



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS MONTHLY

Maine Edition

June 2009

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Welcome to the latest issue of Emergency Preparedness Monthly! [The Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention](#) (formerly the Maine Bureau of Health), [the Regional Resource Centers](#), and [the Harvard School of Public Health Center for Public Health Preparedness](#) have partnered to bring you regular updates on emergency preparedness news and activities in Maine and beyond. This free monthly newsletter is designed to be a resource for a regional audience of public health, healthcare, public safety, and emergency response practitioners throughout Maine, as well as state and local leaders interested in protecting the public's health. It includes a digest of select news stories and commentaries, links to relevant resources, and a listing of upcoming preparedness-related trainings and events. The goal of this publication is to provide a central forum for disseminating useful, current, and succinct preparedness information to busy professionals.

Please submit your events by mid-June to the July edition of EP Monthly through the following [online form](#). We would love to share our resources and opportunities with the growing New England EP Monthly community.

Trainings/Exercises:



[Rail Car Incident Response Training](#)

Date: Tuesday, June 2 , Wednesday, June 3, Thursday, June 4, 2009

Time: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Location: [South Portland Fire Department, 684 Broadway, South Portland , Maine](#)

Overview: "The Rail Car Incident Response course has been developed to educate emergency responders on freight rail car incidents involving hazardous materials. As more and more rail traffic transports cargo, including hazardous materials, it is critical that emergency responders are well trained. The increase in traffic adds to the already present risk of transportation incidents involving hazardous cargo. In addition, since a majority of the rail traffic travels through rural America, it is important that the often times resource limited rural responder community become educated about the dangers and unique hazards presented with rail cars. The information covered in this course will enhance the ability of emergency responders, especially rural emergency responders, to manage rail car incidents."

Contact: Faith Mayer (faith.e.mayer@maine.gov), 207-624-4441

[Portland International Jetport's Tabletop Exercise](#)

Date: Thursday, June 4, 2009

Time: 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Location: [1001 Westbrook St, Portland, Cumberland, Maine](#)

Overview: "Tabletop exercise to test response plans in the event of a plane crash."

Contact: LT Janine Roberts, Portland Police Department (jrob@portlandmaine.gov), 207-756-8353

[EOC Table Top Exercise](#)

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2009

Time: 9:00 AM

Location: [MEMA, 45 Commerce Drive, Suite 2, Augusta, Maine](#)

Contact: Jeremy Damren, State Exercise Coordinator (jeremy.damren@maine.gov), 207-624-4400

[Knox EMA 2009 Windjammer Exercise MSEL's Conference](#)

Date: Monday, June 29, 2009

Time: 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Location: [62 Union Steet, Rockland, Maine](#)

Overview: "Master Scenario and Events List Conference Knox EMA will hold a MSEL's Conference for the 2009 Knox EMA Windjammer Full Scale Exercise."

Contact: Ray Sisk, 207-594-5155

[Maine's Elders and Emergencies: Working for the Future](#)

Overview: "The Maine Center for Public Health, the Maine Office of Elder Services and the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the Maine Emergency Management Agency and the Harvard School of Public Health, Center for Public Health Preparedness (HSPH-CPHP) are pleased to present an online course intended to improve emergency preparedness planning for and among the elderly population titled: "Maine's Elders and Emergencies: Working for the Future." This course is designed for city and state officials, representatives of community-based organizations and other service providers, adult caregivers, first responders, elder adults, and any individual who wants to participate in promoting emergency preparedness for elder community needs. This course will provide you with the tools and knowledge necessary to prepare and respond to elders in an emergency. It is professionally narrated and has non-graded quizzes that will allow one to test their responses as well as printable facts and other downloadable information. We encourage you to share this online course with anyone involved in emergency preparedness or other groups/individuals who may benefit from it."

*** Become eligible for a \$50.00 gift certificate when you complete the course evaluation ***

Visit: <http://www.cphp.sph.harvard.edu/>

User name: Elder

Password: Elder

Please note, the above user name and password are case-sensitive

Certificates of completion will be sent via us mail 4-6 weeks from time of course completion.

Contact: Rubim Rwakabuba, 617-384-9696

Webcasts:



[Communicate Better to Protect Your Community in a Crisis!](#)

Date: Wednesday, June 24, 2009

Time: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM (ET)

Overview: "Communicating in a crisis is not business as usual! In an emergency, getting the right messages delivered at the right time by the right person will save lives. This training is intended to help emergency responders and public information professionals learn to use the best approaches and tools to exercise quality communication before, during and after an emergency."

[Terrorism & Its Links to Drug Trafficking](#)

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2009

Time: 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM (ET)

Overview: "How does terrorism play a part in the illegal drug trade? The program Drugs & the Link to Terrorism will explore the nature of links between terrorism and trafficking in illicit drugs. The evidence is strong linking the presence of armed conflict, including the terrorist variety, and the cultivation, processing and trafficking of narcotic drugs. This broadcast will focus on the alleged and real links between terrorism and other forms of crime and will teach law enforcement and first responders what to look out for."

Research:



Paramedic and Emergency Medical Technicians Views on Opportunities and Challenges When Forgoing and Halting Resuscitation in the Field.

Grutzen CR, Timmermans S, Koenig WJ, Torres JM, Hoffman JR, Lorenz KA, Asch SM.

Academic Emergency Medicine, 2009; 16:1-7 (c)

From the Department of Emergency Medicine, Mount Sinai School of Medicine, New York, NY.

Overview: "The objective was to assess paramedic and emergency medical technicians (EMT) perspectives and decision-making after a policy change that allows forgoing or halting resuscitation in prehospital atraumatic cardiac arrest. Methods: Five semistructured focus groups were conducted with 34 paramedics and 2 EMTs from emergency medical services (EMS) agencies within Los Angeles County (LAC), 6 months after a policy change that allowed paramedics to forgo or halt resuscitation in the field under certain circumstances. Results: Participants had an overwhelmingly positive view of the policy; felt it empowered their decision-making abilities; and thought the benefits to patients, family, EMS, and the public outweighed the risks. Except under certain circumstances, such as when the body was in public view or when family members did not appear emotionally prepared to have the body left on scene, they felt the policy improved care. Assuming that certain patient characteristics were present, decisions by paramedics about implementing the policy in the field involve many factors, including knowledge and comfort with the new policy, family characteristics (e.g., agreement), and logistics regarding the place of arrest (e.g., size of space). Paramedic and EMT experiences with and attitudes toward forgoing resuscitation, as well as group dynamics among EMS leadership, providers, police, and ED staff, also play a role. Conclusions: Participants view the ability to forgo or halt resuscitation in the field as empowering and do not believe it presents harm to patients or families under most circumstances. Factors other than patient clinical characteristics, such as knowledge and attitudes toward the policy, family emotional preparedness, and location of arrest, affect whether paramedics will implement it.

Facing pandemic influenza threats: the importance of including poultry and swine workers in preparedness plans

Gray GC, Kayali G.

2009 Poultry Science 88 :880-884

Overview: Recent research has shown that poultry and swine workers, especially those with intense exposures, are at increased risk of zoonotic influenza virus infections. In multiple studies, US poultry workers and poultry veterinarians have evidence of previous infections with avian influenza virus. Similarly, US swine workers have strong evidence of previous and acute infections with swine influenza viruses. Mathematical modeling has demonstrated that such workers may accelerate the spread of pandemic viruses in their rural communities. Because these workers may contribute to the novel generation of viruses and serve as a bridging population in the cross-species sharing of influenza viruses, it seems prudent to include poultry and swine workers in influenza preparedness programs. Possible preventive and control interventions include special education programs to increase workers' use of personal protective equipment such as gloves, increased surveillance for influenza viruses among workers and their animals, recommendations that workers seek medical attention should they develop

influenza-like illness, and workers' priority receipt of annual and pandemic influenza vaccines.

Conference:



[Leading Decision Makers Provide a Briefing On the New Administration's Initiatives On Biodefense Vaccines and Therapeutics.](#)

Date: Monday, June 15, 2009 to Wednesday, June 17, 2009

Location: [Almas Temple Club Inc, 1315 K St Nw, Washington, DC](#)

Overview: "Connect with senior government experts, learn about their strategic plans for expanding the market for CBRN (chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear) & pandemic influenza medical countermeasures and how they will use newly granted authority to build up the nation's capabilities for advanced development & manufacturing."

Contact: (mail@infocastinc.com) or 818-888-4444

You may notice in this version of EP Monthly, and going forward, that pdf documents of full articles are not available. However, links to access these articles are embedded. If you need assistance in accessing a referenced article, please do not hesitate to contact us by email at <https://apps.sph.harvard.edu/publisher/epmonthly@hsph.harvard.edu>.

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