

The Region 3 News Update

We're here to help you prepare for those really bad days

Region 3 Healthcare Preparedness Network
1600 N. Michigan Ave.
Saginaw, MI 48620

Visit us on the web at www.region3hpn.org

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WHO PanFlu Alert
Level

1-3 (few human infections)

U.S. Terrorism Threat Level

Yellow

Threat Level for Domestic
and International Flights:

Orange

JAN. 7, 2011 The Region 3 News Update is now available on both the Regional Website and MIHAN

Report of Results of First New Format Region 3 Monthly 800 MHz Radio Drill

While the monthly radio drills in Region 3 have been routinely 100% successful for the previous 2 years, the Board recognized that the drill procedure needed to be changed to better test the capabilities of our partners. This challenge was presented to the Communications and Technology Workgroup who developed new drill protocols that were approved by the Board at their Dec. 20th meeting. The first phase of this new protocol was begun with the new year.

The monthly Region 3 radio drill was held this week for all hospitals, MCA's, Public Health Agencies and other key partners in the region for the month of January, 2011.

Procedure:

Prior notice of the drill (with new format) was provided to all key agencies in the Region via email on the morning of the drill. A MIHAN alert followed within the hour.

The drill was started on January 3, 2011 at 9:30 AM with a MIHAN high level alert. Users were instructed to initiate radio contact with the Region 3 Healthcare Preparedness Network by Thursday, January 6, 2011, using talk group CHREG3.

Results:

As outlined in the instructions, the drill was begun at 9:30 AM on January 3, 2011, and concluded with 100% response at 1:40 PM on January 5, 2011 with the following results.

Hospitals listed (includes Tribal Wellness Center): 23
Hospitals responding: 23
Percentage: 100%
(Unchanged from previous test)

MCA's listed: 11
MCA's responding: 11
Percentage: 100%
(Unchanged from previous test)

Health Dept. listed: 10
Health Dept. responding: 10
Percentage: 100%
(Unchanged from previous test)

Other personnel listed: (includes EMHSD Dist Coordinator, Regional Coordinator, Asst. Coordinator, Reg. Assistant, Medical Director & Regional Lab) 5
Other personnel responding: 5
Percentage: 100%
(Unchanged from previous test)

Overall Percentage of agencies contacted: 100% (UNCHANGED from 100% for the previous tests) and using the new Region 3 radio drill format.

Follow up Plan:

In that all agencies completed the drill in the allocated time, no follow up actions were needed.

The plan is to continue to use this new procedure until the currently planned 800 MHz training courses are completed for new partner personnel. After then, the drills will become

more complicated with agencies being expected to respond on multiple talkgroups.

THANK YOU to all of our partners for your work to make this new drill format a success. This is now **26** months in a row that we have reached the 100% completion mark on these monthly drills, even with the change in format.

Remember to register for the MI VOLUNTEER REGISTRY - it's a great way to help your neighbors, our community and the State! For more information, go to: www.mivolunteerregistry.org

Cooperative Reimbursement Program Continues For All Hospitals And Medical Control Authorities In Region 3

All of the hospitals and MCA's returned their signed acceptance letters for the current Cooperative Agreement before the required deadline.

Now, they will have until March 15th to complete their plans to use these funds and to submit their Justification forms to the Regional Office for review. Once reviewed and approved, the agencies will be informed that they may proceed with their purchases.

This being a reimbursement program, the agencies will have to pay for the equipment and/or supplies and then submit copies of the paid invoices to the Region for reimbursement. If an agency requires any modification of this process due to budgetary issues, we will be more than happy to work with them.

Remember that the deadline for submission of all invoices is March 15th. After that date, we will not be able to process any further reimbursement requests.

Contact Jim in the Regional Office with ANY questions.

Fundamental Disaster Management Courses Return To Covenant Healthcare

Following a co-sponsorship of the first-in-Michigan Fundamentals course, Covenant Healthcare is once again taking the lead in co-sponsoring two additional courses this fiscal year. The first will be held on Friday, February 25th at the Cooper Lecture Theater and the next is scheduled for June 3rd, also at the Cooper Lecture Theater.

This one-day course, developed by the Society of Critical Care Medicine, offers intensive, hands-on training and course work for healthcare professionals who work as first receiver-intensivists for adult and pediatric patients, following natural or intentional mass disasters.

The course covers the types of disasters that would likely result in an expanded need for critical care services which will likely have to be provided outside a typical critical care setting. From nuclear detonation to multiple shooting victims to mass chemical release, this course covers the algorithms and pathways to critical care response during mass disasters. You will learn guiding principles for triage and allocation of scarce resources during a disaster, as well as the proper use of appropriate personal protective equipment and environmental controls required while caring for critically ill victims.

An additional component of this course includes the importance of working within an Incident Command System to effectively accomplish medical mass disaster response. Finally, knowing what staffing, supplies, and equipment would be required, and the resources available to you will help prepare you to respond appropriately to specific disaster types.

Registration for each course is limited to 40 participants and includes a training manual, all course materials, CME credits, and food and beverages for the day. Costs for this course are covered by Covenant Healthcare and Region 3 Healthcare Preparedness Network through a grant from the Michigan Department of Community Health, with funding from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services,

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness, Hospital Preparedness Program. Registration for the February class can be made via the Region 3 website at www.region3hpn.org. Registration for the June class will be available in early March. Questions about this course should be directed to Kathe Martin at 989-758-3769.

All MCA's Complete Quarterly Tests of EMS 800 MHz Radios

It has for many years been a requirement of all Medical Control Authorities in our 14 counties to submit quarterly reports on testing of the 800 MHz radios provided by Region 3 to each Advanced Life Support (ALS), Basic Life Support (BLS) and Medical First Responder (MFR) vehicles.

The most recent quarterly test reports were due by the end of December, 2010 and all reported normal operations of all radios.

Thanks to our MCA/EMS partners for completing and submitting this report. The next quarterly report is due to the Regional Office by the end of March, 2011.

Interim Report on Survey Results of Region 3 Hospital's Situational Awareness Status and Concerns

In light of the multiple incidents of suspicious calls and contacts to hospitals in Region 3, the Planning Board requested that the staff conduct a survey of all of the hospitals in our 14 counties as to their understanding of the events and their situational awareness status.

On January 3rd, we sent the survey link to all the hospitals and as of this morning we have already received responses from all but 2 of our hospital partners.

The following is a review of selected questions from the current responses.

1. Are you aware of the recent suspicious phone calls and visits to hospitals within both our Region and the State?
 - a. Yes: 100%
2. Has the information and notifications by the Region 3 office (i.e.: 7 Signs of Terrorism DVD, email notices, Region 3 News Update, etc) been helpful in assisting your hospital to become more situationally aware given the various suspicious contacts?
 - a. Yes: 100%
3. Has your hospital had any phone calls or visits that you and/or your staff believe are suspicious?
 - a. Yes: 38.1%
 - b. No: 61.9%
4. Has any of your affiliated physician offices or other offices/clinics had any suspicious contacts?
 - a. Yes: 14.3%
 - b. No: 57.1%
 - c. Don't Know: 28.6%
5. Do you believe that your staff, including Security staff could use additional training in situational awareness?
 - a. Yes, all staff: 57.1%
 - b. Yes, Security only: 23.8%
 - c. No: 9.5%
 - d. Not Sure: 19.0%
6. Has your hospital added or reviewed your policies as a result of heightened awareness of suspicious activities? If yes, would you please share those policies with our office so that we may use them to develop sample templates for other hospitals?
 - a. Yes: 28.6%
 - b. No: 52.4%
 - c. No specific policy: 19.0%

Hospitals also had the opportunity to provide comments and suggestions. Those will be compiled into the final report to be provided to the Board at their January 24th meeting.

MCA's and EMS!
Remember to go to:
<http://www.saginawvalleyems.org/cqi/zimekwebcal.pl>
to review the protocol and to schedule the ZIMEK machine.
This Regional asset is available to you for disinfection of your ambulances and other response vehicles.

Upcoming Training Courses and Conferences:

800 MHz Training

2/4/11: at Midland
2/18/11: at West Branch
3/4/11: at Cass City

These courses are limited to 30 participants each. To register, go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2HXPXJ9>

2/8/11: MIHAN and EMResource User Training in Bay City.

To register, go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/839DF3P>

2/25/11: Fundamentals in Disaster Management - at Covenant Healthcare in Saginaw.

This is a provider and Train the Trainer Course limited to 40 participants.

To register, go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/JJJ3XVP>

6/3/11: Fundamentals in Disaster Management - at Covenant Healthcare in Saginaw.

This is a provider and Train the Trainer Course limited to 40 participants.

To register, go to:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/MYCC96S>

SAVE THE DATES!

More Information to follow.

May 3-5, 2011:

Spring Homeland Security Conference in Grand Rapids

May 19, 2011:

Region 3 Cornerstones in Preparedness Conference in Saginaw

Partnership Development Progress Making Significant Gains This Year

Region 3 has experienced a surge in interest from many new long term care agency partners throughout the region. Efforts of our Partnership Development Contractor, Cari Hillman, along with the Advisory Committee's inter-agency workgroup, have resulted in a **400% increase** (that's right, 400%) in participation by new LTC agencies.

Long term care agencies are quickly realizing the benefits that come from partnering with Region 3 HPN. Laptop computers, emergency planning templates and check-lists, training for MIHAN and EMResource users, and help with planning, exercises, and drills are just a few of the things our newest partners are tapping in to. Our purpose here at Region 3 is to help healthcare facilities in our 14 county region increase and enhance their ability to quickly respond in the event of a natural or man-made disaster.

We understand that facilities are frequently challenged with staffing and budget restraints, meeting the requirements of changing state guidelines, and providing the highest quality of care possible to their residents. Focus on emergency preparedness is not generally at the top of your "to do" list.

Region 3 HPN is committed to helping all healthcare facilities in our region make preparedness planning a priority. The state is also focusing attention on enhanced preparedness by long term care, home health, dialysis centers, and clinics.

Being able to respond to MIHAN alerts, report bed status, and access critical information during mass emergencies is one of the many ways you can enhance your facility's preparedness. We've scheduled a training to help MIHAN and EMResource users navigate the sites and become comfortable using these systems. The training is Tuesday, February 8, 2011, from 10 AM to Noon, at the Lincoln Center, 820 S. Lincoln, Bay City, MI. 48708. Seating is limited so interested parties should register by calling our office or using the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/839DF3P>.

Those unable to attend can receive assistance by calling the Region 3 office at 989-758-3712.

New partners and potential new partners will receive or can request a Region 3 orientation packet that includes emergency planning information specific to your area of health care. As partner membership continues to increase, groups may choose to form specialty work groups that focus on the needs unique to that area of expertise.

Region 3 staff will continue to offer information and act as a resource for your emergency planning and preparedness needs. We also will keep you updated on trends, trainings, and technical issues. A list of upcoming trainings can be found elsewhere in this newsletter.

For long term care agencies, please remember to save the date of April 11, 2011 to attend the Annual Long Term Care Conference in Novi. More information about this conference should be coming from the state in the very near future. The Region 3 staff welcomes suggestions for emergency preparedness topics that are of interest to our partners. Please feel free to call, or email your suggestions to: kmmartin@saginawcounty.com. We are always in the market for new partners and welcome you to

participate with as many regional activities as is convenient.

Remember: **“Failing to plan is planning to fail.”-Winston Churchill.**



Upcoming Meetings

Region 3 Healthcare Preparedness Advisory Committee. January 11, 2011 at 1:00 at the Lincoln Center, 820 South Lincoln St, Bay City, MI

Region 3 Healthcare Preparedness Regional Planning Board. January 24, 2011 at 1:00 at the Lincoln Center, 820 South Lincoln St, Bay City, MI.

Quote of the Day:

One kind word can warm three winter months. ~Japanese Proverb





THE SEVEN SIGNS OF TERRORISM

1. Surveillance:

Someone recording or monitoring activities. This may include the use of cameras (either still or video), note taking, drawing diagrams, annotating on maps, or using binoculars or other vision-enhancing devices.

2. Elicitation:

People or organizations attempting to gain information about military operations, capabilities, or people. Elicitation attempts may be made by mail, fax, telephone, or in person.

3. Tests of security:

Any attempts to measure reaction times to security breaches or to penetrate physical security barriers or procedures in order to assess strengths and weaknesses.

4. Acquiring supplies:

Purchasing or stealing explosives, weapons, ammunition, etc. Also includes acquiring military or other uniforms, decals, flight manuals, passes or badges (or the equipment to manufacture such items) or any other controlled items.

5. Suspicious persons out of place:

People who don't seem to belong in the workplace, neighborhood, business establishment, or anywhere else. Includes suspicious border crossings and stowaways aboard ship or people jumping ship in port.

6. Dry run/Trial Run:

Putting people into position and moving them around according to their plan without actually committing the terrorist act. This is especially true when planning a kidnapping, but it can also pertain to bombings. An element of this activity could also include mapping out routes and determining the timing of traffic lights and flow.

7. Deploying assets:

People and supplies getting into position to commit the act. This is a person's last chance to alert authorities before the terrorist act occurs.

The Region 3 Healthcare Preparedness Network

Is pleased to announce the availability of

FREE!

On Line Training.

These four FIVE modules are now available on
MITRAIN (<https://mi.train.org>)

- Region 3 MCC Operations
 - Region 3 ACC Trailer
 - Region 3 MCI Trailer
 - Region 3 Radio Systems
- *NEW COURSE! - REGION 3
ORIENTATION!!!*

The 1st four offer EMS CE credit!

To find the courses, after registering and logging into
MITRAIN, go to the "Course Search" tab (at the top of the
page) and click on "Key Word Search" under the Search
Options (on the left side of the page.) Type in "Region 3"
and the courses will be listed. Just select the course you
want.

Contact the Region 3 office with any questions or
problems.

Enjoy your FREE learning experience!