

**From:** Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (CDC)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 30, 2009 2:16 PM  
**To:** Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (CDC)  
**Subject:** CDC Updates for Clinicians: March 23 - 30, 2009



March 30, 2009

The following updates were made to CDC information and guidance from **March 23 - 30, 2009**. If you have any questions on these or other clinical issues, please write to us at [coca@cdc.gov](mailto:coca@cdc.gov).

**Today's topics Include:**

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## Emerging Infectious Diseases Journal

The Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) journal provides recognition of new and re-emerging infections and understanding of factors involved in disease emergence, prevention, and elimination. It also represents the scientific communications component of CDC's efforts against the threat of emerging infections. See the **April 2009** issue of the EID journal at the following link:

<http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/index.htm>

## Emergency Preparedness and Response

### **President Declares Major Disasters for North Dakota and Minnesota – FEMA – March 24 & 26**

The head of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) announced that federal disaster aid has been made available for North Dakota and Minnesota to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and flooding beginning on March 13, 2009, and continuing.

- North Dakota - <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=47796>
- Minnesota - <http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=47801>

Additional information on the flooding in North Dakota and Minnesota:

- [HHS Acting Secretary Declares Public Health Emergency for North Dakota Storms](#)
- [HHS Acting Secretary Declares Public Health Emergency for Minnesota Storms](#)
- [Floods in Cold Weather – CDC](#)
- [North Dakota Severe Storms and Flooding – FEMA](#)

### **Initial Evaluation of the Cities Readiness Initiative – RAND Corporation in support of CDC – March 25**

The Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) was created in 2004 to help the nation's largest metropolitan areas develop the ability to provide life-saving medications in the event of a large-scale biological terrorist attack or naturally occurring disease outbreak. In 2007, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention asked RAND to provide an initial evaluation of the impact of the Cities Readiness Initiative on awardees' readiness and capability to conduct mass countermeasure dispensing above and beyond what would be the case without the program. The evaluation showed that, overall, CRI awardees had benefited from the program's preparedness guidance and scenario focus and that the program had strengthened or encouraged the development of partnerships with other stakeholders.

[http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical\\_reports/TR640/](http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/TR640/)

**Food Bioterrorism Regulation: Final Rule – Prior Notice of Imported Food Shipments – FDA – March 2009**

What food is subject to the requirement for submitting prior notice? Prior notice applies to food for humans and other animals that is imported or offered for import into the United States. For purposes of the final rule, "food" is defined by reference to section 201(f) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act; it does not include food contact substances or pesticides. Section 201(f) defines "food" as articles used for food or drink for man or other animals, chewing gum, and articles used for components of any such articles.

<http://www.cfsan.fda.gov/~dms/fsbtac29.html>

## Influenza Pandemic

**Interim Guidance for Cargo Trucking Crews for the Prevention of Pandemic Influenza – HHS – March 23**

Cargo trucking is part of the critical infrastructure essential to maintaining the Nation's continuity of operations in the event of an influenza (flu) pandemic (a worldwide outbreak of a novel flu virus). This draft interim guidance is meant to inform and educate cargo trucking management and crew personnel about precautions and appropriate work practices to minimize exposure and prevent workplace-related transmission of flu in the event of a pandemic.

[http://pandemicflu.gov/health/cargo\\_trucking.html](http://pandemicflu.gov/health/cargo_trucking.html)

## Seasonal Influenza

**Seasonal Influenza Weekly Report: Influenza Summary Update - CDC - March 27**

During week 11 (March 15-21, 2009), influenza activity continued to decrease in the United States.

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

**Weekly US Map - CDC- March 27**

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

## Travelers' Health

**Update on Yellow Fever Vaccine Availability - CDC - March 25**

This statement is in follow-up to an earlier announcement from June 2008 regarding supply limitations of the yellow fever vaccine (YF-VAX®) manufactured by sanofi pasteur (Swiftwater, Pa.). The manufacturer has informed CDC that due to a minor production delay, ordering limits for both the single-dose and five-dose vials of YF-VAX® will remain in place. These ordering limits are expected to be in place until late spring or early summer 2009. As additional product becomes available, sanofi pasteur will adjust ordering limits accordingly.

<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/contentYellowFeverVaccineShortage.aspx>

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

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