

Emergency Preparedness: Z CH 26

On-line content (1 H)

Review the information provided on the CDC website: <https://emergency.cdc.gov/health-professionals.asp> and place your answers to the following questions in the Z-CH # 26 drop box by 0800 on April 3, 2023.

COCA- clinical outreach and community activity:

Address what COCA does, who they serve, products and services.

“The Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA) provides timely, accurate, and credible information to clinicians related to emergency preparedness and response and emerging public health threats” (COCA, 2018). COCA also improves national clinician organizations by utilizing information-sharing networks to continuously update their practices.

COCA serves physicians, nurses, physician’s assistants, pharmacists, paramedics, veterinarians, epidemiologists, public health practitioners, and state and local health department officials.

The types of products and services COCA provides to its clinical professionals include conference calls/webinars, COCA newsletters, conference and training opportunities, clinical support via direct email, and continuing education opportunities.

CERC- Crisis emergency risk communication:

What is CERC?

Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication (CERC) is the CDC’s program to provide trainings, tools, and resources to help health communicators, emergency responders, and leaders of organizations communicate effectively during emergencies.

What type of training is available through CERC?

CERC offers a few different training options which include CERC webinars, in-person CERC training and online CERC training.

What is the media’s role in a crisis, disaster, or emergency? (CERC Corner)

The media’s role during a crisis, disaster, or emergency is to get vital information to the people who need it most.

Laboratory Information:

Open Biological Agent Emergencies and read over Ready.gov Bioterrorism under the info for the General Public section. Provide a summary of Bioterrorism including before, during, and after a Biological threat.

Before: Be aware of a pattern of unusual illnesses being reported suddenly and of alerts being sent out on the television or radio. These are possible indicators that a biohazard event has occurred, and you need to be prepared. Ways you can be prepared include having an emergency supply kit, a family emergency plan, being up-to-date with immunizations and having a high-efficiency particulate air filter in your furnace.

During: The common first sign of biohazard exposure is the development of signs/symptoms related to the disease. In order to prevent coming in contact with the biohazard agent and to keep you and your family safe the CDC makes the following recommendations. Individuals need to check the news for accurate updates, quickly remove yourself from the area affected, cover your mouth and nose, if exposed to the agent you need to remove all your clothes and items on your body and dispose of them, wash yourself with soap and water, contact authorities if exposed, record your signs/symptoms, avoid crowds, wash your hands, and do not share food or other items.

After: After you have been possibly exposed to a biohazard agent you need to pay close attention to all official warnings and instructions. This will allow you to know how to properly proceed with cleaning yourself of the agent and what follow on actions you need to do to maintain your health and safety.

Health Alert network (HAN):

What is the purpose?

The CDC's Health Alert Network (HAN) primary purpose is to provide accurate information about urgent public health incidents with public information officers; federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local health practitioners; clinicians; and public health laboratories.

Report on HAN No. 483-Important Updates on COVID-19 Therapeutics for Treatment and Prevention: Provide a summary of the information from this update including recommendations for clinicians and the public?

The CDC's HAN No.483 is a health alert updating clinicians and the public on how to deal with COVID-19. It details how providers need to stay up-to-date with the appropriate treatment methods for the SARS-CoV-2 variants, reviewing patient's renal and hepatic functions and home medications prior to administering their treatment, educating their patients on the importance of early testing especially if they suffer from any sort of immunosuppression diseases, and the importance of starting antiviral treatments within 5 to 7 days for patients who are at higher risk for severe COVID-19. In

addition to these details HAN No. 483 describes how to prevent serious outcomes of COVID-19 through the use of educating patients on preventive measures, administering treatment to those who have already been treated previously, and the importance of administering the updated vaccine to children 6 months and older. As for the public, HAN No. 483 recommends those 50 years and older to get tested as soon as possibly when displaying any symptoms of COVID-19 and for those 65 years and older to take an influenza test due to them being at an increased risk of developing severe influenza. The health alert also highly recommends contacting your health provider after having a positive home COVID-19 test and the importance of staying up to date with your COVID-19 vaccinations. Lastly, the report details how to protect yourself and others by wearing high quality fitted masks, keeping your distance from others, staying home when sick and developing a care plan if you become sick.