



January 20, 2015

This issue contains guidance documents relevant to current public health events and information from **January 5 – January 20**.

**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 **February 2**.

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

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## COCA News and Announcements

### Recent COCA Calls:

#### 2014–2015 Influenza Activity and Antiviral Recommendations

Date: Wednesday, January 14, 2014

[emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2015/callinfo\\_011415.asp](http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2015/callinfo_011415.asp)

Archived COCA conference calls are available at [emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/index.asp](http://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](http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/continuingeducation.asp)

## CDC Emergency Response – CDC Response to 2014 Ebola in the United States and West Africa

**Spaces Still Available!** CDC Training Course: *Preparing Healthcare Workers to Work in Ebola Treatment Units (ETUs) in Africa*

As part of the response to the 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is offering a 3-day introductory training course for licensed clinicians planning to provide medical care in West African healthcare settings to patients with Ebola virus disease. The course takes place at the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) in Anniston, Alabama and includes a combination of lecture-based training, small group exercises and practical “hands-on” simulations. The course offers 20.5 hours of free continuing education (CME, CNE, CPE and CEUs) for physicians, nurses, pharmacists, and other health-care providers. More than 390 clinicians have already completed the training. Learn more and register today – remaining classes are filling up quickly!

[www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/safety-training-course/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/safety-training-course/index.html)

**NEW:** Recommendations for Managing and Preventing Cases of Malaria in Areas with Ebola  
[www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/malaria-cases.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/malaria-cases.html)

**NEW:** Interim Recommendations for Ambulance Service Providers in West African Ebola-Affected Areas  
[www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/guidance-ambulance-service-providers.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/guidance-ambulance-service-providers.html)

**NEW:** Interim Guidance for Cargo Ships: Monitoring Exposed Crew and Managing Suspected Cases of Ebola Onboard  
[www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/maritime/cargo.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/maritime/cargo.html)

**NEW:** Algorithm for Emergency Medical Services and 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Points  
[www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ems-911-patients-with-possible-ebola.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/pdf/ems-911-patients-with-possible-ebola.pdf)

**NEW:** Considerations for U.S. Healthcare Facilities to Ensure Adequate Supplies of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Ebola Preparedness  
[www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/ppe/supplies.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/ppe/supplies.html)

**Updated:** Case Counts  
[www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/case-counts.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/case-counts.html)

**NEW:** Interim Guidance for Ebola Virus Cleaning, Disinfection, and Waste Disposal in Commercial Passenger Aircraft  
[www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/prevention/cleaning-commercial-passenger-aircraft.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/prevention/cleaning-commercial-passenger-aircraft.html)

**NEW:** Questions and Answers about Ebola and Food Safety in the United States  
[www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/transmission/qas-food-safety.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/transmission/qas-food-safety.html)

**NEW:** 2014 Ebola Outbreak in West Africa - Cumulative Reported Cases Graphs  
[www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/cumulative-cases-graphs.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/cumulative-cases-graphs.html)

**NEW:** Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on Interim Guidance for Managers and Workers Handling Untreated Sewage from Suspected or Confirmed Individuals with Ebola in the U.S.  
[www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/prevention/faq-untreated-sewage.html](http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/prevention/faq-untreated-sewage.html)

## CDC News and Announcements

### CDC Science Clips: Volume 7, Issue: 3 – (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/library/sciclips/issues/](http://www.cdc.gov/library/sciclips/issues/)

## Public Health Preparedness

### Emergency Preparedness and Response – (CDC)

Find preparedness resources for all hazards.

[emergency.cdc.gov/hazards-all.asp](http://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](http://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](http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/foodwater/prepare.asp)

## **Health and Safety Concerns for All Disasters – (CDC)**

[emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/alldisasters.asp](http://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](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwrsubscribe.html)

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- [Early Estimates of Seasonal Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness — United States, January 2015](#)
- [Improving Burial Practices and Cemetery Management During an Ebola Virus Disease Epidemic — Sierra Leone, 2014](#)
- [Use of a Nationwide Call Center for Ebola Response and Monitoring During a 3-Day House-to-House Campaign — Sierra Leone, September 2014](#)
- [Announcement: Updates to the Overseas Immunization Program for United States–Bound Refugees](#)

# **Infectious, Vector-Borne, and Zoonotic Diseases**

## **Seasonal Influenza**

### **What You Should Know for the 2014-2015 Influenza Season**

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/flu-season-2014-2015.htm>

### **Information for Health Professionals**

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/index.htm>

### **Weekly Flu View – January 16 (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/](http://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](http://www.flu.gov/planning-preparedness/hospital/index.html)

# **Travel Safety**

### **Current Travel Warnings – January 20 (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](http://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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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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