

**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 prepares clinicians to respond to emerging health threats and public health emergencies. COCA serves physicians, nurses, physician assistants, pharmacists, paramedics, veterinarians, epidemiologist, and state/local health department officials. Their products and services include conference calls/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, it draws from lessons learned during past public health emergencies to best serve the public now.

**What type of training is available through CERC?** There are webinars, in person training, and online training available.

**What is the media's role in a crisis, disaster, or emergency? (CERC Corner)** The media's role helps reach people where they are, build relationships with the public, and help disseminate info 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.** To prepare for a biological agent emergency you will want to build an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan, check with your primary doctor to make sure all vaccines are up to date, and install a HEPA filter inside your home to try and filter the air to the best possible. During a biological agent emergency you will want to watch TV/listen to the radio for info, evacuate the area if you notice an unknown substance, cover your mouth with fabric that you are still able to breathe through to help filter, avoid crowds, and if you have been in contact you need to contact authorities and seek medical treatment.

**Health Alert network (HAN):**

**What is the purpose?** The purpose is to be the primary method of sharing cleared information about urgent public health incidents with public health 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?** Influenza, Covid-19, and RSV are spreading rapidly and to get it under control the CDC is recommending all health care providers to encourage the vaccines for these 3 respiratory infections. Providers especially want to encourage infants, older adults, pregnant women, and immunocompromised to get vaccinated for prevention. Health care providers should strongly recommend these vaccines to help decrease the prevalence of all three of these respiratory infections.

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.***