



COCA Update

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

March 24, 2014

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 7**.

This issue contains information from **March 10 – March 24** 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 and Announcements](#) *Upcoming COCA Call/Webinar-Tickborne Diseases*

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[Public Health Preparedness](#) [Natural Disasters and Severe Weather](#) *Tsunami Preparedness Week: March 23 – 29, 2014*

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COCA News and Announcements

NEW: Upcoming COCA Call/Webinar:

Tickborne Diseases: A Springtime Review of Diagnosis, Treatment and Prevention

Date: Thursday, April 10, 2014

From May through July, people get tick bites and tickborne diseases more often than any other time of year in the United States. In 2012, over 4,000 cases of Rocky Mountain spotted fever and 30,000 cases of Lyme disease were reported to CDC. Tickborne diseases can cause symptoms that range from mild to life-threatening. Early recognition and treatment of tickborne diseases decreases the risk of serious complications. During this COCA call, CDC subject matter experts will describe the signs and symptoms, treatment, management, and prevention of tickborne diseases in the U.S., with an emphasis on Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever.

http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2014/callinfo_041014.asp

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

Free continuing education (CME, CNE, ACPE, CEU, CECH, and AAVSB/RACE) is available for most calls. For more information on free CE: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/continuingeducation.asp>

CDC News and Announcements

New TB Screening Guidelines Overseas Save U.S. Estimated \$15 Million – (CDC)

Updated CDC recommendations for overseas tuberculosis (TB) screening of immigrants and refugees have identified hundreds of cases that otherwise would have gone undetected until after arrival in the United States, saving taxpayers an additional \$15 million in medical costs.

<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2014/p0320-overseas-TBscreening.html>

CDC Science Clips: Volume 6, 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 - Flood Safety Awareness Week 2014 – (CDC)

Turn Around Don't Drown, or TADD for short, is a NOAA National Weather Service campaign used to educate people about the hazards of driving a vehicle or walking through flood waters.

<http://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/2014/03/flood-awareness-week-2014/>

NEW: Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Disaster App – (SAMHSA)

The SAMHSA Disaster App makes it easy to provide quality support to survivors.

http://store.samhsa.gov/apps/disaster/?WT.mc_id=EB_20140311_DISASTERAPP

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

NEW: Tsunami Preparedness Week: March 23 – 29, 2014

A coordinated national effort to assess tsunami threat, prepare community response, issue timely and effective warnings, and mitigate damage.

<http://nthmp.tsunami.gov/tpw/tsunami-preparedness-week.html>

Be Safe and Smart About Floods – (NOAA)

Find tips on how to be flood safe.

http://www.noaa.gov/features/03_protecting/waterpower_3.html

Food and Water Needs: Preparing for a Disaster or Emergency – (CDC)

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/foodwater/prepare.asp>

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>

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- [Recommendations for the Laboratory-Based Detection of *Chlamydia trachomatis* and *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* — 2014](#)

Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases

NEW: National Center for Emerging Zoonotic and Infectious Diseases (NCEZID): Accomplishments 2013 – March 19 (CDC)

NCEZID Accomplishments 2013 includes examples of notable infectious disease outbreak response, as well as groundbreaking research, investigations, and new innovations aimed at reducing illness and death from infectious disease.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncezid/2011-2012-report/index.html>

NEW: Meningococcal Disease Update

On Monday, March 10, a Drexel University student tragically died from serogroup B meningococcal disease. CDC's laboratory analysis shows that the strain in Princeton University's serogroup B meningococcal disease outbreak matches the strain in the Drexel University case by "genetic fingerprinting."

<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2014/s0318-meningococcal-disease.html>

Seasonal Influenza

Weekly Flu View – February 15 (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 20 (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

NEW: FDA approves Impavido to treat tropical disease leishmaniasis – March 19 (FDA)

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration today approved Impavido (miltefosine) to treat a tropical disease called leishmaniasis.

<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm389671.htm>

NEW: FDA allows marketing of first medical device to prevent migraine headaches – March 11 (FDA)

Today, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration allowed marketing of the first device as a preventative treatment for migraine headaches. This is also the first transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS) device specifically authorized for use prior to the onset of pain.

<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm388765.htm>

MedWatch: The FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program – (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.

[Health Alert Network \(HAN\)](#) - CDC's primary method of sharing cleared information about urgent public health incidents with public information officers; federal, state, territorial, and local public health practitioners; clinicians; and public health laboratories.



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