



September 8, 2014

This issue contains guidance documents relevant to current public health events and information from **August 25 – September 8**.

COCA Updates are disseminated biweekly. More frequent distributions may occur when there is emergency information or an event-specific update to share. The next COCA Update is scheduled for **September 22**.

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](#)
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Topics and Highlights

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[CDC Emergency Response](#) *Ebola Virus Disease*

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COCA News and Announcements

Upcoming COCA Calls/Webinars:

Management and Prevention of Pediatric Influenza in Healthcare Settings

CE = Free Continuing Education

Date: Thursday, September 18, 2014

Time: 2 – 3 p.m. (EDT)

Dial In Number: 888-831-8976 (U.S. Callers); 212-287-1673 (International Callers)

Passcode: 6649486

Webinar: <https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PW7554782&p=6649486&t=c>

Influenza is the most common cause of vaccine-preventable morbidity and mortality in children each year. Before flu season arrives, healthcare organizations should consider approaches to optimize influenza prevention and control. Taking action to immunize children and their close contacts, and early and aggressive use of antiviral therapies, can lessen the impact of influenza infection. During this COCA webinar, subject matter experts from CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics will discuss strategies to improve influenza prevention and control in children and will describe ways to leverage seasonal influenza planning to improve pandemic preparedness. emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2014/callinfo_091814.asp

Recent COCA Calls:

What U.S. Hospitals Need to Know to Prepare for Ebola Virus Disease

Date: Tuesday, August 5, 2014

emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2014/callinfo_080514.asp

Archived COCA conference calls are available at emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/index.asp.

Free continuing education credits (CME, CNE, ACPE, CEU, CECH, and AAVSB/RACE) are available for most calls. For more information about free CE, visit emergency.cdc.gov/coca/continuingeducation.asp

CDC Emergency Response – 2014 Ebola Outbreak in West Africa

Advice for Colleges, Universities, and Students About Ebola in West Africa – August 29

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/page/advice-for-colleges-universities-and-students-about-ebola-in-west-africa>

CDC Travel Notice: Ebola in Democratic Republic of the Congo – August 29

<http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices/alert/ebola-in-democratic-republic-of-the-congo>

Infographic: CDC in Action – August 29

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/cdc-in-action.pdf>

Health Alert Network INFOService: CDC Ebola Response Update #4 – August 28

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00368.asp>

Questions and Answers on Ebola – August 28

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/guinea/ga.html>

Infographic: What is Contact Tracing? – August 26

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/contact-tracing.pdf>

Interim Guidance for Specimen Collection, Transport, Testing, and Submission for Persons Under Investigation for Ebola Virus Disease in the United States – August 26

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/interim-guidance-specimen-collection-submission-patients-suspected-infection-ebola.html>

Interim Guidance for Emergency Medical Services Systems and 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points for Management of Patients with Known or Suspected Ebola Virus Disease in the United States – August 26

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/interim-guidance-emergency-medical-services-systems-911-public-safety-answering-points-management-patients-known-suspected-united-states.html>

Guidance for Safe Handling of Human Remains of Ebola Patients in U.S. Hospitals and Mortuaries – August 25

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/guidance-safe-handling-human-remains-ebola-patients-us-hospitals-mortuaries.html>

CDC News and Announcements

CDC Science Clips: Volume 6, Issue: 35 – (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.

www.cdc.gov/phlic/sciclips/issues/

Public Health Preparedness

NEW: September is National Preparedness Month

Throughout September, CDC and more than 3000 organizations—national, regional, and local governments, as well as private and public organizations—will support emergency preparedness efforts and encourage Americans to take action. For more information, please see the following resources:

FEMA: <http://www.ready.gov/september>

CDC: http://www.cdc.gov/phpr/preparedness_month.htm

<http://www.cdc.gov/features/beready/>

NOAA: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/prep.html>

Emergency Preparedness and Response – (CDC)

Find preparedness resources for all hazards.

emergency.cdc.gov/hazards-all.asp

Emergency Preparedness and Response Training Resources for Clinicians – (CDC)

Find online and in-person training resources at emergency.cdc.gov/coca/trainingresources.asp

Natural Disasters and Severe Weather

Food and Water Needs: Preparing for a Disaster or Emergency – (CDC)
emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/foodwater/prepare.asp

Health and Safety Concerns for All Disasters – (CDC)
emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/alldisasters.asp

Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

MMWR publications are prepared by CDC. To electronically subscribe, go to www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwrsubscribe.html

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- [National, State, and Selected Local Area Vaccination Coverage Among Children Aged 19–35 Months — United States, 2013](#)
- [Assessment of Rabies Exposure Risk in a Group of U.S. Air Force Basic Trainees — Texas, January 2014](#)
- [Assessing and Mitigating the Risks for Polio Outbreaks in Polio-Free Countries — Africa, 2013–2014](#)

Infectious, Vector-Borne, and Zoonotic Diseases

Seasonal Influenza

Weekly Flu View – August 29 (CDC)

Flu View is a weekly influenza surveillance report prepared by CDC's Influenza Division. All data are preliminary and may change as CDC receives more reports.

www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/

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

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

www.flu.gov/planning-preparedness/hospital/index.html

Travel Safety

Current Travel Warnings – September 3 (U.S. Department of State)

The U.S. Department of State issues Travel Warnings when long-term, protracted conditions make a country dangerous or unstable. Travel Warnings recommend that Americans avoid or carefully consider the risk of travel to that country. The State Department also issues Travel Warnings 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 State Department staff.

travel.state.gov/content/passports/english/alertswarnings.html

Food, Drug, and Device Safety

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

MedWatch is your Food and Drug Administration (FDA) gateway for clinically important safety information and reporting serious problems with human medical products.

www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/default.htm

FoodSafety.gov: Reports of FDA and USDA Food Recalls, Alerts, Reporting, and Resources – (HHS/USDA/FDA/CDC/NIH)

Foodsafety.gov lists notices of recalls and alerts from both FDA and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Visitors to the site can report a problem or make inquiries.

www.foodsafety.gov/recalls/recent/index.html

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The Healthcare Preparedness Activity in the Division of Strategic National Stockpile, Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response is responsible for the management of all COCA products.

For information about this update or other clinical issues, or to send your feedback, please contact us at coca@cdc.gov

[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

[COCA RSS Feed](#) – subscribe to be notified of conference calls, updates, and CDC guidance for health providers

[Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication Training](#) – training program that draws from lessons learned during public health emergencies, and incorporates best practices from the fields of risk and crisis communication

[Health Alert Network](#) – 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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