



COCA Update

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

July 18, 2011

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 **August 1**.

This issue contains information from **July 5-18** 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.

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Topics and Highlights

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COCA News and Announcements

Upcoming CERC Webinar

Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication: Radiation

Date/Time: July 21, 3:00 – 4:00 PM (Eastern Daylight Time)

Register for this Webinar at:

<http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=pf7m85dab&oeidk=a07e4cu626i04fd1095>

This webinar will take you through the key elements of communicating during a radiation disaster. In addition, your host Leeanna Allen of the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education (ORISE) will share CDC research on messaging during a radiation disaster and lessons learned from Japan's ongoing nuclear emergency.

Upcoming COCA Call

Emergency Preparedness: Considerations in Chronic Fatigue Syndrome

Date/Time: August 18, 2:00 – 3:00 PM (Eastern Daylight Time)

Webinar audio by phone or Web

Call Number: 888-829-8675

Passcode: 3189025

Register at: <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event>

Chronic fatigue syndrome (CFS) is a complex illness characterized by disabling fatigue and accompanying case-defining symptoms that are medically unexplained. CFS can impair an individual's ability to prepare for, respond to, or recover from a public health disaster.

For more information on this call: http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2011/callinfo_081811.asp

New COCA Pages

Conference and Training Opportunities page: For federal and COCA Partner conference and training information for the **upcoming 6 months**, visit <http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/training.asp>

Emergency Preparedness and Response Training Resources page: Find online and in-person training centers at <http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/trainingresources.asp>

CDC Health Partners Outreach Facebook Page

CDC's Facebook page for Health Partners provides real time updates, guidance, and situational awareness for public health partners about how to prepare and respond to public health emergencies and disasters. Become a fan today! "Like" the page to receive updates, participate in future conversations, and more.

<http://www.facebook.com/CDCHealthPartnersOutreach>

COCA Calls/Webinars Available Online – CE Credit Available

Archived COCA Conference Calls are available on the COCA Web site. Free CE credit/contact hours (CME, CNE, ACPE, CEU, and CECH) are available for most COCA calls.

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

COCA Home Page: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca>

CDC News and Announcements

CDC Public Health Matters Blog: Borders, Budgets, and the Rising Risk of Disease – July 6 (CDC)

The US border with Mexico, disease vulnerability of the underserved populations living nearby, and possible collaborative disease surveillance between the two countries are up for discussion in this public forum.

<http://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/2011/07/borders-budgets-disease/>

Science Clips – July 12 (CDC)

This week's top scientific articles, selected on the basis of potential for population impact and practical implementation, include: ***Transmission dynamic of primary pneumonic plague in the USA*** and ***Disaster preparation: lessons from Japan***.

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

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Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID)

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

Vol 17, Number 7 – July 2011 - Highlights in this issue include:

- [Understanding the Cholera Epidemic, Haiti](#)
- [Multidrug-Resistant *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, Southwestern Colombia](#)

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

MMWR weekly reports and publications are prepared by the CDC. To electronically subscribe, go to <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwrsubscribe.html>.

July 15, 2011 / Vol. 60 / No. 27 [Download .pdf of this Issue](#)

- [Dengue Virus Infections Among Travelers Returning from Haiti --- Georgia and Nebraska, October 2010](#)
- [Notifiable Diseases and Mortality Tables](#)

July 8, 2011 / Vol. 60 / No. 26 [Download .pdf of this Issue](#)

- [Notes from the Field: Botulism Caused by Consumption of Commercially Produced Potato Soups Stored Improperly --- Ohio and Georgia, 2011](#)
- [Notifiable Diseases and Mortality Tables](#)

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Natural Disasters and Severe Weather

Extreme Heat (CDC)

Guidance for prevention and treatment of heat-related illness.

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters/extremeheat/>

Podcast: Beat the Heat When Working Outdoors

Each year in the US, lives are lost to heat-related illness. <http://www2c.cdc.gov/podcasts/player.asp>

Health and Safety Concerns for Natural Disasters and Severe Weather (CDC)

"Information for Specific Groups" on this page provides guidance for human and veterinary response workers, volunteers, and evacuation center personnel about illnesses, injuries, carbon monoxide poisoning, animals and insects, food, water, cleanup, mold, environmental concerns, mental effects of disasters, and other consequences of these events.

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

Hurricane Information for Health Care Professionals (CDC)

Clinical guidance for Carbon Monoxide poisoning and environmental health and toxicology, infection control, and reopening healthcare facilities are among the features on this page.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/hurricanes/hcp.asp>

Tornado Cleanup and Response Web Page Features Preventive Measures for Occupational Hazards (CDC)

This page includes CDC immunization recommendations for disaster responders, health recommendations for relief workers, and interim assessment tools for occupational safety and health in various healthcare settings, as well as guidance for hazards and disaster site management.

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/emres/tornado.html>

Guidance on Microbial Contamination in Previously Flooded Outdoor Areas (CDC)

Bacterial and viral microbial contamination of flood waters in previously flooded outdoor areas; harmful organisms can persist in the environment up to 6 months.

http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/Publications/Guidance_Flooding.htm

Guidelines for Fire Service Operations in a Hurricane Response (CDC)

National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) provides guidelines for preventing injury, illness, and death among fire fighters during responses to hurricanes, floods, and other large scale natural disasters.

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/emres/FF-flood.html>

Wildfires (CDC)

The Wildfires page includes links to guidance for responders, evacuation center personnel, veterinary evacuation centers, and relevant health care topics.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/wildfires/>

Active Fire Mapping Program (US Forest Service)

Maps and reports of current US large fires.

<http://activefiremaps.fs.fed.us/>

Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases

Weekly Flu View – July 29 (CDC)

During week 29, 6.4% of all deaths reported through the 122-Cities Mortality Reporting System were due to pneumonia and influenza. This percentage was below the epidemic threshold of 6.5% for week 29.

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

Seasonal Flu: International Situation Update – July 22 (CDC)

This report is a summary of key influenza-related updates created from regional World Health Organization (WHO) reports, country reports, CDC field staff updates, and other sources. Updates are listed by region.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/international/activity.htm>

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Travel Safety

Outbreak Updates for International Cruise Ships – July 15 (CDC)

Cruise ships participating in the Vessel Sanitation Program are required to report the total number of gastrointestinal (GI) illness cases (including zero cases) evaluated by the medical staff before the ship arrives at a U.S. port, when sailing from a foreign port.

<http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/vsp/surv/GIlist.htm>

Current Travel Warnings – July 29 (US Department of State)

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, or 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

Recalls, Market Withdrawals and Safety Alerts – July 14 (FDA)

For information on recent FDA recalls, market recalls, and safety alerts for food, drugs, and medical devices:

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

The Emergency Risk Communication Branch (ERCB) Health Partners Outreach 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. This is a product of the Health Partners Outreach Team's Clinician Communication Section (CCS) who is responsible for the management of all COCA products.

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

The Health Partners Outreach Team 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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