

**From:** Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (CDC)  
**Sent:** Monday, February 23, 2009 4:24 PM  
**To:** Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (CDC)  
**Subject:** CDC Updates for Clinicians: February 16-23, 2009



February 23, 2009

The following updates were made to CDC information and guidance from **February 16 - 23, 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:**

[Real Simple Syndication \(RSS\)](#)  
[Emerging Infectious Diseases \(EID\)](#)  
[Food Safety](#)  
[Pandemic Influenza](#)  
[Seasonal Influenza](#)  
[Infectious Diseases](#)  
[Travelers' Health](#)

## Real Simple Syndication (RSS)

RSS stands for Really Simple Syndication. It's an easy way for you to keep up with news and information that's important to you, and helps you avoid the conventional methods of browsing or searching for information on websites. Now the content you want can be delivered directly to you without cluttering your inbox with e-mail messages. This content is called a "feed."

- **Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA)**  
Get notified of conference calls and weekly updates on the COCA website.
- **Recent Outbreaks and Incidents**  
Get notified whenever any new items are posted on the Recent Outbreaks and Incidents web page.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/rss/>

More information on RSS Feeds

<http://www2a.cdc.gov/podcasts/rsshelp.asp>

## Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) 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 **March 2009** issue of the EID journal at the following link:

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

## Food Safety

### Search for Peanut Butter Product Recalls - FDA - Updated Daily

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has created and posted an expanded, searchable database that will be updated as new information becomes available:

<http://www.accessdata.fda.gov/scripts/peanutbutterrecall/index.cfm>

- [CDC Investigation Update Homepage](#)
- [FDA Recall Homepage](#)

## Emergency Preparedness

### **Preparedness Resources for Healthcare Facilities - CDC - Feb. 2009**

CDC has created a new webpage that provides all-hazards resources intended for individuals at healthcare facilities tasked with ensuring that their facility is as prepared as possible for an emergency. The healthcare facilities targeted by this page include hospitals, long-term acute and chronic care facilities, outpatient clinics and urgent care facilities, physicians' offices, and pediatric offices and hospitals.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/healthcare/>

## Pandemic Influenza

### **Mental Health Services and Their Role in Pandemic Planning, Response and Recovery Webcast - HHS - Feb. 18, 2009**

Archive of February 18, 2009 Webcast on mental health services and their role in pandemic planning, response and recovery.

[http://pandemicflu.gov/news/panflu\\_webinar10.html](http://pandemicflu.gov/news/panflu_webinar10.html)

## Infectious Diseases

### **Some MRSA Infections in ICU Patients Have Been Decreasing in Recent Years - JAMA - Feb. 18**

In contrast to the perception that methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) bloodstream infections associated with use of a catheter is an increasing problem in intensive care unit (ICU) patients, the incidence of this type of infection decreased by nearly 50 percent from 1997 - 2007, according to a study in the February 18 issue of *JAMA*.

- [Full Text JAMA Article](#)
- [JAMA Press Release](#)
- [JAMA Video News Release](#)
- [CDC MRSA Website](#)

### **Progress Toward Measles Elimination — European Region, 2005–2008 - CDC MMWR - Feb. 20, 2009**

This report summarizes progress toward measles elimination during 2005–2008 and updates a previous report from 2005

[http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5806a3.htm?s\\_cid=mm5806a3\\_e](http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5806a3.htm?s_cid=mm5806a3_e)

## Severe Weather

### **President Declares Major Disaster For Oklahoma - FEMA - Feb. 2008**

The head of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) today announced that federal disaster aid has been made available for the State of Oklahoma to supplement state and local recovery efforts in the area struck by severe storms and tornadoes during the period of February 10-11, 2009.

<http://www.fema.gov/news/newsrelease.fema?id=47483>

## Seasonal Influenza

### **Seasonal Influenza Weekly Report: Influenza Summary Update - CDC - Feb. 20**

During week 6 (February 8-14, 2009), influenza activity continued to increase in the United States.

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

### **Weekly US Map - CDC- Feb. 20**

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

## Travelers' Health

### **Flooding in Fiji Increases the Risk for Infectious Diseases - CDC - Feb. 19, 2009**

Torrential rains in January caused massive flooding throughout low-lying areas of Fiji. Many homes and businesses have been flooded with deep water from overflowing rivers and streams. Because of the floods, thousands of people have been forced from their homes into shelters. Many roads, wells, and public buildings have been destroyed; basic services, including sanitation and health care, have been interrupted. These conditions and standing water left from the floods have put people at risk for insect- and waterborne illnesses.

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

### **Meningococcal Disease and Travel to Africa - CDC - Feb. 20, 2009**

Meningococcal disease (commonly referred to as meningitis or epidemic meningitis) is a serious, sometimes fatal bacterial infection. Meningococcal disease occurs worldwide, but the sub-Saharan African meningitis belt, extending from Mali to Ethiopia, is an area at uniquely high risk for epidemic meningitis. Meningitis epidemics regularly occur in the meningitis belt during the dry season (December through June). Meningitis epidemics are likely to occur in this area in the coming months.

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

---

*The CDC and HHS logos are the exclusive property of the Department of Health and Human Services and may not be used for any purpose without prior express written permission. Use of trade names and commercial sources is for identification only and does not imply endorsement by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.*

*Links to non-Federal organizations are provided solely as a service to our users. Links do not constitute an endorsement of any organization by CDC or the Federal Government, and none should be inferred. The CDC is not responsible for the content of the individual organizations.*

**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](mailto: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](mailto:coca@cdc.gov)*



#### **Communicating With Clinicians**

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

[Download this flyer to find out more](#)



