



December 7, 2015

This issue contains guidance documents relevant to current public health events and information from **November 23 – December 7**.

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 21**.

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](#)
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Topics and Highlights

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COCA News and Announcements

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: Assessment of Persons Under Investigation Having Low (But not Zero) Risk of Exposure to Ebola

This assessment provides guidance in the evaluation of ill patients with low (but not zero) risk of exposure to Ebola based on a complete travel, exposure, and health history.

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/healthcare-us/evaluating-patients/persons-under-investigation-low-exposure-ebola.html>

UPDATE: Case Counts

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

CDC News and Announcements

NEW: Not Enough Health Care Providers Know about PrEP

Pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) is a medicine taken daily that can be used to prevent HIV infection. PrEP is for people without HIV who are at very high risk for acquiring it from sex or injection drug use. Recent studies indicate

that some primary health care providers have never heard of PrEP. New CDC estimates underscore the need to increase awareness of this daily pill that can prevent HIV infection.

<http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2015/p1124-prevent-hiv.html>

CDC Science Clips: Volume 7, Issue: 47– (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.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/health-professionals.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

Be Prepared to Stay Safe and Healthy in Winter – (CDC)

<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

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- [Vital Signs: Estimated Percentages and Numbers of Adults with Indications for Preexposure Prophylaxis to Prevent HIV Acquisition — United States, 2015](#)
- [Vital Signs: Increased Medicaid Prescriptions for Preexposure Prophylaxis Against HIV infection — New York, 2012–2015](#)

Infectious, Vector-Borne, and Zoonotic Diseases

Seasonal Influenza

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 21 – (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)

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

Travel Safety

Current Travel Warnings – December 1 – (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* O157:H7 Infections Linked to Costco Rotisserie Chicken Salad – (CDC)

CDC, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service, and public health officials in several states are investigating an outbreak of Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* O157:H7 (STEC O157:H7) infections. As of November 23, 2015, 19 people across 7 states have been infected with the strain. Preliminary laboratory evidence indicates that a celery and onion diced blend produced by Taylor Farms Pacific, Inc. may be contaminated with *E. coli* O157:H7. This product was used to make the Costco rotisserie chicken salad eaten by ill people in this outbreak.

<http://www.cdc.gov/ecoli/2015/o157h7-11-15/index.html>

NEW: Compounded Multivitamins by Glades Drugs: Voluntary Recall - High Amounts of Vitamin D3 (Cholecalciferol) – (FDA)

Consumption of this product may result in vitamin D toxicity, which may be severe and may lead to life-threatening outcomes if left untreated. Healthcare professionals and patients are encouraged to report adverse events or side effects related to the use of these products to the [FDA's MedWatch Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program](#). Health care providers should collect and return any products subject to this recall to the company at: Glades Drugs, 109 S. Lake Ave., Pahokee, FL 33476.

<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm474599.htm>

NEW: Intravascular Medical Devices: FDA Safety Communication - Lubricious Coating Separation – (FDA)

FDA wants to make health care providers aware of the possibility that hydrophilic and/or hydrophobic coatings may separate from medical devices and potentially cause serious injuries to patients. FDA believes the overall benefits of these devices continue to outweigh the risks. However, health care providers should be aware of potential problems and consider certain actions prior to use.

<http://www.fda.gov/Safety/MedWatch/SafetyInformation/SafetyAlertsforHumanMedicalProducts/ucm473924.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

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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

[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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