



# COCA Update

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

April 22, 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 **May 6**.

This issue contains information from **April 8 – April 22, 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](#)

[CDC News and Announcements](#)

[Public Health Preparedness](#) *New: Resources for Preparing for and Responding to Bombing Events*

[Natural Disasters and Severe Weather](#)

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

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

[Travel Safety](#)

[Food, Drug and Device Safety](#)

## COCA News and Announcements

#### Upcoming COCA Call/Webinar:

#### Unveiling the Principles of Law During Public Health Emergencies

**Date:** Tuesday, April 23, 2013

**Time:** 2:00 - 3:00 pm (Eastern Time)

**Dial In Number:** 888-233-9077

**Passcode:** 2072335

**Webinar Link:** <https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PW8407556&p=2072335&t=c>

The possibility of public health emergencies arising in the United States concerns many people in the wake of the recent hurricanes, tsunamis, acts of terrorism, and pandemic influenza. In addition to identifying critical infrastructure and key resources to incorporate in an emergency response plan, it is important to understand the balance between the rights of individuals, legalities for treating patients, and the needs of the community. Please join us for this COCA Call where a CDC subject matter expert will describe state and federal governments' role in preparing for and responding to public health emergencies.

For more information on this call: [http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2013/callinfo\\_042313.asp](http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2013/callinfo_042313.asp)

#### Recent COCA Call:

#### CDC Update for Clinicians on Avian Influenza A (H7N9) Virus

**Date:** Thursday, April 18, 2013

During this COCA Conference Call, CDC subject matter experts provided an update on the current H7N9 situation in China, reviewed interim avian influenza A (H7N9) recommendations for clinicians and state and local health departments related to case investigation, testing, infection control, and treatment, and discussed what CDC is doing to closely monitor the situation.

For more information on this call: [http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2013/callinfo\\_041813.asp](http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2013/callinfo_041813.asp)

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

## **CDC Science Clips: Volume 5, Issue: 15 – (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: Resources for Preparing and Responding to Bombing Events**

#### **NEW: CDC Health Alert Network (HAN): CDC Health Advisory: Resources Available for Local and State Public Health Officials: Preparing for and Responding to Bombing Events – April 17 (CDC)**

CDC offers resources that may help local or state health officials prepare for, respond to, and mitigate the health effects of bombings, and other mass casualty events.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/HAN/han00346.asp>

#### **After a Bombing: Health and Safety Information for Emergency Care Providers – (CDC)**

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/masscasualties/afterbombing-ecp.asp>

#### **Coping With a Traumatic Event – (CDC)**

Traumatic events are characterized by a sense of horror, helplessness, serious injury, or the threat of serious injury or death. The clinician should be alert to the various needs of the traumatized person.

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/masscasualties/copingpro.asp>

#### **Injury Fact Sheets – (CDC)**

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/masscasualties/injuryfactsheets.asp>

#### **Brain Injuries and Mass Casualty Events – (CDC)**

In mass casualty events, such as the World Trade Center attack or the Oklahoma City bombing, TBIs were caused by flying debris or by a person falling and hitting their head. A blast from an explosion can also cause a TBI even when there is no direct contact with an object.

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/masscasualties/braininjuriespub.asp>

#### **Model Communities Link EMS and Public Health – (CDC)**

Each year, CDC's TIIDE (Terrorism Injuries: Information, Dissemination and Exchange) partners identify communities that serve as a model of how emergency medical services can work with other safety and public health agencies in times of disaster.

<http://www.bt.cdc.gov/masscasualties/modelcommunities.asp>

### **NEW: Public Health Matters Blog: Plague Inc. – April 16 (CDC)**

James Vaughan, founder of Ndemio Creations, spoke to CDC staff on March 20, 2013 about his new mobile app, Plague Inc.

<http://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/2013/04/plague-inc/>

### **Update: Emergency Preparedness and Response: Chemical: Ricin – April 17 (CDC)**

Information & guidance for clinicians including background information, clinical description, surveillance & treatment.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/agent/ricin/>

#### **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>

## 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>

April 19, 2013 / Vol. 62 / No. 15 [Download .pdf document of this issue](#)

- [Incidence and Trends of Infection with Pathogens Transmitted Commonly Through Food — Foodborne Diseases Active Surveillance Network, 10 U.S. Sites, 1996–2012](#)
- [Motor Vehicle Traffic-Related Pedestrian Deaths — United States, 2001–2010](#)
- [Announcements: World Malaria Day — April 25, 2013](#)
- [Announcements: National Infant Immunization Week — April 20–27, 2013](#)

## Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases

### Avian Influenza A (H7N9) Virus

#### **Update:** Avian Influenza A (H7N9) Virus – April 18 (CDC)

CDC is following this situation closely and coordinating with domestic and international partners. This is an evolving situation and there is still much to learn. CDC will provide updated information as it becomes available.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/avianflu/h7n9-virus.htm>

### Seasonal Influenza

#### Weekly Flu View – April 19 (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 – April 19 (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 Health Alert Network (HAN): CDC Info Service: Nationwide Shortage of Tuberculin Skin Test Antigens: CDC Recommendations for Patient Care and Public Health Practice – April 12 (CDC)**

TUBERSOL®, a product of Sanofi Pasteur Limited, is in shortage nationwide until at least the end of May 2013. TUBERSOL® is one of two purified-protein derivative (PPD) tuberculin products that are licensed by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The manufacturer notified CDC that 50-dose vials of TUBERSOL® are unavailable and that the supplies of 10-dose vials will be limited. This notice advises public health officials, clinicians, and workers in occupational health and infection control about how to adapt to the shortage.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/HAN/han00345.asp>

### **NEW: FDA Issues Alert about Lack of Sterility Assurance of Drug Products from ApotheCure, Inc. and NuVision Pharmacy and of Forthcoming Recall – April 15 (FDA)**

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is alerting health care providers, hospital supply managers, and pharmacists that sterile drug products made by ApotheCure, Inc. and sterile lyophilized (freeze dried powder) drug products made by NuVision Pharmacy were produced under conditions that could create a high potential for contamination. These products should not be administered to patients.

<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm348093.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>

### **[Return to Top of Page](#)**

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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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