

**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.

They provide clinicians with information regarding responses to emergencies, preparedness for emergencies, and new health threats. COCA serves physicians, nurses, physicians assistants, pharmacists, paramedics, veterinarians, epidemiologists, public health practitioners, and state and local health department officials. COCA works alongside national clinician organizations to have a wider web of practitioners. The products and services that they provide are conference calls and webinars, clinical support via direct email, and continuing education opportunities.

**CERC- Crisis emergency risk communication:**

What is CERC? Crisis + emergency risk communication.

What type of training is available through CERC? Crisis and emergency risk communication.

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

The media can mass spread information quickly in an emergency providing the population with the correct and vital information is very important to save lives. The media is the best way to get this information out the fastest.

**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 an event there may be no warning signs. Providers may start to notice an increase in illness, turning into a mass event. This would then be broadcast to the public one way or another through the media. To prepare for a biohazard event you and your family should put together an emergency supply kit, emergency family plan, up to date immunizations, and install a HEPA air filter. If you find yourself in an event you should pay attention to the media for what to look out for. Remove yourself from an area of concern. Cover your mouth and nose with layers of fabric to filter the air or wear a mask to prevent the spread of germs. If exposed remove and properly

clean or dispose of clothes. Make sure to wash yourself with soap and water and apply clean clothing. Contact healthcare providers and quarantine if necessary. If symptoms match those in question, seek medical attention. Follow careful instructions of doctors and other public health officials. Avoid crowded areas. Wash hands with soap and water frequently. Do not share food or utensils.

**Health Alert network (HAN):**

What is the purpose? To share information produced by the CDC.

**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?

Due to the number of respiratory illnesses that are going around and the different strains that can produce them the CDC is recommending that providers strongly encourage more people getting vaccinations against influenza, COVID-19, and RSV. It is said that hospitalizations have increased in the past 4 weeks for these illnesses. 12 deaths alone in children were caused by influenza this season. People reported that they did not receive vaccinations for these reasons: provider did not mention / recommend, unknown side effects, occurrence of mild side effects, lack of time or just forgetting to get vaccinated. Healthcare providers are recommended to strongly recommend, send reminder messages, give accurate and up-to-date information, use motivational interviewing, provide facts, and inform families that even though they are healthy does not mean they can't get sick. Providers should also administer vaccines to any of the recommended classes. The public should talk to their providers about vaccinations, any symptoms you have developed, and any prevention measures. Websites can be used for information regarding vaccinations for the uninsured, underinsured, pregnant, and older adults.

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.***