

Unit 9: Emergency Preparedness
Z-Chapter 26
ONLINE CONTENT (1 H)

Unit Objectives:

- Identify regulatory initiatives undertaken to prevent and respond to future emergencies, including pandemics. (1,2,7)*
- Discuss the variety of diseases or agents that are likely to be involved in a biologic, chemical, or radiologic terrorism attack in addition to the clinical and community health consequences of each. (2,7)*
- Identify approaches to enhance personal and family preparedness for emergencies. (7)*

*Course Objectives

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 1, 2024.

COCA- clinical outreach and community activity:

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

Provide timely, accurate and credible information to clinicians related to emergency preparedness and response and emerging public health threats. COCA serves a wide range of clinical professionals, including physicians, nurses, physicians assistants, pharmacists, paramedics, veterinarians, epidemiologists, public health practitioners, and state and local health department officials and collaborates with national clinical organizations. Products and services offered by COCA include conference calls/webinars with CDC guidance and recommendations on emerging health threats, clinical support via direct email for questions and feedback, and continuing education opportunities.

CERC- Crisis emergency risk communication:

What is CERC? CERC is the application of evidence-based principles to effectively communicate during emergencies. These principles are used by public health professionals and public information officers to provide information that helps individuals, stakeholders, and entire communities make the best possible decisions for themselves and their loved ones.

What type of training is available through CERC? CERC training can help responders and public health professionals prepare to communicate in an emergency and are based on lessons learned during public health emergencies, evidence-based practices from the fields of risk and crisis communication, and psychology. Training is provided in webinar and in-person formats.

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

The media serves as an emergency broadcast system 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 Biohazard exposure including before: how to prepare, and during an event.

Before, this can be accidentally or intentionally and may not be obvious. You might notice a pattern of illness or a wave of sick people coming to seek emergency medical help. If this were to happen you would be alerted through an emergency radio or TV broadcast, telephone call, or a

home visit from an emergency response worker. To prepare you would want to build an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan, check with your doctor to make sure everyone in your family has up to date immunizations, and consider installing a HEPA filter in your furnace return duct, which will filter out most biological agents that may enter your house. During an event you will want to watch TV, listen to the radio or check the internet for official news and information include S/S of disease, areas in danger, medications or vaccinations being distributed, and where to seek emergency help if you become ill. Get away from an area if you notice a suspicious substance, cover your mouth and nose with a face mask or other clothing that allows you to breath but can filter air. If you have been exposed to an agent then remove and bad your clothes and personal item and follow instructions for disposal of contaminated items. Wash yourself with soap and water and put on clean clothes, contact authorities an dseek medical help or you may be asked to quarantine. Avoid crowds, don't share food or utensils, and wash hands with soap and water frequently.

Health Alert network (HAN):

What is the purpose? To share clear information about urgent public health incidents with public information officers. Provide vital health information and infrastructure to support dissemination at state or local levels.

Report on HAN No. 503-Urgent Need to Increase Immunization Coverage for Influenza, COVID 19, and RSV and Use of Authorized/Approved Therapeutics in the Setting of Increased Respiratory Disease Activity during the 2023-2024 Winter Season. Provide a summary of the information from this update including recommendations for healthcare providers and the public?

The information on the need to increase immunization was that providers that had low immunization records that they needed to administer vaccinations for influenza, COVID-19, and RSV as soon as possible to prevent increase for patients at high risk of progression to more serious diseases. As well as providing patients with education on when to stay home, how to test themselves for certain illnesses, and when to follow up with primary care doctors. This is recommended due to a high increase in the incidence of these diseases as well as the amount of patients that have been admitted increased.

Please be prepared to share and discuss your answers in class.

In order to receive full credit (1 H class time) for this assignment, it must be completed in its entirety by the due date/time assigned. Any assignments not completed in its entirety by the assigned due date and time will result in missed class time.