



COCA Update

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

May 6, 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 20**.

This issue contains information from **April 22 – May 6, 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.

Additional Resources

[CDC Emergency on Twitter](#)

[CDC Health Partners Outreach on Facebook](#)

[COCA Home Page](#)

Topics and Highlights

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COCA News and Announcements

Recent COCA Call/Webinar:

Unveiling the Principles of Law During Public Health Emergencies

Date: Thursday, April 23, 2013

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 described 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

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's 62nd Annual Epidemic Intelligence Services (EIS) Conference: Showcases "Disease Detectives" and their Life-Saving Work – April 22 (CDC)

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) kicked off its 62nd Annual Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) Conference in Atlanta, beginning a week-long conference dedicated to showcasing the life-saving work of its current EIS officers, or "disease detectives," and welcoming the incoming class of officers to the two-year postgraduate EIS program.

<http://www.cdc.gov/media/dpk/2013/dpk-eis-conference.html>

CDC Science Clips: Volume 5, Issue: 17 – (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: Public Health: Are We Too Slow? – May 1 (CDC)

One of the many roles of public health is to protect consumers from threats like foodborne outbreaks. Much of this hinges on quickly getting out clear messages to the public that provide simple steps to help stem the spread of disease. This is something public health professionals have been doing for over a hundred years, but a recent outbreak of Salmonella Heidelberg got us wondering, “Are we doing enough to keep the public safe? Are we too slow? And, how can we improve?”

<http://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/2013/05/are-we-too-slow/>

NEW: Public Health Matters Blog: Do 1 Thing: Food – April 24 (CDC)

The Do 1 Thing task of the month is to work on your emergency food supply. CDC encourages storing enough food for at least three days if you have to evacuate, and a two week supply for your home.

<http://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/2013/04/do-1-thing-food/>

NEW: CDC Media Advisory: To protect worker health NIOSH recommends new exposure levels for nanomaterials – April 24 (CDC)

New Current Intelligence Bulletin issued by CDC’s National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) reports the results of research in which various types of carbon nanotubes/carbon nanofibers can cause pulmonary fibrosis, inflammatory effects, and granulomas in laboratory animals exposed to them by inhalation. NIOSH considers these animal study findings to be relevant to human health risk because similar lung effects have been observed in workers exposed to respirable particulates of other materials in dusty jobs.

<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2013/a0424-worker-health.html>

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 5 – May 2013

Highlights in this issue include:

- [Transmission of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* Beijing Strains, Alberta, Canada, 1991–2007](#)
- [Foodborne Transmission of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy to Nonhuman Primates](#)
- [Full-Genome Deep Sequencing and Phylogenetic Analysis of Novel Human Betacoronavirus](#)
- [Zombies—A Pop Culture Resource for Public Health Awareness](#)

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>

May 3, 2013 / Vol. 62 / No. 17 [Download .pdf document of this issue](#)

- [Progress Toward Eradication of Polio — Worldwide, January 2011–March 2013](#)
- [Announcements: Global Road Safety Week — May 6–12, 2013](#)
- [Announcements: National Physical Fitness and Sports Month — May 2013](#)
- [Announcements: Drinking Water Week — May 5–11, 2013](#)
- [Announcements: Recommendations Regarding Cardiovascular Disease from the Community Preventive Services Task Force](#)

Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases

Avian Influenza A (H7N9) Virus

Update: Avian Influenza A (H7N9) Virus – April 23 (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 26 (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 – May 2 (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

Food, Drug and Device Safety

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

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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