



COCA Update

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

November 23, 2015

This issue contains guidance documents relevant to current public health events and information from **November 9 – November 23**.

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 **December 7**.

For questions about these or other clinical issues, please write to us at coca@cdc.gov.

Additional Resources

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

Topics and Highlights

[COCA News and Announcements](#)

[CDC Emergency Response](#)

[CDC News and Announcements](#)

[Public Health Preparedness](#)

[Natural Disasters and Severe Weather](#)

[Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report \(MMWR\)](#)

[Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Disease](#)

[Travel Safety](#)

[Food, Drug and Device Safety](#)

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

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

NEW: New Page for Ebola Survivors

The 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa has resulted in more Ebola survivors than ever before. Many of these survivors suffer from persistent medical conditions after recovery from Ebola.

The large number of Ebola survivors gives us the chance to better understand how Ebola affects people who have recovered, and to advise survivors on how to take care of themselves and their communities. CDC is working with partners to set up survivor support activities in West Africa to reduce the risk of Ebola reintroduction, help with survivors' unique medical and psychological needs, and strengthen health systems. As CDC learns more, we will continue to update our guidance.

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

NEW: World Health Organization Declares Sierra Leone Free of Ebola Virus Transmission

On November 7, 2015, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared Sierra Leone free of Ebola virus transmission.

<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2015/s1107-ebola-who.html>

UPDATE: Case Counts

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

CDC News and Announcements

CDC Science Clips: Volume 7, Issue: 46 – (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/

Public Health Preparedness

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

NEW: Be Prepared to Stay Safe and Healthy in Winter

<http://www.cdc.gov/features/winterweather/index.html>

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

November 20, 2015 / No. 45 [Download .pdf document of this issue](#)

- [Exposure to Elevated Carbon Monoxide Levels at an Indoor Ice Arena — Wisconsin, 2014](#)
- [Progress Toward Poliomyelitis Eradication — Pakistan, January 2014–September 2015](#)

Infectious, Vector-Borne, and Zoonotic Diseases

Seasonal Influenza

NEW: Pregnant? Get a Flu Shot!

<http://www.cdc.gov/features/pregnancyandflu/index.html>

What You Should Know for the 2015-2016 Influenza Season

www.cdc.gov/flu/about/season/upcoming.htm

Weekly Flu View – November 7 (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/

Information for Health Professionals – (CDC)

www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/index.htm

Travel Safety

Current Travel Warnings – November 19 (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

NEW: Multistate Outbreak of Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* O26 Infections Linked to Chipotle Mexican Grill in Washington and Oregon – (CDC)

37 people infected with the outbreak strain of Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* O26 (STEC O26) have been reported to CDC [PulseNet](http://www.cdc.gov/pulsenet/) (<http://www.cdc.gov/pulsenet/>) from Washington (24) and Oregon (13). Laboratory testing is continuing. CDC is now only reporting ill people that have been confirmed by PulseNet as being infected with the outbreak strain of STEC O26.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ecoli/2015/O26-11-15/index.html>

NEW: FDA moves quickly to approve easy-to-use nasal spray to treat opioid overdose – (FDA)

U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved Narcan nasal spray, the first FDA-approved nasal spray version of naloxone hydrochloride, a life-saving medication that can stop or reverse the effects of an opioid overdose.

<http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm473505.htm>

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

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

[Return to Top of Page](#)

For information about this update or other clinical issues, or to send your feedback, please contact us at 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



CDC and HHS logos are the exclusive property of the Department of Health and Human Services and may not be used for any purpose without prior express written permission. Use of trade names and commercial sources is for identification only and does not imply endorsement by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Links to non-federal organizations are provided solely as a service to our users. Links do not constitute an endorsement of any organization by CDC or the federal government, and none should be inferred. CDC is not responsible for the content of the individual organizations.