

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

Feb 11, 2011 The Region 3 News Update is now available on both the Regional Website and MIHAN

Update on Recent Threats to Healthcare Agencies in Region 3

Hospitals and other healthcare agencies in our 14 counties continue to experience suspicious calls and other potential threats to their facilities and staff.

Late last month, one hospital in the northern part of the Region received a call from a suspicious individual with a heavy Middle Eastern accent. The man indentified himself as "Officer Neil Smith" and stated he was doing an "investigative call". The hospital staff member asked for his badge number or other indentifying information which he refused to give. Background noise sounded like he was calling from a call center. The hospital's telecom dept. was able to determine that the call came from the Denver, CO, area. The hospital immediately contacted local law enforcement as well as the Regional Office who reported it to our District Emergency Coordinator, Dept. of Homeland Security and the Office of Public Health Preparedness. This event was forwarded to the MIOC (Michigan Intelligence Operations Center) for follow up.

A more direct threat was stopped this week at the same hospital. This did not involve another suspicious call or other indirect threat but rather a very direct one.

A hospital employee, for various reasons, made repeated threatening comments to at least 2 other employees over this last weekend stating

that he was going to bring his AK-47 to work to take care of another employee. The threats were immediately reported to supervisors and then to local law enforcement. The Employee was terminated from employment Monday morning.

When the law enforcement personnel confronted the person at his home they found he had a robust collections of firearms. He turned over a total of 21 guns, including 7 handguns and 14 long guns which included 2 Uzi submachine guns and the aforementioned AK-47 assault rifle. He was taken into custody and various legal charges are pending.

This brings attention to the need for local policies and staff training in case a potential active shooter event occurred in your facility. Threats to your patient, staff and visitor safety do not just come from seemingly nebulous phone calls but can most commonly come from local sources. You never know what will cause a disgruntled patient, family member or staff person to enter your hospital, clinic, long term care or other facility with a weapon.

Once again, we wish to emphasize the importance of situational awareness. The Region 3 Office would be happy to assist you in development, training and exercising your policies to help address this potential threat.

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

The Regional Office is slowly receiving the required Justification forms from hospitals and MCA's for review. Any purchases or services under the Cooperative Reimbursement Program MUST be pre-approved before being procured.

Hospitals and MCA's 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.

Zimek Unit Out of Service

The Zimek machine is currently out of service due to an apparent dispute between a large ambulance company in New Jersey and their union which has resulted in a hold order issued by the E.P.A. local office covering New Jersey.

Because of this hold order which does not involve the Zimek machine itself but rather the chemical used in it, Region 3, as well as Region 1 who also have a Zimek machine, have chosen

to take our units out of service until the situation is cleared up.

The hold order on the Zimek QD used in the units still allows the chemical to be mixed and used by hand, but does not allow its use in the Zimek unit using the same water/chemical formula because the label does not specifically mention its use in the machine.

While this appears to be a labor issue in New Jersey, the E.P.A. hold order is affecting ours and other States. MIOSHA is now involved and all appropriate actions are being taken to assure that the process is taken care of.

We hope to be able to return the unit to service soon. We will inform all MCA's as soon as that happens or if there are any further developments.

REGION 3 SPONSORS **TECHNICAL TRAININGS**

In order to prepare our partner agencies and the emergency response agencies they work with, Region 3 has scheduled 3 separate **800 MHz radio user trainings**. The first course was held in Midland last Friday, February 4, 2011. We had 27 participants.

We had a nice cross section of trainees from Hospitals, Public Health, EMS, Safety Officers, Law Enforcement, and Fire & Rescue. Trainer Rick Dupon, EMT-P explained the basic concepts of how the 800 MHz system works before getting into the hands-on portion of the course. This was definitely a user-friendly training.

Over 70% of the participants indicated they lacked proficiency prior to beginning the class; many of whom have been using 800 MHz radios for several years now. This was no longer a problem by the end of the course. All 27 users were able to successfully change zones, talk groups, perform a site scan, activate an emergency alert, make a private call, and return to their home channel.

These will be essential skills to possess when the Region 3 radio exercises change to a different format. If you are not sure what the above skills involve, and you are using the radios, you need to complete one of the two remaining classes.

Our next training is in one week, on February 18, 2011, at the Ogemaw County Emergency

Management Center. There is still room in this class but we need registration completed today, or Monday at the very latest. The Cass City class, scheduled for March 4, 2011 is almost full. If you have any questions about these classes please call Kathe Martin at 989-758-3769.



Training for our Long Term Care partners was held on Tuesday, February 8th at the Lincoln Center in Bay City. Introduction to the EMResources reporting site was completed by Region 3 Coordinator, Jim Brasseur. The MiHAN Administrator for Region 3, Craig Henry, then explained the purpose and expected use of the Michigan Health Alert Network system.

These internet-accessed systems will be an expected part of our Long Term Care agencies' emergency preparedness and response capabilities. Additional LTC agencies in our Region are taking advantage of the laptop computers we have to offer to make it easier to respond to alerts and report bed status.

For EMResource site access there is only one user name and one password per facility. For MiHAN alerts, we can add additional people in your facility as there is need for. Each person would have their own user name and password. We realize that, for some of you, computer use is not part of your normal day. It can be very frustrating to not be able to comfortably navigate within these sites. If you are having trouble, please call the Region 3 office and we'll help you as much as possible.

REGION 3 HOSPITALS **RECEIVE THE 2009** **MICHIGAN RURAL** **HEALTH QUALITY** **AWARD**

Congratulations to our Region 3 hospitals that were named as recipients of this award in the *Winter 2011, Volume 18, Number 1 of the Michigan Rural Health Quarterly*. The following

Region 3 hospitals received the award: Caro Community Hospital, Caro; Deckerville Community Hospital, Deckerville; Harbor Beach Community Hospital, Harbor Beach; Hills and Dales General Hospital, Cass City; McKenzie Health system, Sandusky; MidMichigan Medical Center, Gladwin; and St. Mary's Standish, Standish.

Upcoming Training Courses and Conferences:

800 MHz Training

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>

2/25/11: 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



Upcoming Meetings

Region 3 Healthcare Preparedness Regional Planning Board. February 28, 2011 at 1:00 at the Lincoln Center, 820 South Lincoln St, Bay City, MI.

Region 3 Healthcare Preparedness Advisory Committee. March 8, 2011 at 1:00 at the Lincoln Center, 820 South Lincoln St, Bay City, MI

Quote of the Day:

Never explain. Your friends do not need it and your enemies will not believe it anyway.

Elbert Hubbard





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!