05	8:30 AM	CHA
OEP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	5/26/05	11:30 AM	OEP
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: A CONFERENCE FOR LABORATORY PROFESSIONALS	6/23/05	8:30 AM	CHA

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

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