



# COCA Update

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

August 29, 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 **September 12**.

This issue contains information from **August 15-29** 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](mailto:coca@cdc.gov).

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## COCA News and Announcements

**Title:** The Community Assessment Tool - Readiness from a Total Healthcare Perspective

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, August 31; 2:00-3:00 pm (EST)

**Call Number:** 888-369-2138

**Passcode:** 9946347

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

The Community Assessment Tool (CAT) is intended to help stakeholders in a community address medical surge capabilities and planning needs. While the purpose of the CAT is to prepare the community for an influenza pandemic, its framework is based on an all-hazards approach to planning and preparedness. This COCA call will illustrate how the CAT can assist in identifying capabilities and resources, address gaps in a community's capabilities, and improve a community's emergency preparedness plan.

For more information on this call: [http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2011/callinfo\\_083111.asp](http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2011/callinfo_083111.asp)

#### 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>

**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 and resources at <http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/trainingresources.asp>

### **CDC Health Partners Outreach Facebook Page**

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

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## **Hurricane Irene**

### **Hurricane Information for Health Care Professionals (CDC)**

Highlights on this page include:

- [Clinical Guidance for Carbon Monoxide \(CO\) Poisoning After a Disaster](#)
- [Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units \(PEHSUs\)](#)
- [Reopening Healthcare Facilities](#)
- [American Medical Association Hurricane Relief Efforts](#)
- [Disaster Information for People With Chronic Conditions and Disabilities](#)

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

### **Emergency Response Resources: Storm/Flood and Hurricane Response (CDC)**

Response workers and volunteers can get information here to avoid work-related injuries and illness in the field.

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

### **Emergency Response Resources: Tornado Cleanup and Response (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>

### **Floods (CDC)**

Consumer information and worker safety topics dealing with flood recovery and environmental concerns related to standing water and saturated environments.

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

### **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](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>

### **American Red Cross Shelter and Messaging Service (ARC)**

Users of this site can find information about shelters, search the registry for missing persons, or post their own condition and location to reconnect with family.

<http://www.redcross.org/portal/site/en/menuitem.53fabf6cc033f17a2b1ecbf43181aa0/>

### **Coping with Traumatic Events (SAMHSA)**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) provides perspectives on emotional and mental strain that traumatic events such as powerful storms and floods can have.

<http://www.samhsa.gov/MentalHealth/TraumaticEvent.aspx>

### **Power Outages (CDC)**

General information on the use of portable generators, food and water safety, powerline safety, and other safety concerns related to power outages.

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

### **Residential and Community Safe Rooms for Severe Weather (FEMA)**

Resources for preparing storm shelters provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

<http://www.fema.gov/plan/prevent/saferoom/index.shtm>

### **Keep Your Food and Water Safe During an Emergency (FDA)**

Emergencies can happen. When they do, the best strategy is to already have a plan in place. This includes knowing the proper food and water safety precautions to take if hurricanes — or other flooding/power outages — do occur.

<http://www.fda.gov/Food/ResourcesForYou/Consumers/ucm076881.htm>

### **Hurricanes, Cyclones, Typhoons & Other Tropical Storms (CDC)**

Links on this page include preparation for the ongoing hurricane season as well as shelter and recovery resources.

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

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## **Natural Disasters and Severe Weather**

### **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/>

### **When Every Drop Counts: Protecting Public Health During Drought Conditions - A Guide for Public Health Professionals (CDC/AWWA/EPA/NOAA)**

A collaborative effort between CDC/NCEH, the American Water Works Association (AWWA), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), this publication examines the relationship between drought and public health.

<http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/ehs/Publications/Drought.htm>

### **Extreme Heat (CDC)**

Guidance for prevention and treatment of heat-related illness.

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

### **Extreme Heat Media Toolkit (CDC)**

Brochures, posters, and other materials to share with patients to remind them how to avoid succumbing to extreme heat while performing normal activities.

<http://www.cdc.gov/nceh/extremeheat/materials.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/>

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## **CDC News and Announcements**

### **Upcoming Health Partners Outreach Team, Emergency Risk Communications Branch Webinar**

**Title:** Leveraging Social Media for Disaster Preparedness

**Date/Time:** Wednesday, August 31; 1:00-2:00 pm (EST)

**Call Number:** 888-603-9740

**Passcode:** 9014147

The presentation will examine the ways that social media can be leveraged to enhance situational awareness, strengthen operational aspects of response, support recovery efforts, and build community resilience.

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

**Public Health Grand Rounds – Traumatic Brain Injury**

**Date/Time:** September 20; 1:00-2:00 p.m. (EST)

**Location:** Atlanta, GA; also Envision, IPTV, and Webcast

<http://www.cdc.gov/about/grand-rounds>

### **CDC Science Clips – August 24**

This issue's top scientific articles, selected on the basis of potential for population impact and practical implementation, include:

- Influenza virus-like particle can accommodate multiple subtypes of hemagglutinin and protect from multiple influenza types and subtypes; and
- Cost-effectiveness of 2009 pandemic influenza A(H1N1) vaccination in the United States

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

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## **Public Health Preparedness**

### **September is National Preparedness Month**

September 2011 marks the 8<sup>th</sup> year the United States has observed National Preparedness Month, which is led by FEMA's Ready Campaign and is a nationwide effort encouraging individuals, families, businesses and communities to work together and take action to prepare for emergencies. Preparedness Month is supported by a coalition of public, private and non-profit organizations that help spread the preparedness message.

<http://community.fema.gov/connect.ti/READYNPM>

### **Homeland Security Information Sharing Network-Healthcare for the 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](mailto:cip@hhs.gov)

## **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>.

**August 26, 2011 / Vol. 60 / No. 33** [Download .pdf of this Issue](#)

- [Announcement: Clinical Vaccinology Course --- November 4--6, 2011](#)
- [Notifiable Diseases and Mortality Tables](#)

**August 19, 2011 / Vol. 60 / No. 32** [Download .pdf of this Issue](#)

- [Notice to Readers: Final 2010 Reports of Nationally Notifiable Infectious Diseases](#)
- [Notifiable Diseases and Mortality Tables](#)

- [Influenza Vaccination Coverage Among Health-Care Personnel --- United States, 2010--11 Influenza Season](#)
- [Influenza Vaccination Coverage Among Pregnant Women --- United States, 2010--11 Influenza Season](#)

## Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID)

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

**Vol 17, Number 9 – September 2011**

Highlights in this issue include

- [Inpatient Capacity at Children's Hospitals during Pandemic \(H1N1\) 2009 Outbreak, United States](#)
- [Q Fever among Culling Workers, the Netherlands, 2009–2010](#)
- [Oseltamivir-Resistant Pandemic \(H1N1\) 2009 Virus Infection in England and Scotland, 2009–2010](#)
- [Similarity of Shiga Toxin–producing \*Escherichia coli\* O104:H4 Strains from Italy and Germany](#)

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## Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases

**Weekly Flu View – August 19 (CDC)**

During week 33, 5.8% 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 6.4% for week 33.

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

**Seasonal Flu: International Situation Update – August 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

**Current Travel Warnings – August 23 (US Department of State)**

Currently, travel warnings are in effect for 37 countries. 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](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html)

# Food, Drug and Device Safety

## Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Recalls, Market Withdrawals and Safety Alerts – August 26

For information on all recent FDA recalls, market recalls, and safety alerts for food, drugs, and medical devices: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/default.htm>

- [Vita Food Products Voluntarily Recalls 4 oz. Vita Classic Premium Sliced Smoked Atlantic Nova Salmon due to Potential Contamination with Listeria Monocytogenes](#)
- [H&P Industries Recalls Povidone Iodine Swabsticks, Prep Solutions, Scrub Solutions and Prep Gel](#)
- [Ajinomoto Frozen Foods Issues Allergy Alert On Undeclared Shrimp And Fish In Vegetable Gyoza Dumplings](#)
- [YoCream International, Inc. Issues Allergy Alert On Undeclared Egg In Nonfat NY Cheesecake Frozen Yogurt Mix](#)

## Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) Recalls – August 26 (USDA)

- [Silva Sausage Co. Recalls 28,782 Pounds of Chicken Sausage Products for Misbranding and an Undeclared Allergen, Cultured Whey](#)

For information on this and other USDA food recalls: [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Fsis\\_Recalls/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/Fsis_Recalls/index.asp)

## Food Recalls, Alerts, Reporting & Resources – (HHS/USDA/FDA/CDC/NIH)

For recalls and alerts by both FDA and USDA, or to report a problem or make inquiries, visit [FoodSafety.gov](http://www.foodsafety.gov): <http://www.foodsafety.gov/index.html>

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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](mailto: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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