



COCA Update

Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA)
CDC Emergency Communication System

September 24, 2012

COCA Updates are disseminated biweekly. More frequent distributions occur when there is emergency information or CDC event-specific updates to share. The next COCA Update is scheduled for **October 8**.

This issue contains information from **September 10 – September 24, 2012** and guidance documents relevant to current public health events.

For questions about these or other clinical issues, please write to us at coca@cdc.gov.

Additional Resources

[CDC Emergency on Twitter](#)

[CDC Health Partners Outreach on Facebook](#)

[COCA Home Page](#)

Topics and Highlights

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COCA News and Announcements

Upcoming COCA Call/Webinar:

NEW: Influenza Prevention and Control for Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs

Date/Time: Thursday, September 27, 2012; 2:00-3:00 PM (EDT)

Call Number: 888-790-6180

Passcode: COCA

Conference Number: PW7035569

Join By Webinar: <https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PW7035569&p=COCA&t=c>

Please join us for this COCA call where subject matter experts will discuss subspecialist and primary care pediatrician collaborations regarding influenza prevention and control strategies for improving care for high-risk children.

For more information on this call: http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2012/callinfo_092712.asp

Recent COCA Calls/Webinars:

Principles of Planning for Disaster Risk Reduction

Date: Tuesday, September 18, 2012

In this COCA call a subject matter expert discusses the principles for effective, efficient and orderly process for disaster planning.

For more information on this call: http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2012/callinfo_091812.asp

Archived COCA Conference Calls are available at: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/callinfo.asp>

Free CE credit/contact hours (CME, CNE, ACPE, CEU, CECH, and AAVSB/RACE) are available for most COCA calls.

CDC News and Announcements

NEW: CDC Features: Older Adults are actively aging! – September 24 (CDC)

As an older adult, regular physical activity is one of the most important things you can do for your health. It can lower your risk for many health problems that may come with getting older. Many materials are available to help people plan physical activity into their week. Get involved!

<http://www.cdc.gov/Features/ActiveAging/index.html>

Did You Know?

“Did You Know?” is a weekly feature from the Office for State, Tribal, Local and Territorial Support to highlight prevention activities. The series features research and program activity from CDC. Please access, use, and share this information broadly with your colleagues and partners.

<http://www.cdc.gov/stltpublichealth/didyouknow/index.html>

CDC Science Clips: Volume 4, Issue 37 – September 17 (CDC)

Each week, to enhance awareness of emerging scientific knowledge, selected science clips will be posted for the public health community. The focus is applied public health research and prevention science that has the capacity to improve health now.

<http://www.cdc.gov/phlic/sciclips/issues/>

Public Health Preparedness

NEW: CDC Features: September is National Preparedness Month (CDC)

September 2012 marks the ninth annual National Preparedness Month, sponsored by FEMA. The goal is to educate the public about how to prepare for emergencies, including natural disasters, mass casualties, biological and chemical threats, radiation emergencies, and terrorist attacks. Preparedness Month is supported by a coalition of public, private and non-profit organizations that help spread the preparedness message. Here are some preparedness resources for healthcare providers:

- **CDC National Preparedness Month Resource**
<http://www.cdc.gov/features/BeReady/index.html>
- **Public Health Emergency Exercise Toolkit: Planning, Designing, Conducting, and Evaluating Local Public Health Emergency Exercises**
<http://www.nycepce.org/Documents/PHEmergencyExerciseToolkit.pdf>
- **Ready.gov (FEMA)**
<http://www.ready.gov>
- **New HHS Contracts Enhance Pandemic Preparedness**
<http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/news/Pages/pandemic-120906.aspx>
- **Preparedness Resources for Hospitals**
<http://www.phe.gov/preparedness/planning/hpp/Pages/default.aspx>
- **Communicating in the First Hour**
<http://emergency.cdc.gov/firsthours/intro.asp>

- **Public Health Preparedness Capabilities: National Standards for State and Local Planning**
<http://www.cdc.gov/phpr/capabilities/index.htm>
- **HHS Federal State Local and Planning**
<http://www.phe.gov/preparedness/planning/pages/default.aspx>
- **HHS Responders, Clinicians & Practitioners**
<http://www.phe.gov/preparedness/responders/pages/default.aspx>
- **National Disaster Medical System (NDMS)**
<http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/responders/ndms/Pages/default.aspx>

Homeland Security Information Network-and Healthcare and Public Health Portal (HSIN-HPH)

The HSIN-HPH Web portal is a public/private collaboration to protect critical infrastructure. It is the primary means by which the Department of Homeland Security and Health and Human Services share sensitive but unclassified information with partners. HSIN-HPH users can access information about threats and recovery activities affecting the healthcare and public health communities, report suspicious events, and collaborate with peers in research and strategy. HSIN-HPH is available to qualified members of the HPH community.

To request access: <https://connect.hsin.gov/hph/event/registration.html>

For questions: cip@hhs.gov

Emergency Preparedness and Response (CDC)

Find resources for All Hazards and Specific Hazards preparedness.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/hazards-all.asp>

Emergency Preparedness and Response Training Resources for Clinicians (CDC)

Find online and in-person training centers and resources at

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/trainingresources.asp>

Natural Disasters and Severe Weather

Health and Safety Concerns for All Disasters – (CDC)

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/alldisasters.asp>

Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) Journal

EID is prepared by the CDC. [EID Home Page](#)

Volume 18, Number 10 – October 2012

Highlights in this issue include

- [Constant Transmission Properties of Variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease in 5 Countries](#)
- [Wild Birds and Urban Ecology of Ticks and Tick-borne Pathogens, Chicago, Illinois, USA, 2005–2010](#)
- [Methicillin-Resistant Staphylococcus aureus Sequence Type 239-III, Ohio, USA, 2007–2009](#)

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

MMWR publications are prepared by the CDC. To electronically subscribe, go to

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwrsubscribe.html>.

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- [Evaluation of a Neighborhood Rat-Management Program — New York City, December 2007–August 2009](#)
- [Update on Vaccine-Derived Polioviruses — Worldwide, April 2011–June 2012](#)
- [Announcement: National Gay Men’s HIV/AIDS Awareness Day–September 27, 2012](#)

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- [Household Preparedness for Public Health Emergencies — 14 States, 2006–2010](#)
- [Notes from the Field: Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza A \(H7N3\) Virus Infection in Two Poultry Workers — Jalisco, Mexico, July 2012](#)

Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases

Influenza

Weekly Flu View (CDC)

This is a weekly influenza surveillance report prepared by CDC Influenza Division. All data are preliminary and may change as CDC receives more reports.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

Update: Influenza A (H3N2) Variant Virus Outbreaks – September 21 (CDC)

To date, the total number of H3N2v infections since July 2012 in the United States is 296 across 10 states. Investigations into H3N2v cases indicate that the main risk factor for infection is exposure to pigs, mostly in fair settings; however, CDC also is reporting three instances of likely human-to-human spread of this virus during the current outbreaks.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swineflu/h3n2v-outbreak.htm>

Vector-Borne

West Nile Virus: Information and Guidance for Clinicians (CDC)

Resources for clinicians related to West Nile Virus epidemiology, clinical description, treatment, and prevention.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/clinicians/>

CDC Fact Sheet – West Nile Virus (WNV) Infection: Information for Clinicians (CDC)

WNV is a potentially serious illness. Experts believe WNV is established as a seasonal epidemic in North America that flares up in the summer and continues into the fall. This fact sheet contains important information that can help you recognize and prevent WNV.

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/resources/fact_sheet_clinician.htm

Update: West Nile Virus (WNV) Human Infections Reported to ArboNET, by State, United States, 2012 – September 18 (CDC)

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/surv&controlCaseCount12_detailed.htm

Travel Safety

Current Travel Warnings – September 24 (US Department of State)

Travel Warnings are issued when long-term, protracted conditions that make a country dangerous or unstable lead the State Department to recommend that Americans avoid or consider the risk of travel to that

country. A Travel Warning is also issued when the U.S. Government's ability to assist American citizens is constrained due to the closure of an embassy or consulate or because of a drawdown of its staff.
http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html

Food, Drug and Device Safety

NEW: Multistate Outbreak of Human Salmonella Typhimurium Infections Linked to Hedgehogs – September 6 (CDC)

A total of 14 persons infected with the outbreak strain of Salmonella Typhimurium have been reported from 6 states. No deaths have been reported.

<http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/typhimurium-hedgehogs-09-12/index.html>

MedWatch: The FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program – (HHS/USFDA)

Your FDA gateway for clinically important safety information and reporting serious problems with human medical products.

<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/default.htm>

FoodSafety.gov Reports FDA and USDA Food Recalls, Alerts, Reporting & Resources – September 24 (HHS/USDA/FDA/CDC/NIH)

For recalls and alerts by both FDA and USDA, or to report a problem or make inquiries.

<http://www.foodsafety.gov/index.html>

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The Emergency Risk Communication Branch (ERCB) Clinician Communication Team works to enhance partners' knowledge of emerging threats and their effects on human populations, and to provide relevant, timely information to help manage these threats by developing and maintaining mechanisms for communication. The Clinician Communication Team is responsible for the management of all COCA products.

For information on this and other clinical issues or to send your feedback please contact us at coca@cdc.gov

ERCB offers a variety of free tools and resources to help you enhance your knowledge of emergency preparedness and response:

[CDC Health Partners Outreach Facebook page](#) - real time updates, guidance, and situational awareness for public health partners on Facebook.

[Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity](#) – resources for Healthcare providers.

[Subscribe the COCA RSS Feed](#) - get notified of conference calls, updates, and CDC guidance for health providers.

[Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication \(CERC\) Training](#) - course on the fundamentals of CDC's Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication.

[Selective National Assessment Profiles \(SNAPS\)](#) - snapshots of state population data and local-level community profile information.

[Risk Communicator](#) –quarterly online newsletter providing guidance for emergency risk communication strategy.



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