



October 26, 2015

This issue contains guidance documents relevant to current public health events and information from **October 13 – October 26**.

**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 **November 9**.

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 Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity on Facebook](#)  
[COCA Home Page](#)

#### Topics and Highlights

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[Food, Drug and Device Safety](#) *Health Alert Network (HAN) Advisory: Increases in Fentanyl Drug Confiscations and Fentanyl-related Overdose Fatalities Building*

## COCA News and Announcements

### Recent COCA Webinars/Calls:

#### How to Prevent and Control Pediatric Influenza

Date: Thursday, October 1, 2015

[emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2015/callinfo\\_100115.asp](http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2015/callinfo_100115.asp)

#### The Role of Clinicians in Addressing the Opioid Overdose Epidemic

Date: Thursday, September 24, 2015

[emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2015/callinfo\\_092415.asp](http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2015/callinfo_092415.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

### UPDATE: Case Counts

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/outbreaks/2014-west-africa/index.html>

## CDC News and Announcements

**NEWS:** CDC releases combined summary of notifiable infectious, noninfectious diseases

Beginning with the Oct. 23, 2015, Supplements to *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)*, CDC will publish the summaries of all notifiable conditions – infectious and noninfectious – at the same time. Together, these two reports provide official statistics for all nationally notifiable conditions in the same *MMWR* volume.  
<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2015/p1022-notifiable-diseases.html>

### **CDC Science Clips: Volume 7, Issue: 42 – (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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- [Progress Toward Global Eradication of Dracunculiasis, January 2014–June 2015](#)
- [Progress Toward Poliomyelitis Eradication — Afghanistan, January 2014–August 2015](#)
- [Use of Serogroup B Meningococcal Vaccines in Adolescents and Young Adults: Recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices, 2015](#)
- [Notes from the Field: \*Mycobacterium chelonae\* Eye Infections Associated with Humidifier Use in an Outpatient LASIK Clinic — Ohio, 2015](#)

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

### **Seasonal Influenza**

#### **What You Should Know for the 2015-2016 Influenza Season**

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/upcoming.htm>

#### **Information for Health Professionals**

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

#### **Weekly Flu View – October 26 (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 – October 26 (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**

### **NEWS: CDC Health Alert Network (HAN) Advisory: Increases in Fentanyl Drug Confiscations and Fentanyl-related Overdose Fatalities**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) are investigating recent increases in fentanyl-related unintentional overdose fatalities in multiple states across the U.S. The purpose of this HAN advisory is to: (1) alert public health departments, health care providers, first responders, and medical examiners and coroners to the possibility of additional increases in other jurisdictions, (2) provide recommendations for improving detection of fentanyl-related overdose outbreaks and (3) encourage states to expand access to naloxone and training for administering naloxone to reduce opioid overdose deaths.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00384.asp>

### **UPDATE: Multistate Outbreak of *Salmonella* Poona Infections Linked to Imported Cucumbers**

Since the last update on October 6, 2015, 35 more ill people have been reported from 14 states.

<http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/poona-09-15/>

### **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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**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 Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity 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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