Blue Ribbon Study Panel: America Needs Improved Leadership and Funding for Biodefense

(Homeland Security Today) As the Islamic State (ISIS) continues to expand its influence in Syria—which is known to have a stockpile of chemical weapons—there are real concerns that America could face a chemical or biological attack. In the face of such a danger, the US needs to reorganize its biodefense protocols and increase funding in order to effectively prepare.

The post-9/11 Commission's Blue Ribbon Study Panel on Biodefense, which convened from December 2014 to April 2015, determined the nation would be completely unprepared for such an attack. The panel held several recent meetings exploring a number of topics, including threat awareness, prevention and protection, surveillance and detection and response and recovery.

Although panel recommendations will not be released until the fall, Asha George, the panel’s co-director and one of the authors of the report, told Homeland Security Today the panel has arrived at three main conclusions.

First, the government’s guidelines on biodefense are scattered and confusing.

Second, the panel reached a consensus that the US needs to devote more funding to biodefense.

Lastly, the panel concluded there is a lack of leadership in biodefense.

Read more: http://www.hstoday.us/briefings/daily-news-analysis/single-article/blue-ribbon-study-panel-america-needs-improved-leadership-and-funding-for-biodefense/07980132ae5af910d06506dfa4ada747.html

Baxter Initiates Voluntary Recall Of Two Lots of IV Solutions Due To the Potential Presence of Particulate Matter

July 17, 2015 – Baxter International Inc. announced today it is voluntarily recalling two lots of intravenous (IV) solutions to the hospital/user level due to the potential presence of particulate matter. The particulate matter in each case was determined to be an insect and was identified as a result of a customer complaint. The matter was identified prior to patient administration and there have been no adverse events associated with this issue reported to Baxter.

Injecting a product containing particulate matter, in the absence of in-line filtration, may result in blockage of blood vessels, which can result in stroke, heart attack or damage to other organs such as the kidney or liver. There is also the possibility of allergic reactions, local irritation and inflammation in tissues and organs.

This recall affects the following lots:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Product Code</th>
<th>Product Description</th>
<th>Lot Number</th>
<th>Expiration Date</th>
<th>NDC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2B1301</td>
<td>0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP, 50 mL VIALFLEX Plastic Container</td>
<td>P319921</td>
<td>12/31/2015</td>
<td>0338-0049-11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B0043</td>
<td>0.9% Sodium Chloride Injection, USP, 100 mL MINI-BAG Plus Container</td>
<td>P327635</td>
<td>12/30/2015</td>
<td>0338-0553-18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Read more: http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm455370.htm
HHS compendium of health emergency resources

HHS launched an online collection of federal resources available to mitigate the health impacts of emergencies. Topics range from patient movement and hospital care to situational awareness and decontamination, with resources ranging from mapping tools and consultation services to personnel. The compendium is intended to support communities in emergency situations and help them find what is available and how to access those resources. The compendium will be updated as new resources become available.


UPMC Health Security Headlines
Extracts from July 20, 2015

Emergent BioSolutions Manufacturing Ebola Treatment in Baltimore (Baltimore Sun)
Gaithersburg biotechnology company Emergent BioSolutions will make a treatment for the Ebola virus at its East Baltimore manufacturing facility, the company said Monday. The defense department's Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority is paying Emergent $19.7 million to manufacture Ebola monoclonal antibodies. Go to article

Trial of Canadian Ebola Drug Stopped after No Overall Benefit Shown (Globe and Mail) A clinical trial of what was once thought to be one of the brightest hopes for an Ebola drug has been halted after an interim assessment concluded there was no sign the experimental product was offering overall benefit. Go to article

Self-Administration of Intranasal Influenza Vaccine: Immunogenicity and Volunteer Acceptance (Vaccine) In outbreak settings, mass vaccination strategies could maximize health protection of military personnel. Self-administration of live attenuated influenza vaccine may be a means to vaccinate large numbers of people and achieve deployment readiness while sparing the use of human resources. Go to article

Young Medics Were Lured by Briton to Join ISIS (New York Times) Among the growing number of unlikely Britons leaving for Syria to join the Islamic State have been schoolgirls, mothers and, in March and June this year, 2 groups of medical students and young doctors recruited by a former medical student from northeastern England, the BBC reported on Friday. Go to article

US DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
Extract for 20 July 2015

Government Facilities Sector
July 16, Washington Post – (National) Federal personnel files still very vulnerable and ‘prime targets’ for hackers, audit finds. An audit by the U.S. Department of the Interior inspector general’s office found 3,000 “critical” and “high-risk” vulnerabilities in 3 unnamed key bureaus of the department, potentially allowing hackers to gain access to internal networks through hundreds of publicly accessible computers whose systems are compromised. A lack of central authority over the agency’s information technology systems is delaying fixes, according to the agency’s chief information officer.

Transportation Systems Sector
July 17, WSAZ 3 Huntington – (West Virginia) WB I-64 re-opens after 9 vehicle crash. Interstate 64 westbound in Huntington has fully re-opened July 17 after being shut down for more than 8 hours
while crews cleared the scene of an accident that involved 9 vehicles and spilled a large amount of
diesel fuel onto the roadway July 16. Minor injuries were reported and the cause of the crash remains
under investigation.
Source: http://www.wsaz.com/home/headlines/Multiple-Vehicle-Crash-on-Westbound-I-64-Ties-Up-
Traffic-316012921.html

**July 16, Washington Post** – (National) **46 indicted in alleged drug ring at Tex. airport.** Officials
revealed July 15 that airline workers smuggled drugs through Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport
for distribution nationwide as part of an undercover operation orchestrated by Federal and local
agents that led to the indictment of 46 people who allegedly helped carry drugs to evade the
Transportation Security Administration, and board planes to Chicago, Las Vegas, Newark, Phoenix,
Wichita and San Francisco.

**Information Technology Sector**

*July 17, Help Net Security* – (International) **Nearly all Web sites have serious security vulnerabilities.** Acunetix released a report on 15,000 Web site and network scans of 5,500 companies revealing that almost half of Web applications scanned contained high security vulnerabilities, and 4 of 5 were affected by medium security vulnerabilities, plying that most organizations fail to comply with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS), among other findings.
Source: http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=18637

**Communications Sector**

*July 17, Reuters* – (National) **T-Mobile to pay $17.5 million to settle U.S. 911 outage investigation.** The Federal Communications Commission reported July 17 that T-Mobile US Inc. has agreed to pay $17.5 million to settle a U.S. investigation of two 911 service outages in 2014 that prevented callers from reaching first responders for 3 hours.
Source: http://www.streetinsider.com/Corporate+News/T-Mobile+to+pay+$17.5+million+to+settle+U.S.+911+outage+investigation/10731828.html

2015 KSHE Events

Register for the Healthcare Coalition Conference Sept. 29-30
CLICK HERE to register for any of our upcoming events

**ELECTRICAL CODE UPDATE Class**
Friday, August 21, 2015
8:00 a.m.-2:30p.m.
$25 / Lunch provided
Louisville Apprenticeship Training Center
4315 Preston Hwy., Ste. 100, Louisville, KY 40213

**CANCELLED**

**Certified Healthcare TECHNICIAN Class**
Friday, July 24, 2015

Due to instructor schedule conflicts we have had to cancel this class.
Watch your email for announcement about our next class availability.
KSPAN: Falls Prevention & Osteoporosis Summit for older adults
September 10, 2015, 9:00am to 4:00pm
Shelbyville, Kentucky

During the summit, KSPAN will be sharing prevention information on falls of older adults and osteoporosis. The summit will focus on sharing information, resources, strategies and information on evidence based programs. They will be posting the agenda and updates about the summit on the KSPAN webpage, and will send the agenda and a map to the meeting location closer to the summit. Please click HERE to register,

Emergency response planning conference
Free - One day: Sept 29, 2015
Registration is open for the September 29th, “Success Starts Here” Conference
Download the Conference Flyer

Registration:  http://KY-LEPC-2015.eventbrite.com
Event: 2015 Fayette-Jefferson LEPC Conference "Success Starts Here"
Date: September 29, 2015
Time: 7:00 AM Registration/Breakfast
      8:45 AM Presentation of the Colors-Lexington-Louisville Fire Color Guard
      9:00 AM Opening Remarks
Location: The Capital Plaza Hotel
Address: 405 Wilkinson Blvd., Frankfort, KY 40601

This is a FREE one-day emergency response planning conference. You'll hear from industry leaders about the latest developments in emergency planning and other important issues. These are topics that will keep you and your employees safe and the reputation of your organization secure. At the end of the day, you will have valuable tools that you can take back to your organization and put into operation.

Seminar Topics include: (Agenda attached)
* Hazard & Risk Communications
* US EPA Update
* Facility Cyber-Security
* Accident Response
* Planning and Partnerships
* Chemical Facility Safety

Breakfast and Lunch are included! Large Exhibitors Space! Door Prizes!
Register now:  http://KY-LEPC-2015.eventbrite.com

Have questions about Success Starts Here?
Contact Stephen Jackson, Co-Chair, Fayette LEPC, 859-258-3786, sjackson@lexingtonky.gov

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 now at http://www.kyha.com/home/emergency-preparedness/kha-emergency-preparedness-update/. 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.