



# COCA Update

Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA)  
CDC Emergency Communication System

October 11, 2011

**COCA Updates** are disseminated biweekly. More frequent distributions occur when there is emergency information or CDC event-specific updates to share. The next COCA Update is scheduled for **October 24**.

This issue contains information from September 26-October 11, and guidance documents relevant to current public health events.

For questions about these or other clinical issues, please write to us at [coca@cdc.gov](mailto:coca@cdc.gov).

## Additional Resources

[CDC Emergency on Twitter](#)

[CDC Health Partners Outreach on Facebook](#)

[COCA Home Page](#)

## Topics and Highlights

[COCA News & Announcements](#)

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[Emerging Infectious Diseases \(EID\)](#) *Global spread of carbapenemase-producing Enterobacteriaceae*

[Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report \(MMWR\)](#)

[Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Disease](#) *Chagas disease link; Legionellosis resource site*

[Travel Safety](#) *Polio outbreak in China*

[Food, Drug & Device Safety](#) *Salmonella and Listeria outbreak updates*

## COCA News and Announcements

### COCA Calls/Webinars Available Online – CE Credit Available

Archived COCA Conference Calls are available on the COCA Web site. Free CE credit/contact hours (CME, CNE, ACPE, CEU, and CECH) are available for most COCA calls.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/callinfo.asp>

## CDC News and Announcements

### CDC Zombie Apocalypse Campaign Sparks Conversation – October 5

Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response director Ali Kahn, MD, MPH converses with author and zombie expert Max Brooks about the popularity of zombies and their use as a conduit for all-hazards preparedness.

<http://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/2011/10/q-a-with-max-brooks/>

### CDC Science Clips – October 4

This series features top scientific articles, selected on the basis of potential for population impact and practical implementation. <http://www.cdc.gov/phlic/sciclips/issues/>

Preparedness and response highlights in this issue include:

#### Immunity and Immunization

- Increases in vaccination coverage of healthcare personnel following institutional requirements for influenza vaccination: a national survey of US hospitals

- Development of DENVax: A chimeric dengue-2 PDK-53-based tetravalent vaccine for protection against dengue fever

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## Public Health Preparedness

### **National Strategic Plan for Public Health Preparedness and Response – October 3 (CDC)**

Led by Dr. Ali S. Khan and the Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response, preparedness leaders internal and external to CDC have collaboratively developed the plan. The plan is a guide for CDC, the entire public health system, and its stakeholders to secure the health of the nation and attain the plan's collective 2020 vision of "people's health protected – public health secured."

[http://www.cdc.gov/phpr/publications/A\\_Natl\\_Strategic\\_Plan\\_for\\_Preparedness.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/phpr/publications/A_Natl_Strategic_Plan_for_Preparedness.htm)

### **Emergency Preparedness and Response (CDC)**

Find resources for All Hazards and Specific Hazards preparedness.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/hazards-all.asp>

### **Emergency Preparedness and Response Training Resources Page for Clinicians (CDC)**

Find online and in-person training centers and resources at

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/trainingresources.asp>

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## Natural Disasters and Severe Weather

### **Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Urges Heightened Preparedness Against Variant Avian Influenza Strain**

FAO recently urged heightened readiness and surveillance against a possible major resurgence of the H5N1 Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza amid signs that a mutant strain of the deadly Bird Flu virus is spreading in Asia and beyond, with unpredictable risks to human health.

<http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/87196/icode/>

### **Changing Climate and Public Health (CDC)**

The changing climate endangers human health, affecting all parts of society. Scientists and public health experts are studying how quickly and how much the climate is changing, and ways in which humans can adapt to these changes.

<http://www.cdc.gov/features/ChangingClimate/>

### **Natural Disasters and Severe Weather (CDC)**

This page links to resources for various hazards, and includes information for various groups for preparation, response, and recovery.

<http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/>

### **American Red Cross Shelter and Messaging Service (ARC)**

Users of this site can find information about shelters, search the registry for missing persons, or post their own condition and location to reconnect with family.

<http://www.redcross.org/portal/site/en/menuitem.53fabf6cc033f17a2b1ecbf43181aa0/>

### **Coping with Traumatic Events (SAMHSA)**

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) provides perspectives on emotional and mental strain that traumatic events such as powerful storms and floods can have.

<http://www.samhsa.gov/MentalHealth/TraumaticEvent.aspx>

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## **Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID)**

*EID* is prepared by the CDC. [Vol 17, Number 10 – October 2011](#)

- [Global Spread of Carbapenemase-producing \*Enterobacteriaceae\*](#)
- Expedited: [Influenza B Viruses with Mutation in the Neuraminidase Active Site, North Carolina, USA, 2010-11](#)
- Expedited: [Cholera in United States Associated with Epidemic in Hispaniola](#)

## **Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)**

*MMWR weekly reports and publications* are prepared by the CDC. To electronically subscribe, go to <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/mmwrsubscribe.html>.

[2011 Online Issues](#)

**October 7, 2011 / Vol. 60 / No. 39** [Download .pdf of this Issue](#)

- [Multistate Outbreak of Listeriosis Associated with Jensen Farms Cantaloupe --- United States, August--September 2011](#)
- [Public Health Then and Now: Celebrating 50 Years of \*MMWR\* at CDC](#)
- [Notifiable Diseases and Mortality Tables](#)

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- [The Community Preventive Services Task Force: Celebrating 15 Years of Scientific Excellence](#)
- [Notifiable Diseases and Mortality Tables](#)

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## **Infectious, Vector-Borne and Zoonotic Diseases**

**Weekly Flu View – October 7 (CDC)**

During week 37, 6.0% of all deaths reported through the 122-Cities Mortality Reporting System were due to pneumonia and influenza. This percentage was below the epidemic threshold of 6.4% for week 37.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

### **Seasonal Flu: International Situation Update – September 30 (CDC)**

This report is a summary of key influenza-related updates created from regional World Health Organization (WHO) reports, country reports, CDC field staff updates, and other sources. Updates are listed by region.

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/international/activity.htm>

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## **Travel Safety**

### **Current Travel Warnings – October 4 (US Department of State)**

Currently, travel warnings are in effect for 33 countries. Warnings are issued when long-term, protracted conditions that make a country dangerous or unstable lead the State Department to recommend that Americans avoid or consider the risk of travel to that country, or when the U.S. Government's ability to assist American citizens is constrained due to the closure of an embassy or consulate or because of a drawdown of its staff.

[http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/tw/tw\\_1764.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html)

### **Healthy Travel with Kids** September 26

Parents traveling overseas with children should know health risks and how to avoid them.

<http://www.cdc.gov/Features/TravelWithKids/>

## **Food, Drug and Device Safety**

### **Investigation Update: Multistate Outbreak of Listeriosis Linked to Whole Cantaloupes from Jensen Farms, CO – October 7 (CDC)**

CDC is collaborating with public health officials in several states, including Colorado, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to investigate a multistate outbreak of listeriosis.

<http://www.cdc.gov/listeria/outbreaks/index.html>

### **CDC Listeriosis Page**

CDC's Division of Foodborne, Waterborne and Environmental Diseases in the National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases provides outbreak updates, Listeria Initiative news, and describes people at risk for complications and death.

<http://www.cdc.gov/listeria/>

### **US Food and Drug Administration (FDA)**

- FDA Foodborne Illness Outbreak Response Network – October 7  
[Consumer Safety Information on the Recalled Whole Cantaloupes by Jensen Farms](#)
- Coordinated Outbreak Response & Evaluation (CORE) Network

<http://www.fda.gov/Food/FoodSafety/CORENetwork/default.htm>

**FoodSafety.gov Reports FDA and USDA Food Recalls, Alerts, Reporting & Resources – October 6 (HHS/USDA/FDA/CDC/NIH)**

For recalls and alerts by both FDA and USDA, or to report a problem or make inquiries, visit FoodSafety.gov. <http://www.foodsafety.gov/index.html>

**Investigation Update: Multistate Outbreak of Human *Salmonella* Heidelberg Infections Linked to Ground Turkey – September 29 (CDC)**

As of September 29, 129 persons infected with the outbreak strain of *Salmonella* Heidelberg have been reported from 34 states.

<http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/heidelberg/index.html>

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The Emergency Risk Communication Branch (ERCB) Health Partners Outreach Team works to enhance partners' knowledge of emerging threats and their effects on human populations, and to provide relevant, timely information to help manage these threats by developing and maintaining mechanisms for communication. This is a product of the Health Partners Outreach Team's Clinician Communication Section (CCS) which is responsible for the management of all COCA products.

For information on this and other clinical issues or to send your feedback please contact CCS at [coca@cdc.gov](mailto:coca@cdc.gov)

The Health Partners Outreach Team offers a variety of free tools and resources to help you enhance your knowledge of emergency preparedness and response:

[CDC Health Partners Outreach Facebook page](#) – real time updates, guidance, and situational awareness for public health partners on Facebook.

[Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity](#) – resources for Healthcare providers.

[Subscribe the COCA RSS Feed](#) – get notified of conference calls, updates, and CDC guidance for health providers.

[COCA Update Back Issues and Archive](#) – Find previously published resources.

[Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication \(CERC\) Training](#) – course on the fundamentals of CDC's Crisis & Emergency Risk Communication.

[Selective National Assessment Profiles \(SNAPS\)](#) – snapshots of state population data and local-level community profile information.

[Risk Communicator](#) – quarterly online newsletter providing guidance for emergency risk communication strategy.



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