Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation
Emergency Preparedness Update
for April 25, 2016

Arrests at a minimum during Thunder
(Courier-Journal) With an estimated 725,000 watching Thunder Over Louisville, the number of arrests made by Louisville Metro Police was under double digits.

LMPD reported the following arrest totals:
- Two juveniles arrested for fighting
- One bench warrant arrest.
- One arrest for drugs.
- One arrest for domestic violence
- Two arrests with charges unknown at this time.
- One arrest by Kentucky State Police -- with charge(s) unknown at this time.


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U.S. agencies issues rules to protect workers from Zika
(Reuters) U.S. health and safety officials issued new guidelines on Friday to help protect workers from exposure to Zika, a mosquito-borne and sexually-transmitted virus that causes the birth defect microcephaly and other neurological disorders.

The new rules, issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, urge employers of outdoor workers to inform them of the risks of exposure to Zika through mosquito bites and to train them on how to protect themselves.

Specifically, employers are asked to provide insect repellents and encourage their use, and to urge workers to wear clothing that protects their hands, arms, legs and other exposed areas. It also urges employers to consider providing workers with hats with mosquito netting to protect the face and neck.


Attachments: CDC Zika Key Messages, April 20, 2016

Lab study shows severe, early Zika damage to fetal brain cells
(CIDRAP) Another lab team working on "minibrains" to unravel questions about how Zika virus might damage developing fetal brains reported new findings today, suggesting a more severe impact in the early stage of pregnancy.

CDC: U.S. suicide rate rose 24% between 1999 and 2014
(AHA News Now for April 22) The U.S. suicide rate rose 24% between 1999 and 2014, to 13 per 100,000 people, according to a report released today by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Rates increased for males and females in all but the oldest age group. While men are three times more likely to commit suicide than women, the suicide rate for women increased 45% over the period compared with 16% for men, narrowing the gap. Men aged 75 and over had the highest...
suicide rate in 2014 at 38.8 per 100,000, although that is down 8% from 1999. The suicide rate for girls aged 10-14, while lowest overall, tripled over the period to 1.5 per 100,000. Women and men aged 45-64 also saw large increases, 63% and 43%, respectively.

Key findings

Data from the National Vital Statistics System, Mortality

- From 1999 through 2014, the age-adjusted suicide rate in the United States increased 24%, from 10.5 to 13.0 per 100,000 population, with the pace of increase greater after 2006.
- Suicide rates increased from 1999 through 2014 for both males and females and for all ages 10–74.
- The percent increase in suicide rates for females was greatest for those aged 10–14, and for males, those aged 45–64.
- The most frequent suicide method in 2014 for males involved the use of firearms (55.4%), while poisoning was the most frequent method for females (34.1%).
- Percentages of suicides attributable to suffocation increased for both sexes between 1999 and 2014.


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Military sexual trauma tied to increased risk of homelessness

(Reuters Health) - Veterans who experienced sexual trauma in the military are at increased risk for homelessness, according to a new U.S. study.

Compared to veterans who didn't experience sexual assault, battery or harassment during their military service, those who did were about twice as likely to be homeless during the five-year study, researchers found.

The connection between military sexual trauma and homelessness appeared to be stronger among males and persisted even after adjusting for factors such as mental health and substance abuse.

Read full story: http://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-veterans-homeless-idUSKCN0XH2RD

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Do bystanders help black people less often in medical emergencies?

(Reuters Health) - Strangers rarely try to help in medical emergencies, and assistance may be especially rare when patients happen to be black, a U.S. study suggests.

Researchers analyzed data on more than 22,000 patients aided by emergency medical services (EMS) and found bystanders on public streets only intervened about 3 percent of the time.

Black patients, however, were still 58 percent less likely to get help from strangers at the scene than white people, the study found.


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Los Angeles hospital settles over leaving patient on street

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A fourth Los Angeles-area hospital in less than three years has settled a lawsuit over a chronic problem in the nation’s second-largest city — turning homeless patients out on the streets after they have been discharged, sometimes while still needing medical attention.

Without acknowledging fault, Good Samaritan Hospital near downtown Los Angeles settled for $450,000 and agreed to follow protocols to properly release homeless patients, City Attorney Mike Feuer said Thursday. That brings the amount of such settlements with area hospitals to $1.9 million since January 2014.

Hospitals aren’t required to have specific discharge protocols for homeless patients, though a city law makes patient dumping illegal.

The hospital said its standard practice is to work with homeless patients on discharge plans that include placing them in appropriate facilities “if the patient accepts the recommendations.”
The practice of leaving patients on the streets of Los Angeles, most often in the 50-block area of downtown known as Skid Row, has been a problem for years.

The issue garnered national attention in 2006 after a surveillance camera at a Skid Row rescue mission recorded a 63-year-old woman with dementia wandering around the crime-plagued area in a hospital gown and slippers.

Full story: http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:4e37296839c64aa1b73635a8a39137cd

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Marijuana 'grow operations' found at Ohio slaying sites

(CNN) Investigators found three marijuana "grow operations" at rural residences where eight family members were killed in southern Ohio, state Attorney General Mike DeWine said Sunday at a news conference.

Authorities wouldn't say publicly whether they thought the killings were drug-related, but an official with knowledge of the operation told CNN's Nick Valencia: "This operation was not for personal use; it was for something much bigger than that. It was a very sophisticated operation."

The cold-blooded nature of the killings has rattled Piketon, a town of about 2,000 people 90 miles east of Cincinnati.

"This was a preplanned execution of eight individuals," DeWine said. "It was a sophisticated operation and those who carried it out were trying to do everything they could do to hinder the investigation and their prosecution."

DeWine said 50-60 people have been interviewed, 100 tips received, 18 pieces of evidence submitted to the crime lab and at least five search warrants issued and completed. Seven of the eight autopsies have been performed so far, the last one scheduled for Monday, said DeWine.


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W-18: The New Street Drug with Crazy Potency

(Newser) – Get ready to hear much more about a powerful new street drug called W-18. Police in Edmonton, Canada, this week announced a huge seizure of it made in December—4 kilograms, or enough for hundreds of millions of pills, reports the Globe and Mail. The drug is a synthetic opiate like fentanyl that produces a heroin-like high, but it’s 100 times more powerful than fentanyl and 10,000 times more powerful than morphine. As Vice and the CBC explain, it’s probably being churned out by labs in China and then shipped to North America via services such as FedEx. This is the second major W-18 seizure within a year in Canada, but it’s not just a Canadian problem. A drug dealer in Florida convicted of importing fentanyl also had 2.5 pounds of W-18, the Sun Sentinel reported in March. But because the drug isn't illegal—yet—it didn't factor into his sentence.


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New Indiana law allows for prescriptions through video call

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — A new Indiana law will allow physicians to write prescriptions for patients without having to meet in person.

The law signed last month by Gov. Mike Pence overturns a requirement for physicians and patients to meet in person before a prescription can be written. Indiana patients will soon be able to talk with doctors through a video call, with doctors able to write prescriptions.

Forty-six states now allow "tele-prescribing" and once Indiana joins in only Alaska, Arkansas and Texas will prohibit it.


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US flu decline slows as 6 more kids’ deaths reported
(CIDRAP) The springtime decline in US influenza activity showed signs of slowing last week as six more flu-related deaths in children were reported, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported today.

Also, flu cases were still geographically widespread in 14 states and Puerto Rico, though this was down from 18 states and Puerto Rico the week before.

The proportion of deaths attributed to pneumonia and flu in the CDC's 122 Cities Mortality Reporting system inched up to 7.7% last week, from 7.5% the week before, keeping it well above the epidemic threshold of 7.0%.

The cumulative incidence of flu-related hospitalizations for the season crept up to 28.4 per 100,000 people, from 26.6 a week earlier. Among seniors (65 and up), the incidence climbed to 75.0 from 69.6 the week before.

CDC FluView:  http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/
CIDRAP source:  http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2016/04/us-flu-decline-slows-6-more-kids-deaths-reported

How early is too early for word that tornadoes may come?
NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — Meteorologists are finding something much tougher to forecast than a stormy atmosphere: the human mind.

Forecasters at the federal Storm Prediction Center see a high chance of severe storms, with possible killer tornadoes, next Tuesday in Oklahoma, Kansas and Texas. Federal Emergency Management Agency chief Craig Fugate said the early heads-up helps disaster officials prepare, but what about you:  Do you really need to worry — or even know about it — this far in advance?

Full story:  http://bigstory.ap.org/urn:publicid:ap.org:a50999f55c7844e5a40faa49175fe666

SO - what about Kentucky?

HAZARDOUS WEATHER OUTLOOK
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PADUCAH, KY

PORTIONS OF SOUTHERN ILLINOIS, SOUTHWEST INDIANA, WESTERN KENTUCKY AND SOUTHEAST MISSOURI.

TODAY AND TONIGHT
A FEW THUNDERSTORMS MAY MOVE ALONG THE INTERSTATE 64 CORRIDOR LATE TONIGHT. LIGHTNING WOULD BE THE PRIMARY CONCERN.

TUESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY
THE CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS WILL INCREASE FROM TUESDAY THROUGH WEDNESDAY. LOCALLY HEAVY RAINFALL AND LIGHTNING WILL BE THE PRIMARY CONCERNS THROUGH TUESDAY NIGHT...BUT SEVERE STORMS WITH LARGE HAIL AND DAMAGING WINDS WILL BE POSSIBLE WEDNESDAY INTO WEDNESDAY NIGHT. A TORNADO OR TWO CANNOT BE RULED OUT, AND HEAVY RAIN AND LIGHTNING WILL CONTINUE TO BE CONCERNS. A FEW STORMS MAY LINGER INTO THURSDAY IN EASTERN PORTIONS OF THE REGION.

THE CHANCE OF THUNDERSTORMS WILL SPREAD BACK EAST INTO THE AREA LATE FRIDAY...AND THE POTENTIAL FOR STRONG TO SEVERE STORMS AND HEAVY RAINFALL WILL RETURN SATURDAY INTO SUNDAY.

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE WILMINGTON OH

OUTLOOK IS FOR SOUTHEAST INDIANA, NORTHEAST KENTUCKY, NORTHERN KENTUCKY, CENTRAL OHIO AND SOUTHWEST OHIO

TODAY AND TONIGHT
HAZARDOUS WEATHER IS NOT EXPECTED AT THIS TIME.

TUESDAY THROUGH SUNDAY
STRONG TO SEVERE THUNDERSTORMS WILL BE POSSIBLE TUESDAY AFTERNOON AND EVENING AHEAD OF A COLD FRONT. THE PRIMARY THREAT WOULD BE DAMAGING WINDS AND HAIL.
NWS Louisville Weather Story:  
http://www.weather.gov/crh/weatherstory?sid=lmk&embed=#.Vx5Uk6b2bmE

NWS Jackson Weather Story for the week:  
http://www.weather.gov/crh/weatherstory?sid=jkl&embed=#.Vx5UHab2bmE

NOAA’s *Weather-Ready Nation* is about building community resilience in the face of increasing vulnerability to extreme weather and water events. Building this Weather-Ready Nation requires the action of a vast network of partners including other government agencies, emergency managers, researchers, the media, insurance industry, non-profits, the private sector, the Weather Enterprise and more.

Acting locally, the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Jackson works closely with a strong network of partners before, during and after severe weather strikes. Programs are in place to foster these relationships, document the work being done by preparedness officials and recognize those officials and jurisdictions for their severe weather preparedness achievements.

Find out more information on local partnerships and programs by clicking the tabs below.  
http://www.weather.gov/jkl/partnerships

**NWS Jackson, KY Spotter Training:**  Next class May 10, 6-8 PM, London, KY  
http://www.weather.gov/jkl/spotter

Search for other locations:  http://www.nws.noaa.gov/skywarn/states/ky-skywarn.htm

![Total Severe Thunderstorm & Tornado Warnings issued in Kentucky for the Period January 1st through April 24th of Indicated Year](image)

*Photo Courtesy of Timothy Bruno*
The severe weather season typically peaks in April and May across the Bluegrass State. However, 2016 has seen relatively little severe weather. In fact, the National Weather Service offices that serve Kentucky have only issued 6 tornado warnings and 31 severe thunderstorm warnings in the state. The 37 total warnings is the fewest number of warnings issued through April 24th of any calendar year since 1996!
Source: http://www.weather.gov/jkl/quietsevereweather

Patient preferences not often asked after stroke hospitalization
(Reuters) Less than half of stroke patients who were hospitalized and died within 30 days had their preferences for lifesaving measures recorded in a recent study of California hospitals.

The researchers used a California patient discharge database to identify a group of adults hospitalized for stroke at acute care hospitals in 2007. They selected 39 hospitals and 981 stroke admissions, limiting their analysis to the 198 patients who died within 30 days of admission.

On average, patients were 80 years old, most were admitted from home and 42 percent died during their initial hospitalization.

Only 39 percent of patients had their preferences for at least one lifesaving intervention recorded, most often it was their desire for cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), followed by their preferences regarding mechanical ventilation, nasal tube feeding and feeding through a tube in the abdominal wall.

Almost 44 percent of patients indicated that they did not want CPR, 20 percent did not want mechanical ventilation and 6 percent did not want nasal or gastric tube feeding.

People with more severe strokes were more likely to have preference documentation than those with milder strokes, as reported in Neurology. Most discussions about preferences took place within five days of death.

HHS sponsors new broad spectrum antibiotic development
A broad spectrum antibiotic that could become the first of its kind to treat specific Gram negative and Gram positive infections as well as tularemia, a bioterrorism threat, will undergo the last steps in development with support from ASPR. Learn More >>

Fireworks stolen from CSX freight train recovered in Detroit
(Reuters) Federal agents have found more than 30 cases of commercial-grade aerial fireworks in Detroit after the explosives were reported stolen from a CSX freight train earlier this week, officials said on Saturday.

The heist was discovered after a CSX Corp train that originated in Chicago arrived in Detroit on Wednesday and was immediately reported to the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), CSX spokesman Rob Doolittle said in an email.

ATF spokeswoman Cherie Duvall-Jones said the explosives, 2-inch by 5.5-inch aerial fireworks, were discovered in southwest Detroit after someone called in with a tip. The explosives were believed to have been stolen when the train made a stop in Ohio.
Read more: http://www.reuters.com/article/us-detroit-fireworks-idUSKCN0XK0L1
Man Arrested After Threatening to Bomb Rally for Donald Trump

(ABC) A 20-year-old man was in custody after threatening to bomb Saturday's rally for Republican presidential candidate Donald Trump in Waterbury, Connecticut.

The U.S. Secret Service contacted the Connecticut State Police about 12:45 p.m. after seeing a post on Twitter threatening to "bomb" the Trump rally, authorities said in a statement. According to state police, the Twitter post said, "Is someone going to bomb the Trump rally or am I going to have to?"

A second post warned the suspect's friend to have his family members leave the rally so they wouldn't be hurt, said police.


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**Remember, "If you See Something; Say Something"**

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Multi-vehicle crash stalls NKY traffic, sets loose 146 pigs on highway

April 22, WCPO 9 Cincinnati – (Kentucky) Interstate 71 in Gallatin County, Kentucky was closed for several hours April 21 following a 2-vehicle crash that caused a semi-truck hauling several pigs to overturn and release 146 pigs onto the road. No injuries were reported.


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Teen Electrocuted While Trying YouTube Experiment

15-year-old boy was apparently trying to make a 'Jacob's Ladder'


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Wyoming Medical Center informs 3,200 patients of email breach

April 21, Casper Star-Tribune – (Wyoming) Wyoming Medical Center in Casper notified 3,184 patients April 20 that their personal and medical information may have been potentially exposed in a phishing scam that targeted 2 employees February 22. Medical center officials do not believe any of the information was misused, and stated that the access was immediately blocked upon discovery of the scheme.


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Law enforcement, government agencies see phishing as main cyber risk

April 21, Softpedia – (International) The Global Cyber Alliance (GCA), a group of government representatives from the U.S. and the United Kingdom, agreed to promote the usage of Domain-based Message Authentication, Reporting & Conformance (DMARC) protocol to make it more difficult for attackers to tamper with original documents as phishing attacks were ranked as the top cyber threat following research that revealed spear-phishing campaigns increased by 55 percent from 2015.


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Report link: http://homelandsecurity.ky.gov/Pages/Eye-on-Kentucky.aspx

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DDoS attacks continue to rise in power and sophistication

April 21, SecurityWeek – (International) Imperva released its Global DDoS Threat Landscape Q1 2016 report which revealed that distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks were more advanced and sophisticated after an analysis revealed that attackers increased the use of browser-like DDoS bots with capabilities of bypassing security challenges by 36.6 percent and attackers were seen executing new ways to perform application layer assaults including Hypertext Transfer Protocol Secure (HTTPS) POST flood.


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U.S. drops New York fight with Apple after gaining access to iPhone

(Reuters) The U.S. Justice Department on Friday dropped its effort to force Apple Inc (AAPL.O) to help unlock an iPhone in a drug case in New York after someone provided authorities the passcode to access the device.

In a letter filed in federal court in Brooklyn, New York, prosecutors said that investigators late on Thursday used that passcode to access the iPhone at issue, and as a result "no longer needs Apple's assistance."

The letter marked a sudden end to a closely watched case, in which the Justice Department had been appealing a ruling by a federal magistrate judge holding that he could not force Apple to assist authorities.

Full story: http://www.reuters.com/article/us-apple-encryption-idUSKCN0XK010

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Take Action! 10 Ways to Participate in America's PrepareAthon

America's PrepareAthon is a grassroots campaign for action to get families, organizations and whole communities better prepared for emergencies. There are many ways that communities can prepare for disasters and emergencies – conducting a drill, educating their communities, planning together and more. Need help getting started? Here are 10 ways that you can take action in your community to prepare for disasters. Learn More >>

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EMS Week - May 15-21
"EMS Strong" - Called to Care!
EMS Week Planning Guide: << Click Here >>

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Webinar: Integrating EMS for Care Coordination & Disaster


Date: June 16, 2016
Time: 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. (Central)

Overview:
It is critical to incorporate two often-overlooked components of the health care system into the HIE landscape - disaster response and emergency medical services (EMS). It is necessary to exchange clinically relevant patient information both in response to widespread disasters and during daily emergency medical treatment to improve patient transitions of care between ambulances and receiving hospitals. ONC is funding an approach in California that applies principles of health information exchange in the disaster and emergency medical services areas; areas not previously addressed in either California or the United States on any significant scale. In this project has two components.

In the first, bring developed is an interoperable disaster response patient lookup system with direct connections to community HIEs and hospital-system EHRs, and implement a secure, web-based portal for eligible professionals who are California Disaster Healthcare Volunteers (nationally known as ESAR-VHP) and using Single Sign On capability. The intent is to help address the health information needs of providers rendering care
for patients transferred from hospitals in an affected area, victims of the disaster transported by first responders, victims transported by family for friends, walking wounded in need of urgent care, and evacuees in need of routine care. The system will be examined through a drill in early 2017. In the second, a system is being developed for daily Emergency Medical Services (EMS) interoperable exchange and demonstrating it in production as part of patient care. The system must be able to Search for patient information from a community HIE using the EMS ePCR, Alert the ED of critical patient information before arrival, File all treatment information from the ePCR into the hospital’s EHR after the patient arrives, and Reconcile the ultimate patient treatment with the ePCR following discharge.

Learning Objectives:
- Identify why it is important to integrate EMS into the continuum of care.
- Recognize the special challenges of pre-hospital care and disaster response.
- Discuss how existing capabilities can be leveraged to address pre-hospital care and disaster response and list them.
- Describe what a replicable disaster response system might look like.

Who Will Benefit:
- Health IT professionals and providers
- EMS professionals
- Those interested in emergency pre-hospital care and disaster response

About the Speaker:
- Dr. Robert Cothren, Executive Director
- California Association of Health Information Exchanges

The KHREF Emergency Preparedness Update is assembled by Dick Bartlett (rbartlett@kyha.com) several times a week, and when events make it necessary it may be sent out several times a day to keep our hospital and healthcare community advised on preparedness news and information. Most of this information is compiled from open sources, and where possible reference links will be provided. There is an archive of Emergency Preparedness Updates available here. If you would like to added or deleted, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact preparedness@kyha.com (include your current email address). The preparedness program for the Kentucky Hospital Association (KHA) and KHREF are supported by US DHHS ASPR HPP funds through a contract with Kentucky Public Health.