June 6, 2016

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This issue contains guidance documents relevant to current public health events and information from May 23 - June 6.

The next COCA Update is scheduled for June 20.

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
- Infectious, Vector-Borne, and Zoonotic Diseases
- Travel Safety
- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)
- Food, Drug, and Device Safety

COCA News and Announcements

Upcoming COCA Calls

NEW: CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain
Date: Wednesday, June 22, 2016
Time: 2:00 - 3:00 pm (Eastern Time)
Dial In: 800-779-0686 (U.S. Callers); 1-312-470-0194 (International Callers)
Passcode: 3377346

The amount of opioids prescribed in the U.S. quadrupled from 1999-2014. Unfortunately, opioid-related overdose deaths have increased in parallel with prescribing increases, and the amount of pain that patients report remains unchanged. The CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain provides recommendations for safer and more effective prescribing of opioids for chronic pain in patients 18 and older in outpatient settings outside of active cancer treatment, palliative care, and end-of-life care. During this COCA Call, clinicians will hear an overview of the CDC recommendations and learn when and how opioids should be initiated for chronic pain, how to assess risk and address harms of opioid use, and when and how opioids should be discontinued. This is the first call in a series of 4.
https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2016/callinfo_062216.asp

Recent COCA Calls

Little Bite, Big Disease: Recognizing and Managing Tickborne Illnesses
Date: Tuesday, May 24, 2016
During this COCA Call, clinicians learned about the treatment, management, and prevention of tickborne diseases in the U.S., with an emphasis on Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, and newly emerging tickborne diseases.
http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2016/callinfo_052416.asp

Archived COCA conference calls are available at emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/index.asp.
Free continuing education (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
Fact Sheets and Posters in Different Languages
CDC fact sheets and posters for distribution to patients are available in languages, including Spanish, Arabic, Tagalog, Vietnamese, Mandarin, Creole, and Korean. These resources cover a variety of topics, including travel information, insect repellent, sexual transmission, and mosquito control.

Clinicians Caring for Pregnant Women and Women of Reproductive Age
A low proportion of persons who had testing for Zika virus in the United States had confirmed Zika virus infection. Approximately 99% of asymptomatic pregnant women who were tested had no laboratory evidence of Zika virus infection.
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6515e1.htm?s_cid=mm6515e1_e

Tools for Healthcare Providers
View printable and easy-to-use CDC fact sheets, guidance documents, and testing algorithms for Zika virus infection.

Clinical Consultation Service for Healthcare Providers Caring for Pregnant Women with Possible Zika Virus Infection
CDC maintains a 24/7 consultation service for health officials and healthcare providers caring for pregnant women. To contact the service, call 770-488-7100 or email ZIKAMCH@cdc.gov.

Doctor’s Visit Checklist: For Pregnant Women Who Traveled to an Area with Zika

Doctor’s Visit Checklist: For Pregnant Women Living in an Area with Zika

MMWR: Interim Guidance for Healthcare Providers Caring for Women of Reproductive Age with Possible Zika Virus Exposure — United States, 2016
CDC has updated its interim guidance for U.S. healthcare providers caring for women of reproductive age with possible Zika virus exposure to include recommendations for counseling women and men with possible Zika virus exposure who are interested in conceiving. The updated guidelines also include recommendations for Zika virus testing and guidance for women residing along the US-Mexico Border.
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6512e2er.htm?s_cid=mm6512e2er_w

CDC recommends Standard Precautions in all healthcare settings to protect both healthcare personnel and patients from infection with Zika virus as well as from blood-borne pathogens (e.g., human immunodeficiency virus [HIV] and hepatitis C virus [HCV]).
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6511e3.htm?s_cid=mm6511e3_w

Questions and Answers For Healthcare Providers Caring for Pregnant Women and Women of Reproductive Age with Possible Zika Virus Exposure
Clinicians Caring for Infants and Children

Congenital Microcephaly Case Definitions

Questions and Answers For Healthcare Providers Caring for Infants and Children with Possible Zika Virus Infection

CDC has updated its interim guidelines for U.S. healthcare providers caring for infants born to mothers who traveled to or resided in areas with Zika virus transmission during pregnancy and expanded guidelines to include infants and children with possible acute Zika virus disease.
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6507e1.htm

Sexual Transmission

The following recommendations apply to men who have traveled to or reside in areas with active Zika virus transmission and their female or male sex partners. These recommendations replace the previously issued recommendations and are updated to include time intervals after travel to areas with active Zika virus transmission or after Zika virus infection for taking precautions to reduce the risk for sexual transmission.
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6512e3er.htm?s_cid=mm6512e3er.htm_w

Zika and Sexual Transmission

Zika Travel Information

NEW: Technical Statement on the Role of Disinsection in the Context of Zika Outbreaks, 2016
CDC does not recommend routine use of insecticides (disinsection) inside commercial passenger airplanes to prevent the spread of Zika virus.

CDC Issues Advice for Travel to the 2016 Summer Olympic Games

Zika Travel Notices

Clinical Evaluation and Testing

NEW: MMWR: Interim Guidance for Interpretation of Zika Virus Antibody Test Results
If serologic testing indicates recent flavivirus infection that could be caused by either Zika or dengue virus, patients should be clinically managed for both infections because they might have been infected with either virus. Patients with clinically suspected dengue should receive appropriate management to reduce the risk for hemorrhagic medical complications.
http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6521e1.htm?s_cid=mm6521e1_e

NEW: HAN 00389 - Diagnostic Testing of Urine Specimens for Suspected Zika Virus Infection
https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00389.asp

http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/65/wr/mm6518e1.htm?s_cid=mm6518e1_w

Diagnostic Testing
Contact your state or local health department to facilitate testing.
Collection and Submission of Body Fluids for Zika Virus Testing

CDC and OSHA Issue Interim Guidance for Protecting Workers from Occupational Exposure to Zika Virus
CDC and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued new guidance and information for protecting workers from occupational exposure to Zika virus.
http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/outdoor/mosquito-borne/pdfs/osa-niosh_fs-3855_zika_virus_04-2016.pdf#page=1

Biosafety Guidance for Transportation of Specimens and for Work with Zika Virus in the Laboratory

Clinical Evaluation & Disease
Zika virus is transmitted to humans primarily through the bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito. Most people infected with Zika virus are asymptomatic. Characteristic clinical findings are acute onset of fever with maculopapular rash, arthralgia, or conjunctivitis. Other commonly reported symptoms include myalgia and headache.

State, Local, Tribal, and Territorial Health Department Resources

NEW: ZAP Summit Follow-up Teleconferences

U.S. Zika Pregnancy Registry
CDC has established the U.S. Zika Pregnancy Registry to learn more about pregnant women in the United States with confirmed Zika virus infection and their infants and is collaborating with state, tribal, local, and territorial health departments to collect information about pregnancy and infant outcomes following Zika virus infection during pregnancy.

Zika Active Pregnancy Surveillance System (ZAPSS)/Sistema de Vigilancia Activa de Zika en Embarazos (SVAZE)
The Puerto Rico Department of Health and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention have developed a surveillance system called Zika Active Pregnancy Surveillance System (ZAPSS)/Sistema de Vigilancia Activa de Zika en Embarazos (SVAZE). The surveillance system will be used to evaluate the association between Zika virus infection during pregnancy and adverse outcomes during pregnancy, birth, and early childhood up to 3 years old.

Pregnant women with any laboratory evidence of possible Zika virus infection in the United States and territories, 2016
These data reflect pregnant women in the US Zika Pregnancy Registry and the Zika Active Pregnancy Surveillance System in Puerto Rico.

Zika Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication Discussions
To address the communication concerns and needs of state, local, and territorial health communicators, as well as partner organizations, CDC is hosting a series of Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication (CERC) teleconferences related to Zika issues. These teleconferences will be held on a weekly basis beginning Tuesday, May 17, from 1-2 pm (Eastern Time). Each week, a new topic will be presented on a different aspect of CERC.
https://emergency.cdc.gov/cerc/zika-teleconferences.asp

Top 10 Zika Response Planning Tips: Brief Information for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Health Officials

Zika Virus Microsite
CDC has developed an easily embeddable collection of Zika virus information for partner and stakeholder websites. This collection, called a microsite, can supplement partner web sites with CDC’s up-to-date, evidence-based content. The content is automatically updated when CDC’s website is updated.
CDC News and Announcements

CDC Science Clips: Volume 8, Issue: 22
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 for Health Professionals – (CDC)
Find preparedness resources for health professionals at
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

NEW: Hurricane Readiness – (CDC)
http://www.cdc.gov/features/hurricanepreparedness/index.html

CDC Feature: Flood Safety Tips – (CDC)

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

Infectious, Vector-Borne, and Zoonotic Diseases

NEW: Discovery of First MCR-1 Gene in E. coli Bacteria Found in a Human in United States – (CDC)
E. coli bacteria carrying the mcr-1 gene was found in a urine sample from a Pennsylvania woman with no recent travel outside of the U.S. The mcr-1 gene makes bacteria resistant to the antibiotic colistin, which is used as a last-resort drug to treat patients with multi-drug-resistant infections, including carbapenem-resistant Enterobacteriaceae (CRE). The mcr-1 gene exists on a plasmid, a small piece of DNA that is capable of moving from one bacterium to another, spreading antibiotic resistance among bacterial species. The CDC and federal partners have been hunting for this gene in the U.S. ever since its emergence in China in 2015.
http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2016/s0531-mcr-1.html

Seasonal Influenza

Information for Health Professionals – (CDC)
http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/index.htm

Weekly Flu View – May 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.
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

Travel Safety

Current Travel Warnings – May 31 (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

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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- Cigarette Smoking Among Urban American Indian Adults — Hennepin and Ramsey Counties, Minnesota, 2011
- Public Confidence in the Health Care System 1 Year After the Start of the Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak — Sierra Leone, July 2015

Food, Drug, and Device Safety

NEW: Multistate Outbreak of Shiga Toxin-Producing Escherichia coli O121 Infections Linked to Flour – (CDC)
CDC is collaborating with public health and regulatory officials in multiple states and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to investigate a multistate outbreak of Shiga toxin-producing E. coli O121 (STEC O121) infections. Thirty-eight people infected with the outbreak strain of STEC O121 have been reported from 20 states.
http://www.cdc.gov/ecoli/2016/o121-06-16/index.html

UPDATED: Recent Outbreak: Elizabethkingia – (CDC)
Since January, CDC has been assisting with the investigation of two outbreaks of infections caused by Elizabethkingia anophelis in the Midwest. Although Elizabethkingia is a common organism in the environment, it rarely causes infections. CDC is assisting with testing samples from patients and a variety of potential sources, including healthcare products, water sources and the environment; to date, none of these have been found to be a source of the bacteria.
http://www.cdc.gov/elizabethkingia/outbreaks/index.html

NEW: Stöckert 3T Heater-Cooler System by Sorin Group Deustchland GmbH: Safety Communication - Reports of Mycobacterium chimaera Infections – (FDA)
The FDA has received reports of U.S. patients infected with M. chimaera after undergoing cardiothoracic surgery that involved the use of the 3T.

NEW: Capnostream 20 and Capnostream 20p Patient Monitor Battery Packs by Medtronic Respiratory and Monitoring Solutions: Class I Recall - Potential Fire Risk – (FDA)
Medtronic Respiratory & Monitoring Solutions is recalling the battery packs due to a manufacturing defect that
causes an increase in temperature within battery that may cause a fire in the system monitor.

**MedWatch: The FDA Safety Information and Adverse Event Reporting Program – (FDA)**
MedWatch is your FDA gateway for clinically important safety information and reporting serious problems with human medical products.
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

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The Emergency Risk Communication Branch in the Division of Emergency Operations, 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 Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity Facebook page** – connect with COCA on Facebook

**Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity** – resources for healthcare 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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