



March 25, 2013

**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 **April 8**.

This issue contains information from **March 11 – March 25, 2013** 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).

#### **Additional Resources**

[CDC Emergency on Twitter](#)

[CDC Health Partners Outreach on Facebook](#)

[COCA Home Page](#)

#### **Topics and Highlights**

[COCA News and Announcements](#)

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[Natural Disasters and Severe Weather](#)

[Emerging Infectious Disease \(EID\) Journal](#)

[Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report \(MMWR\)](#)

[Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Disease](#)

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## **COCA News and Announcements**

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

Free continuing education (CME, CNE, ACPE, CEU, CECH, and AAVSB/RACE) is available for most calls.

## **CDC News and Announcements**

### **NEW: CDC Feature: Prepare for Unpredictable Spring Weather – March 18 (CDC)**

Spring weather can be unpredictable. When severe weather hits unexpectedly, the risk of injury and death increases, so planning ahead makes sense. Prepare for storms, floods, and tornadoes as if you know in advance they are coming, because in the spring, they very likely will.

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

### **NEW: Twitter Chat: Safe Healthcare**

CDC Director Dr. Tom Frieden will host a live Twitter chat about making healthcare safer by protecting patients from life-threatening infections. Follow Dr. Frieden on Twitter to join the conversation on Monday, March 25, 2:00-3:00PM EDT. Follow Dr. Frieden on Twitter @DrFriedenCDC and use the hashtag #CDCchat to participate.

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

### **CDC Science Clips: Volume 5, Issue: 11 – (CDC)**

Each week select science clips are shared with the public health community to enhance awareness of emerging scientific knowledge. 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: Public Health Matters Blog: Advancing a City's Resilience, One Neighborhood at a Time – March 12 (CDC)**

Often a city's identity is attached to a significant event in its past, and for San Francisco that event is the Earthquake of 1906. That fateful event, in which thousands perished and our City burned to the ground, captured the attention of the whole world. Its legacy forged a commitment in the psyche of every San Franciscan – never again.

<http://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/2013/03/advancing-a-city%e2%80%99s-resilience-one-neighborhood-at-a-time/>

**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 19, Number 4 – April 2013**

Highlights in this issue include:

- [Methicillin-Resistant \*Staphylococcus aureus\* Colonization of the Groin and Risk for Clinical Infection among HIV-infected Adults](#)
- [Risk Factors for Influenza among Health Care Workers during 2009 Pandemic, Toronto, Ontario, Canada](#)
- [Serotype IV and Invasive Group B \*Streptococcus\* Disease in Neonates, Minnesota, USA, 2000–2010](#)

## 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>

**March 22, 2013 / Vol. 62 / No. 11** [Download .pdf document of this issue](#)

- [Notes from the Field: Multistate Outbreak of \*Salmonella\* Infantis, Newport, and Lille Infections Linked to Live Poultry from a Single Mail-Order Hatchery in Ohio — March–September, 2012](#)
- [Tuberculosis Control Activities Before and After Hurricane Sandy — Northeast and Mid-Atlantic States, 2012](#)
- [World TB Day — March 24, 2013](#)
- [Trends in Tuberculosis — United States, 2012](#)

## Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases

**Weekly Flu View – March 16 (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/>

### **Planning and Preparedness: Health Professionals and Seasonal Flu – (HHS)**

Health care providers play an important role during flu season. The following guidance and information will assist health care providers and service organizations to plan and respond to seasonal flu.

<http://www.flu.gov/planning-preparedness/hospital/index.html>

## **Travel Safety**

### **Current Travel Warnings – March 25 (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](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html)

## **Food, Drug and Device Safety**

### **NEW: CDC Press Release: Norovirus is now the leading cause of severe gastroenteritis in US children – March 21 (CDC)**

Norovirus is now the leading cause of acute gastroenteritis among children less than 5 years of age who seek medical care, according to a new study published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

[http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2013/p0321\\_norovirus\\_children.html](http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2013/p0321_norovirus_children.html)

### **NEW: FDA News Release: FDA approves first Botulism Antitoxin for use in neutralizing all seven known botulinum nerve toxin serotypes – March 22 (FDA)**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced today that it has approved Botulism Antitoxin Heptavalent (A, B, C, D, E, F, G)-(Equine) to treat patients showing signs of botulism following documented or suspected exposure to botulinum neurotoxin.

<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm345128.htm>

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

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 – (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/recalls/recent/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](mailto: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 health care 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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