

**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:**

1. Address what COCA does, who they serve, products and services.  
COCA prepares clinicians to respond to emerging health threats and public health emergencies by communicating relevant, timely information related to disease outbreaks, disasters, terrorism events, and other health alerts.

**CERC- Crisis emergency risk communication:**

1. What is CERC?  
Crisis and emergency risk communication provides trainings, tools, and resources to help health communicators, emergency responders, and leaders of organizations communicate effectively during emergencies.
2. What type of training is available through CERC?  
They offer in person or online training to educate and prepare you on how to communicate in an emergency.
3. 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.

1. Provide a summary of Biohazard exposure including before: how to prepare, and during an event.  
There may be an event that you attend where you are accidentally or intentionally exposed to biohazards and it may not be obvious. There may be alerts broadcasted over the media from an increase of an unusual illness. To prepare, have an emergency supply kit, make an emergency family plan, keep your immunizations up-to-date, and installing a HEPA filter in your furnace duct. During an event you want to gain information from the news, radio, or internet. Leave the area if you notice a substance, cover mouth and nose with fabric, wear face masks, wash your body and clothes, avoid crowds, and wash hands frequently.

**Health Alert network (HAN):**

1. What is the purpose?  
The CDC's primary method of sharing cleared information about urgent public health incidents with public information officers; federal, state, territorial, tribal, and local public health practitioners; clinicians; and public health laboratories.

**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.**

1. Provide a summary of the information from this update including recommendations for healthcare providers and the public?

Low vaccination rates paired with an increase in national and international respiratory disease activity could lead to more severe diseases and increased healthcare capacity. Healthcare providers should administer influenza, COVID-19, and RSV immunizations now to patients, if recommended. Healthcare providers should recommend antiviral medications for influenza and COVID-19 for all eligible patients, especially patients at high-risk of progression to severe disease such as older adults and people with certain underlying medical conditions. Providers should counsel patients about getting tested and taking preventative measures to protect themselves and others.