

**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.

- **The COCA provides timely, accurate, and credible information for clinicians related to emergency preparedness and response to emerging public health threats. They serve a wide range of professionals. Physicians, nurses, PA, pharmacists, paramedics, veterinarians, etc. Products and services include conference calls/webinars, clinical support via email, and continuing education.**

**CERC- Crisis emergency risk communication:**

What is CERC? – **crisis and emergency risk communication. Provides lessons learned during past public health emergencies and research in public health, psychology, and emergency risk communication.**

What type of training is available through CERC?- **Offers training 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.

- **Toxins that can kill or disable people, livestock, and crops. Agents consist of bacteria, viruses, and toxins.**
- **Before: accidental or intentional may not be obvious at first. May feel unusual illness or possible wave of sick individuals seeking medical attention.**
- **Prepare: Build an emergency supply kit, family emergency plan, up-to-date vaccinations, HEPA filter in your furnace.**
- **During event: watch TV, avoid crowds, wash hands frequently, do not share utensils, cover mouth and nose with mask**

### **Health Alert network (HAN):**

What is the purpose?

- **The purpose is to collaborate with federal, state, territorial, tribal, and city. County partners to develop rapid destruction health information. This is the primary method of sharing cleared information about urgent public health incidents.**

**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 report was made to alert healthcare providers and the public about the low vaccination rates regarding flu, COVID, and RSV. Since the previous year the rates of vaccinations have gone down and continue to drop over all age groups. The report talked about different reasons for the low vaccination rates such as lack of provider recommendation, concerns about unknown or serious side effects, and forgetfulness. The recommendation for healthcare providers is to leverage all available tools to increase immunizations. They provided a quick guide to having a conversation between providers and patients. This included educating the patient, sending reminders, and discussing the facts. As for the public they recommend patients speak with their healthcare providers about immunizations, ways of prevention such as covering cough, sneezes, strict hand hygiene, and staying home when sick. Using available resources to find locations that provide vaccinations.**

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.***