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Communications

Severe National Blood Shortage

Source American Red Cross: The U.S. is experiencing a severe nationwide blood shortage and blood donations are urgently needed. The demand for blood is high due to an increase in trauma cases, elective surgeries, organ transplants, and visits by patients who previously deferred care due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

AABB, America's Blood Centers (ABC), and the American Red Cross released a joint statement that urged eligible, healthy individuals to make an appointment to donate blood now and throughout the summer. Additionally, the American Hospital Association released a Member Advisory that provides members with tools and resources to navigate current blood supply shortage.

To be noted there is also an emergency need for platelets, the clotting portion of blood, which must be transfused within five days of donation.

Pediatric Lessons Learned from COVID-19

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Technical Resources, Assistance Center and Information Exchange (TRACIE), in collaboration with the Western Regional Alliance for Pediatric Emergency Management (WRAP-EM) presented a speaker series focused on pediatric-specific lessons learned during the COVID-19 pandemic. The video links and further information can be found by following the link

World Mosquito Day

Source CDC: Did you know there was a World Mosquito Day? Did you know the mosquito is considered one of the deadliest animals in the world? In 2019, 409,000 people died from malaria and millions more become ill each year. To learn more about mosquito bites and the diseases they carry and ways to protect yourself and family please follow the link

Emergency Operations Planning

Floodwater after a disaster or emergency

Source: CDC: Several areas in the United States are experiencing severe flooding after recent storms. Floodwater and standing waters can be dangerous and make communities vulnerable to infectious diseases, chemical hazards, and injuries. The CDC offers information on the health risks of standing water and provides tips on how to keep safe. For more information please follow the link.

Healthcare water system repair and recovery….

Source CDC: Healthcare facilities should develop an Emergency Water Supply Plan to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a total or partial interruption of the facilities' normal water supply. Water supply interruption can be caused by several types of events such as a natural disaster, a failure of the community water system, construction damage or even an act of terrorism. Because water supplies can and do fail, it is imperative to understand and address how patient safety, quality of care, and the operations of your facility will be impacted. The CDC website offers guidance for different types of facilities to prepare for water supply interruptions. Additionally, HHS, CDC, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have an Emergency Water Supply Planning Guide for Hospitals and Healthcare Facilities to help facilities create or update their Emergency Water Supply Plans.

Training and Exercise

Medical Management of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) Events.

Due to the surge in COVID-19 cases CHKD has moved this class to March 23-24 2022. We will send out updated information when the signup reopens.

Va Department of Health Lunch and Learn
Source VDH: Safe injection practices and blood glucose monitoring. Wednesday, September 29th, 2021 from 12:00 – 1:00. Registration link: link

EVHC Quarterly Tabletop Series
This is a series of tabletop exercises designed to test different parts of the emergency response plan. You have the option of signing up for one or more of the exercises. Once we have members signed up we will poll the participants to determine what will be tested. Please follow the link below to sign up. Any questions please contact Mary at mmorton@vaems.org

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DA8A72DA7F4C52-quarterly

First Aid for Severe Trauma (FAST) course now available
Source Homeland Security: The FAST^{TM} education program will help students handle life-threating bleeding emergencies. Homeland Security worked with the Uniformed Services University's National Center for Disaster Medicine and Public Health and the American Red Cross to develop this program that is free to high school students. Please follow the link for more information.

Intermediate Incident Command System (ICS 300) training available in blended, virtual format

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) recently announced a new delivery format for its ICS 300 training. Up until now, EMI has offered ICS 300 training only as a fully instructor-led, 3-day (21 hour) course requiring on-site attendance at a local training facility or in residence at EMI. However, it is now available in a blended, asynchronous format and can be attended virtually.

ICS 300, entitled "Intermediate Incident Command System for Expanding Incidents," is part of FEMA's National Incident Management System (NIMS) core curriculum in its NIMS training program. It is intended for individuals who need training on advanced application of the incident command system. Typically, these individuals are those who would be designated as Incident Command System (ICS) or emergency operations center (EOC) leaders or supervisors for large or complex incidents that extend beyond a single operational period and generate an Incident Action Plan (IAP). This course builds upon information covered in the ICS 100, 200, 700 and 800 courses.

The District of Columbia Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (DC HSEMA) developed this blended asynchronous version of ICS 300, and EMI has validated the

course as meeting all requirements in the Program of Instruction. You can view EMI's ICS 300 course description and objectives via its online training catalog.

This virtual course uses self-paced online trainings and assignments (approximately 14 hours) and a single "live" session of virtual instructor-led training (VILT) that focuses on group discussion and activities (approximately 7 hours). This delivery method requires jurisdictions to establish several technical and administrative processes to make the course functional. Implementing agencies should determine how to deliver and manage the course in this new format.

State, local, tribal and territorial training points of contact and federal training partners can access these course materials through EMI's Field Delivery Course website. If you are a State Training Officer and need information or access to the Field Delivery Course web site, please contact FEMA-G-Courses@fema.dhs.gov. For all other inquiries, please go to EMI's State Training Officer Contact List.

Cyber Security

FBI releases indicators of compromise associated with OnePercent Group Ransomware.
Source: FBI: The FBI released a "flash report" detailing indicators of compromise (IOCs) associated with ransomware attacks by the OnePercent Group, a cyber-criminal organization known since November 2020 for using Cobalt Strike in phishing attacks against U.S. companies. Please see link for more information.

CISA releases Public Safety Communications Cyber Resiliency Toolkit.
Source CISA. The ability to maintain voice and data communications is critical for public safety agencies. "Communications resilience is always a priority. By establishing resiliency measures, public safety communications can better withstand potential disruptions to service. Please follow link for more information.