

Center of Excellence for Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response

Emergency Preparedness Briefing

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ELEVATED

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Threat Level

June 10, 2005

Hospitals Reminded to Maintain Vigilance

- At this time, there is no indication of a relationship between the arrests reported yesterday by the news media regarding the operation of a potential terror cell with intent to attack hospitals and grocery stores in Lodi, California, and the suspicious events that occurred in the late winter and early spring with individuals posing as Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) surveyors. Since counter-terrorism analysts remain concerned that terrorist organizations may attempt to target U.S. medical infrastructure in order to cause immediate casualties and disrupt health care and emergency medical services, it does highlight the importance of being vigilant about hospital security initiatives. Hospitals are reminded to report suspicious activity to Connecticut law enforcement officials.

ChemPack Program Update

- Acute care hospitals that have agreed to provide storage space for the ChemPack are asked to contact Joseph Marino from the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) at (860) 509-8103 once an area has been identified that meets the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) requirements for storage. Mr. Marino will arrange for the CDC advance team to view the proposed site. No site modifications should be made until approval has been obtained by CDC and DPH. The project is expected to be completed by August 2005. For questions regarding the ChemPack program, please contact Rick Kleindienst, Sr., at (203) 688-3912 or richard.kleindienst.sr@ynhh.org.

Emergency Credentialing Program

- Over 3,388 professionals licensed by the State and representing all disciplines have been recruited for the Emergency Credentialing Program (ECP). Potential volunteers can now access ECP recruitment information through the YNHHS CoE website at <http://yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency/progsvcs/capacitybuilding.html>. Each hospital that has agreed to participate in the ECP should provide the name of a contact person who will be asked to support recruitment of new volunteers within their institution. 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. Carol Luddy, RN, ECP Coordinator, is available to meet with hospital contacts to describe the program in greater detail. If your facility has not already done so, please forward the name and contact information for your hospital designated Emergency Credentialing Program contact person to Carol Luddy, RN at (203) 688-5544 or carol.luddy@ynhh.org.

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 to 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/natlconf.html>.



Congress Call for Abstracts

- Has a program or service been developed, modified or implemented that will improve your organization's or community's capacity or capability to respond to a disaster? The Yale New Haven International Congress on Disaster Medicine and Emergency Management invites individuals or organizations to submit one or more written abstracts describing their unique approach or innovation for oral presentation. The abstract submission date has been extended until July 15, 2005. Abstracts will be peer-reviewed and those accepted will be published in the September, 2005 issue of Prehospital and Disaster Medicine. For more information and to access the abstract submission form, visit: http://yalenewhavenhealth.org/emergency/commu/call_abstracts.html.

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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.

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: Center@ynhh.org

Laboratory Training

- The Bioterrorism Response unit of the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) Laboratory is inviting clinical microbiologists to 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, 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 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.

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.

Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

- Preparations are underway for another MRC recruitment campaign for returning and first-year students enrolled in the Yale University Schools of Medicine, Nursing and Public Health. Recruitment flyers are being developed for inclusion in student enrollment packets to be sent out in July. To date, the Medical Reserve Corps program has recruited and trained nearly 300 students to support the YNHHS delivery network hospitals during a large-scale disaster. Please contact Richard Kleindienst, Sr., at (203) 688-3912 or richard.kleindienst.sr@ynhh.org for further information..

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
SCAC	6/14/05	12:00 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 NEW HAVEN HOTEL

ONGOING TRAINING & EDUCATION

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
2005 SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR PUBLIC HEALTH PRACTICE AND PREPAREDNESS: AN OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC HEALTH FUNCTIONS AND PREPAREDNESS (860) 679-1510 OR MPH@NSO.UCHC.EDU	5/31- 7/07/05	5:30 PM- 9:00 PM	UConn Health Center CLASSROOM H, FARMINGTON
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS: A CONFERENCE FOR LABORATORY PROFESSIONALS	6/23/05	8:30 AM- 4:00 PM	CHA
HOSPITAL EMERGENCY RESPONSE TRAINING FOR MASS CASUALTY INCIDENTS HTTP://NESHTA.ORG/EVENTS/CONF2005.HTM	6/26-29/05		RHODE ISLAND CONFERENCE CENTER PROVIDENCE, RI

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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