

Unit 9: Emergency Preparedness
Z-Chapter 26
ONLINE 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 1, 2024.

COCA- clinical outreach and community activity:

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

- COCA provides emergency preparedness information to healthcare clinicians, and response to public health threats. They spread evidence based information, collaborate with clinicians to develop communication that support risk reduction, and provide emergency preparedness and response training. They serve healthcare workers including physicians, nurses, physician's assistants, pharmacists, paramedics, veterinarians, epidemiologists, public health practitioners, and state and local health department officials. Their products and services include conference calls and webinars, clinical support via email, and continuing education opportunities.

CERC- Crisis emergency risk communication:

What is CERC?

- CERC stands for crisis and emergency risk communication. They use lessons learned during past public health emergencies to provide training and tools to improve outcomes for future emergencies.

What type of training is available through CERC?

- Training available through CERC includes webinars, in person CERC training, and online training.

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

- The media can assist in pre-disaster education, improving knowledge and response in the community. They can also be used as tool for warning people of impending threats, as well as a resource for victims to know what to do once an attack has occurred. Lastly, they can activate the local disaster response, and disseminate news regarding events to garner attention and assistance outside of the affected geographical zone.

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: be aware of potential bioterrorism threats, healthcare workers will report unusual patterns of illness, alerts through TV, radio, phone call or visit from emergency response workers.
- To prepare: build an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan, make sure everyone has up to date immunizations, install HEPA filter in your furnace which will filter out most biological agents that may enter your house.
- During: stay informed (TV, radio, news) for signs and symptoms of the disease, areas in danger, medications and vaccines that are being distributed and where to find medical care if you become ill. Quickly evacuate from the area if anything suspicious occurs, cover your nose and mouth/wear a face mask, remove your clothes and personal items if

you have been exposed, wash with soap and water and put on fresh clothes, contact EMS and seek treatment, follow doctors' orders, avoid crowds, wash your hands frequently and do not share food or utensils.

Health Alert network (HAN):

What is the purpose?

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?

- Low vaccination rates combined with rise in respiratory disease could lead to an increase in severe disease and transmission rates. It is recommended that healthcare workers administer flu, covid, and RSV vaccines to patients. Antiviral medications should be used for all eligible patients, especially for patients at high risk of severe illness progression, such as the elderly and immunocompromised.

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.