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

**September 10, 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 **September 24**.

This issue contains information from **August 27 – September 10, 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**

**COCA News & Announcements**

**CDC News and Announcements**

**Public Health Preparedness**

**Natural Disasters & Severe Weather**

**Emerging Infectious Disease (EID) Journal**

**Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)**

**Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Disease**

**Travel Safety**

**Food, Drug & Device Safety**

# COCA News and Announcements

### Upcoming COCA Call/Webinar:

*NEW:* **Principles of Planning for Disaster Risk Reduction**

**Date/Time:** Tuesday, September 18, 2012; 2:00-3:00 PM (EDT)

**Call Number:** 800-619-2685

**Passcode:** COCA

**Conference Number:** PW8191467

**Join By Webinar:** https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PW8191467&p=COCA&t=c
Please join us for this COCA call where a subject matter expert will discuss 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

### Recent COCA Calls/Webinars:

**West Nile Virus: Information and Guidance for Clinicians**

**Date:** Thursday, August 30, 2012

Learn about the epidemiology, modes of transmission, clinical features, appropriate use of diagnostics, and treatment and prevention options for West Nile virus infections.

For more information on this call: http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2012/callinfo_083012.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: Team Up. Pressure Down** – September 5 (CDC)
In September 2011, public and private organizations united in an unprecedented commitment to prevent a million heart attacks and strokes by 2017 through clinical and community interventions. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommended team-based care for blood pressure control. CDC and pharmacists are joining together to help people better manage their high blood pressure, through the new pharmacy-focused effort called *Team Up. Pressure Down*.
http://www.cdc.gov/features/tupd/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 35** – September 4 (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** – August 31 (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 9 – September 2012**
Highlights in this issue include
- Hepatitis E, a Vaccine-Preventable Cause of Maternal Deaths
- Effectiveness and Timing of Vaccination during School Measles Outbreak
- Evaluation of Diagnostic and Therapeutic Approaches for Suspected Influenza A(H1N1)pdm09 Infection, 2009–2010


# 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.
**September 7, 2012 / Vol. 62 / No. 35** Download .pdf document of this issue

- [National, State, and Local Area Vaccination Coverage Among Children Aged 19–35 Months — United States, 2011](#)
- [Vital Signs: Awareness and Treatment of Uncontrolled Hypertension Among Adults — United States, 2003–2010](#)
- [Prevalence of Cholesterol Screening and High Blood Cholesterol Among Adults — United States, 2005, 2007, and 2009](#)

**August 24, 2012 / Vol. 61 / No. 34** [Download .pdf document of this issue](#)
- [Increases in Quitline Calls and Smoking Cessation Website Visitors During a National Tobacco Education Campaign — March 19–June 10, 2012](#)
- [QuickStats: Percentage of Adults Aged 18–64 Years Who Made Two or More Visits to an Emergency Department in the Preceding 12 Months, by Black or White Race and Hispanic Subpopulation — National Health Interview Survey, United States, 2009–2011](#)

# 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/](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/)

*Update:* **Influenza A (H3N2) Variant Virus Outbreaks – September 7 (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](http://www.cdc.gov/flu/swineflu/h3n2v-outbreak.htm)

## *Vector-Borne*

**NEW: CDC Health Advisory: Yosemite National Park Hantavirus Outbreak – September 7 (CDC)**
As of September 6, 2012, The National Park Service (NPS) announced that there were 8 confirmed cases of Hantavirus Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS) in visitors who stayed at Curry Village in Yosemite National Park since June of this year. The purpose of this Health Alert Network Advisory is to inform state health departments and health care providers to be alert to the possibility of HPS in patients who may have had recent exposure to rodents or a history of travel to Yosemite National Park during this period.
[http://emergency.cdc.gov/HAN/han00326.asp](http://emergency.cdc.gov/HAN/han00326.asp)

**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/](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](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 4 (CDC)**
http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/surv&controlCaseCount12_detailed.htm

**Public Health Matters Blog: West Nile Virus: Recent Surge in Cases Sparks Concern in Texas – August 16 (CDC)**
West Nile virus season is off to an early start this year, which doesn't bode well for what's to come. Most West Nile virus exposures in the United States occur from July through October, with a peak during the first two weeks of August.  The virus has been appearing in many parts of the country, but almost half of the cases are in Texas and the numbers are rising.
http://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/2012/08/westnile/

# Travel Safety

**Current Travel Warnings – September 7 (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

**Ebola in Uganda – August 21 (CDC)**
The Ugandan Ministry of Health (MOH) has reported an outbreak of Ebola hemorrhagic fever in the Kibaale District of western Uganda. As of August 9, 2012, there have been 10 laboratory-confirmed cases, 13 probable cases, and 16 deaths.
http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/outbreak-notice/ebola-uganda-2012.htm

# Food, Drug and Device Safety

***NEW:* Multistate Outbreak of *Salmonella* Braenderup Infections Associated with Mangoes – August 30 (CDC)**
A total of 105 persons infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Braenderup have been reported from 16 states. No deaths have been reported.
http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/braenderup-08-12/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 7 (HHS/UDSA/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.