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 or 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.
The COCA gives information on the latest health threats and public health emergencies related to disease outbreaks, terrorism events, and other health alerts.

CERC- Crisis emergency risk communication:
What is CERC? CERC draws lessons from past public health emergencies and research in the fields of public health, psychology, and emergency risk communication. This provides training and resources to communicate effectively during emergencies.
What type of training is available through CERC? They offer webinars regarding crisis and emergency risk communication to offer training on effective communication during emergencies. In-person CERC training covers three core modules and two additional modules selected by the sponsor. CERC online training offers continuing education.
What is the media's role in a crisis, disaster, or emergency? (CERC Corner)

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.
Biohazards may not be immediately obvious and are usually reported through an emergency radio or TV broadcast after a pattern of unusual illness. To prepare for an event, make an emergency supply kit (water, food, battery powered radio, flashlight), stay up to date on immunizations, and install HEPA filters in the furnace which can aid in filtering biological agents. During an event, watch programs to check for the s/s of the disease, areas in danger, if medications are being distributed, and where to seek medical attention if ill. If a suspicious substance is noticed, quickly get away from the area and cover the mouth and nose with layers of fabric to filter the air. If exposed to biological agents, remove personal items, and follow official disposal for contaminated items. Wash with soap and water and put on clean clothes. Contact authorities and seek medical assistance, quarantine if advised.

Health Alert network (HAN):
What is the purpose? It is the CDC's primary method of sharing information about urgent public health incidents with public officers.
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 CDC is issuing a health advisory due to the low vaccination rates against influenza, COVID-19, and RSV. Low vaccination rates and the current increase in respiratory disease activity could lead to more severe diseases. This can cause increased healthcare capacity strain in the upcoming weeks. A recent increase in cases of a multisystem inflammatory syndrome in children following SARS-CoV-2 infection has also been reported. Healthcare workers are being advised to administer immunizations to patients and recommend antiviral medications for influenza and COVID-19. This is important for patients that are high risk due to the progression to severe disease such as 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.