

Center of Excellence for Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response

Emergency Preparedness Briefing

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ELEVATED

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Threat Level

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MEDSAT Communication System Testing

- Special thanks to all southern tier hospitals for their continued participation in the weekly MEDSAT testing conducted every Thursday morning at 10:00 a. m. by the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH).

Congress Call for Abstracts

- 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_abstract_s.html.

TOPOFF3 Reimbursement

- Hospitals that have submitted requests for reimbursement for expenses related to their facility's participation in the TOPOFF3 drill are reminded to submit supporting documentation to expedite the process. Timely submission of reimbursement forms is requested. For further information, please contact Debbie Gross, OEP Senior Financial Grants Coordinator at (203) 688-3317 or debbie.gross@ynhh.org.

Training/Education

- Eighteen thousand fifty-three (18,053) 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.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 2 Emergency Credentialing Program
- 2 Medical Reserve Corps
- 2 Laboratory Training

Mark I Kit Update

- The State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) and the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH), along with the Connecticut State Legislature, recently approved the use of the Mark I Nerve Agent Antidote kits by first responders. The State of Connecticut-designated Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Centers of Excellence (CoEs) at Yale New Haven Health System and Hartford Hospital have been tasked with providing Train-the-Trainer programs to instructors from participating towns. YNHHS CoE has scheduled nine Train-the-Trainer programs at four locations throughout the southern part of Connecticut. Once a community has completed the required training of their first responders and implemented a method of managing storage and quality control for the kits, the State will distribute Mark I kits shipped to the community's point-of-contact. For additional information regarding the Mark I program, contact David Burich at (203) 688-3721 or david.burich@ynhh.org.

ChemPack Update

- Acute care hospitals that have agreed to provide storage space for the ChemPack program have been asked to identify 40 square feet within their respective facilities and to forward that information to Joseph Marino, Epidemiologist and Coordinator of the Strategic National Stockpile Program, from the State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) at (860) 509-8103. Once an area has been identified, visits will be arranged for the CDC advance team to view the proposed site. CDC site visit availability is as follows: Week of 7/25, week of 8/1 and week of 8/8. 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.

International Congress on Disaster Medicine and Emergency Management

- Registration is 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>.

Emergency Credentialing Program

- Over 3,410 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 the program 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. 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.

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.

Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

- Preparations are underway for the next 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 over 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.

Pre-event Vaccination System (PVS) Update

- The 2005 State of Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) hospital contract requires that all acute care hospitals identify a minimum of two staff members who will be responsible for using the Connecticut Pre-event Vaccination System (CT-PVS) database to maintain a list of staff and volunteers who are part of the smallpox mass vaccination response team. DPH will be providing a two hour CT-PVS database training session on July 12, 2005 and July 21, 2005 at their offices in Hartford. This is a hands-on introduction to the CT-PVS for persons who will be entering rosters of Connecticut smallpox mass vaccination area smallpox response team members into the database and for leaders of these response teams who will be coordinating the data to manage the teams. For more information, visit <https://ct.train.org/DesktopShell.aspx> or contact Rory Angulo, MD, MBA, State of Connecticut Department of Public Health at (860) 509-7691 or rory.angulo@po.state.ct.us or Carol Luddy at (203) 688-5544 or carol.luddy@ynhh.org.

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

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
OEP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	6/30/05	10:00 AM	OEP
SEPC	7/06/05	8:30 AM	BH EDUC CONF ROOM
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>
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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