

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. COCA helps professionals prepare and respond to health threats and public health emergencies (disease outbreaks, disasters, terrorism events, etc.). They disseminate EB health information and emergency messages to clinicians, collaborate to develop communication strategies during emergencies for health risk opportunities, promote and provide training for clinicians for emergency preparedness and response. The professionals they provide this information to is doctors, nurses, health department employees, vets, fire and ems for all local, state, and federal capacities. They utilize conferences calls, webinars, emails, support, and continuing education.

CERC- Crisis emergency risk communication:

What is CERC? This is crisis and emergency risk communication

What type of training is available through CERC? They provide in person, webinars, and online trainings, manuals and tools like PDF and wallet cards.

What is the media's role in a crisis, disaster, or emergency? (CERC Corner) the goal is to get reliable and updated information first and to the most amount of people during an emergency. They draw attention to what is going on in real time.

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. Biological agents can intentionally or accidentally hurt or injure animals of all species and they can be viruses, bacteria, or toxins. Most of the time a person may not know they have been infected right away. If multiple people get sick or injured public health officials will monitor and trend patterns. They will then alert the public via the media. They suggest being prepared for this type of incident by building an emergency kit, make an emergency plan (usually a family emergency plan), verify all is up to date with vaccines, and keep and replace frequently a HEPA filter in your furnace. During the emergency public health officials will try to figure out what is actually going on and get a plan together to treat and/or fix

the problem. Keeping up with media outlets for official news and information is very important. Evacuating from the problem may be needed, protecting yourself via mask or fabric for filtering. Decontaminate yourself and belongings (washing and clean clothes), seek emergency care if signs and symptoms and follow recommendations from providers. Not sharing food or utensils, good hand hygiene, and avoiding crowds are a great suggestion from the CDC.

Health Alert network (HAN):

What is the purpose? It is a network that shares information with the public about urgent health incidents (federal, state, and local). The messaging system transmits health alerts, updates, information, and advisories to the public both directly and indirectly.

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? This article discusses the decrease in vaccine statuses of people from last year to this year. It also discusses the likely increase of cases of influenza, covid, and rsv. It recommends to clinical providers to encourage and discuss the patient vaccine status and ways to prevent spreading of the illnesses and the vaccines to lessen the effects of the illnesses. It given ideas to the providers to what to say to the patients to increase the instances of the patient getting the vaccines. It also gives recommendation to the public and health departments in support of the vaccines and decreasing the spread of illnesses.

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.