

From: Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (CDC)
Sent: Monday, December 15, 2008 12:07 PM
To: Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (CDC)
Subject: CDC Updates for Clinicians: Dec. 8-15, 2008



December 15, 2008

The following updates were made to CDC information and guidance from **Dec. 8 - 15, 2008**. If you have any questions on these or other clinical issues, please write to us at coca@cdc.gov.

Today's topics include:

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Winter Weather

Winter Weather

Due to the extreme winter weather in New England we would like to provide you with the following information on frostbite, hypothermia, carbon monoxide poisoning, and other health issues related to extreme cold under the "Stay Safe and Healthy" section. .

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/>

Cleaning up Safely after a Winter Storm

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/afterstorm/>

Extreme Cold: A Prevention Guide to Protect Your Personal Health and Safety - PDF

http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/winter/pdf/cold_guide.pdf

Radiation Events

Mobile Version of REMM Website - HHS - Dec. 8

The Radiation Event Medical Management (REMM) website provides guidance for health care providers, primarily physicians, about clinical diagnosis and treatment during mass casualty radiological/nuclear events. It provides just-in-time, evidence-based, usable information with sufficient background and context to make complex issues understandable to those without formal radiation medicine expertise and provides web-based information that is also downloadable in advance, so that it would be available during an event if the internet is not accessible. To download the new mobile version of the REMM website follow the link below.

<http://remm.nlm.gov/downloadremm.htm>

COCA Conference Call - REMM Website - January 15, 2008

This COCA Conference Call introduces participants to the REMM by giving them a tour of the web portal and its contents. The PowerPoint presentation, audio file and transcript of this call are available on our website.

http://www.emergency.cdc.gov/coca/confcall_archive.asp

Infectious Disease

Potential Effects of Electronic Laboratory Reporting on Improving Timeliness of Infectious

Disease Notification - Florida, 2002-2006 - CDC - MMWR Weekly - Dec. 12

Electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) potentially can improve the timeliness of notifiable disease case reporting and subsequent disease control activities, but the extent of this improvement and the resulting effects on the workload of state or local surveillance teams are unknown. To estimate those effects, investigators from the Florida Department of Health (FDOH) evaluated the timeliness of reporting for four notifiable diseases of varying incubation periods. This report summarizes the results of that analysis.

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5749a2.htm>

Seasonal Influenza

Update: Influenza Activity - United States, September 28-November 29, 2008 - MMWR - Dec. 12

During September 28-November 29, 2008, influenza activity remained low in the United States. Of the few influenza viruses characterized thus far this season, most are antigenically related to the strains included in the 2008--09 influenza vaccine. Oseltamivir-resistant influenza A (H1N1) viruses have been detected, but currently available data are insufficient to predict their prevalence for the 2008--09 season. This report summarizes U.S. influenza activity since the last update and reviews new influenza vaccine recommendations for the current season.

<http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5749a3.htm>

Weekly Report: Influenza Summary Update - Dec. 12

During week 49 (November 30-December 6, 2008), a low level of influenza activity was reported in the United States. Seventy-two (2.8%) specimens tested by U.S. World Health Organization (WHO) and National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System (NREVSS) collaborating laboratories and reported to CDC/Influenza Division were positive for influenza.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

Weekly US Map - Dec. 12

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/usmap.htm>

Rand releases midseason flu vaccination status report - CIDRAP - Dec. 10

The Rand Corp. today released its first-ever midseason survey on the uptake of the current influenza vaccine, which found that public officials still have a tall task in front of them to administer this year's record vaccine supply.

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/general/news/dec1008vaccine-br.html>

Half-dose flu shots could help prevent shortages - CIDRAP - Dec. 11

Half-dose influenza shots generate nearly as strong an immune response in young adults as full-dose shots do, suggesting that cutting the dose in half may be a good way to cope with vaccine shortages, according to a study published this week.

<http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/cidrap/content/influenza/general/news/dec1108halfdose.html>

Food Safety

Multiple States Recalls Fresh Pork Products Due To Possible Dioxin Contamination - FSIS - Dec. 11

FSIS was notified by the Food Safety Authority of Ireland (FSAI) that routine surveillance tests indicated the presence of dioxin in pork products that were sent to multiple importers of record in the United States. FSIS believes the probability of adverse health effects related to consumption of these pork products to be low, and concurs with the conclusions of a risk assessment conducted by FSAI. See various state recall links below.

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_050_2008_Release/index.asp

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_049_2008_Release/index.asp

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_048_2008_Release/index.asp

Emergency Preparedness

Ready or Not? Protecting the Public's Health from Diseases, Disasters, and Bioterrorism - Trust for America's Health - Dec. 9

Trust for America's Health (TFAH) and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) released the sixth annual Ready or Not? Protecting the Public's Health from Diseases, Disasters, and Bioterrorism report,

which finds that progress made to better protect the country from disease outbreaks, natural disasters, and bioterrorism is now at risk, due to budget cuts and the economic crisis. In addition, the report concludes that major gaps remain in many critical areas of preparedness, including surge capacity, rapid disease detection, and food safety.

TFAH Press Release: <http://healthyamericans.org/newsroom/releases/?releaseid=150>

PDF of the full report: <http://healthyamericans.org/assets/files/bioterror-report-2008.pdf>

Manual for the health care of children in humanitarian emergencies - WHO - Dec. 2008

The objective of this manual is to provide comprehensive guidance on child care in emergencies. Existing guidelines, such as IMCI, assume a functioning health system that facilitates the referral of children, which may not be available in emergency situations. So this manual also includes the initial management of severe conditions. It was also realized that existing manuals do not cover injuries, burns, neonatal illness, psychosocial problems etc, which are considered of high priority in emergency settings. These are addressed in this manual as well as issues on mental health, psychosocial support and common preventive interventions such as immunization.

http://www.who.int/child_adolescent_health/documents/9789241596879/en/index.html

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Please send us your feedback or comments: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/coca/feedback.htm>.

Our Clinician Communication Team is committed to excellence in reporting our weekly updates. Please e-mail coca@cdc.gov should you note any written errors or discrepancies.

If you need to unsubscribe or update your information, please go to our website:

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/clinregistry/userMaintenance2.asp>

If you need further information or technical help, please send an e-mail message to: coca@cdc.gov



Communicating With Clinicians

CDC currently employs several mechanisms to communicate with clinicians on topics of urgent concern and interest.

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