



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for September 4, 2018

## First 72 On You

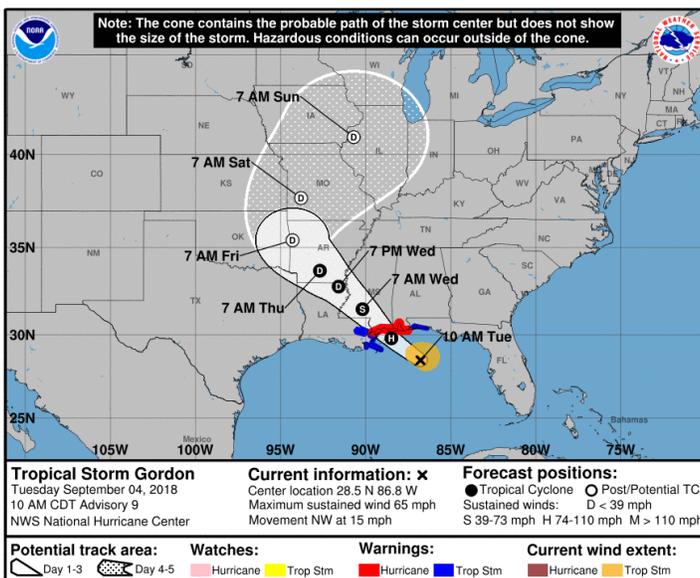
(KY CHFS [Press Release](#)) The Kentucky Department for Public Health (DPH), within the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS), is launching the **First 72 On You** information campaign during the month of September – National Preparedness Month (NPM). The goal of **First 72 On You** is to increase emergency preparedness efforts for Kentuckians and their families.

When disasters such as flooding, record snowfalls, deadly tornadoes and wildfires strike, communities are often left without safety, security, food and shelter. The first 72 hours (three days) are critical during a serious crisis for individuals and their families to be self-sufficient because electricity, gas, water and telephones may not be working and public safety services may not be able to reach you immediately. In catastrophic circumstances, it might take longer for rescue or assistance to arrive so it is important that individuals should be prepared to be self-sufficient by being able to live without running water, electricity and/or gas for at least three days following a disaster. This includes having a well-stocked emergency preparedness kit for individuals, their family members and pets.

A Facebook Live discussion on this important topic will be held on Wednesday, Sept. 5 at 1 p.m. (Eastern). Watch on the Cabinet’s Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/kychfs>. Questions for the **First 72 On You** Facebook Live discussion with state public health officials can be emailed in advance to [chfs.communications@ky.gov](mailto:chfs.communications@ky.gov) or posted in the comments section during the event at <http://www.facebook.com/kychfs>.

For more information about preparing for and responding to emergencies visit <http://ready.gov>.

### Tropical Storm Gordon to strike US Gulf coast at near hurricane strength Tuesday evening



(AccuWeather) - Gordon, currently a strong tropical storm, may make landfall as a Category 1 hurricane over the central Gulf coast Tuesday evening. The storm made landfall over the southern tip of the Florida Peninsula on Monday. Gordon is moving quickly along and confidence is high for a landfall near Gulfport, Mississippi, Tuesday evening. By the time of landfall late Tuesday or Tuesday night, Gordon is likely to be near Category 1 hurricane strength. A Category 1 hurricane has maximum sustained winds of at least 74 mph.

Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards declared a state of emergency Monday afternoon ahead of the storm's expected arrival in southeast Louisiana.

Tornadoes may also pose a significant threat. Some hurricanes release their energy in the form of tornadoes when they make landfall. Even a minimal hurricane has the potential to unleash a small swarm of tornadoes.

Sporadic power outages are likely and property damage is possible as the storm makes landfall near the Mississippi, Alabama and Louisiana borders during Tuesday evening and moves inland to the

northwest across southern Mississippi and northern and eastern Louisiana during Tuesday night and Wednesday.

Full AccuWeather story & video: <https://www.accuweather.com/en/weather-news/florida-us-gulf-coast-on-alert-for-budding-tropical-depression/70005956>

Tropical Storm Gordon link: [https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/refresh/graphics\\_at2+shtml/151626.shtml?cone#contents](https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/refresh/graphics_at2+shtml/151626.shtml?cone#contents)

CNN Interactive Gordon track: <https://www.cnn.com/interactive/storm-tracker/>

Hurricane Florence link: [https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/refresh/graphics\\_at1+shtml/143848.shtml?cone#contents](https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/refresh/graphics_at1+shtml/143848.shtml?cone#contents)

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**Potential Impacts on Western/Central KY?**

*National Weather Service Paducah KY:* Showers and thunderstorms associated with the remnants of Tropical Storm Gordon will begin on Wednesday and continue on and off through Saturday Night. These may produce some heavy rainfall and flooding problems across southeast Missouri and southern Illinois at some point Friday afternoon through Saturday night.

*National Weather Service Louisville KY:* A few isolated thunderstorms are possible each afternoon through mid-week. Later this week and next weekend, a better chance of showers and storms will exist as a slow moving cold front drops in from the north and tropical moisture surges northward out of the Gulf of Mexico.

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**Lexington EMA Declares Heat Emergency**

LEXINGTON, Ky. (LEX 18) — Lexington Emergency Management has declared a phase 1 heat emergency for the city. A Phase 1 Heat Emergency means that temperatures are expected to exceed 90 degrees for the next three days. Heat and humidity will create potentially dangerous conditions for those outdoors.

See more: <https://lex18.com/news/covering-kentucky/2018/09/04/lexington-ema-declares-heat-emergency/>

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**Climate Change Is About to Transform Earth Into an Unrecognizable, Alien Landscape**

(Newsweek) Within the next 100 years, Earth as we know it could be transformed into an unrecognizable, alien world, with ecosystems around the globe falling apart. After looking at over 500 ancient climate records, scientists have said current climate change is comparable to what the planet went through when it came out of the last ice age—and the seismic shift in biodiversity that took place then will likely happen again.

Climate scientists are currently predicting that if greenhouse gas emissions continue at their current rate (the so-called "business as usual" scenario) then the planet will have warmed around four degrees Celsius by 2100.

Full story: <https://www.newsweek.com/earth-major-transformation-climate-change-global-warming-1101857>

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*Weather-Ready Nation Ambassadors*  
**Fall Weather Safety**

The Weather-Ready Nation (WRN) fall safety campaign has begun! They have focused the outreach on specific hazards during September, October, and November. Infographics, social media posts and other content can be found at this link: <https://www.weather.gov/wrn/fall-safety>

Serve as a force multiplier by engaging your employees, customers, and social media network with Weather-Ready Nation content.

With Tropical Storm Gordon expected to make landfall Tuesday night, please always keep updated with the latest information from the National Hurricane Center at <http://www.hurricanes.gov> and your local Weather Forecast Office.

## [Heads up! Wireless Emergency Alert \(WEA\) National Test September 20](#)

### **National Test of the Emergency Alert System (EAS) and Wireless Emergency Alerts (WEA)**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), in coordination with the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), will conduct a nationwide test of the Integrated Public Alert & Warning System (IPAWS), which includes the [Emergency Alert System \(EAS\)](#) and [Wireless Emergency Alerts \(WEA\)](#), on September 20, 2018. The WEA portion of the test commences at 2:18 p.m. EDT, and the EAS portion follows at 2:20 p.m. EDT. The test will assess the operational readiness of the infrastructure for distribution of a national message and determine whether improvements are needed.

The WEA test message will be sent to cell phones that are connected to wireless carriers participating in WEA. This is the fourth EAS nationwide test and the first national WEA test. Previous EAS national tests were conducted in September 2011, 2016 and 2017 in collaboration with the FCC, broadcasters, and emergency management officials in recognition of FEMA's National Preparedness Month.

If circumstances, such as a major weather event, cause the IPAWS National Test to be postponed, the back-up date is Wednesday, October 3, 2018.

To learn more go to: <https://www.fema.gov/emergency-alert-test>

### **There's a new global ranking of gun deaths. Here's where the U.S. stands**

(PBS) In 2016, more than 250,000 people worldwide died as a result of firearms, and half of all of those deaths came from six nations, including the U.S.

The new numbers, from the University of Washington's Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation's latest study of Global Burden of Diseases, Injuries and Risk Factors, offer several new ways to measure the impact of gun deaths worldwide.

Half of all gun-related deaths in 2016 occurred in six nations — Brazil, the United States, Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Guatemala. Together, the study published in the journal JAMA noted, these countries hold less than 10 percent of the world's population.

Overall, 64 percent of deaths were determined to be homicides, while an additional 27 percent were suicides and 9 percent were accidental shootings.

Learn more: <https://www.pbs.org/newshour/health/theres-a-new-global-ranking-of-gun-deaths-heres-where-the-u-s-stands>

### **8,000 new antibiotic combinations are surprisingly effective**

(Science Magazine) Scientists have traditionally believed that combining more than two drugs to fight harmful bacteria would yield diminishing returns. The prevailing theory is that the incremental benefits of combining three or more drugs would be too small to matter, or that the interactions among the drugs would cause their benefits to cancel one another out.

Now, a team of UCLA biologists has discovered thousands of four- and five-drug combinations of antibiotics that are more effective at killing harmful bacteria than the prevailing views suggested. Their findings, reported today in the journal *npj Systems Biology and Applications*, could be a major step toward protecting public health at a time when pathogens and common infections are increasingly becoming resistant to antibiotics.

Working with eight antibiotics, the researchers analyzed how every possible four- and five-drug combination, including many with varying dosages — a total of 18,278 combinations in all — worked against *E. coli*. They expected that some of the combinations would be very effective at killing the bacteria, but they were startled by how many potent combinations they discovered.

Full story: <https://scienmag.com/8000-new-antibiotic-combinations-are-surprisingly-effective-ucla-biologists-report/>

## KY HAI Program Growing

The Healthcare-Associated Infection Prevention Program is announcing 2 opportunities to join the HAI Prevention Program: 2 Registered Nurse Infection Preventionists positions. These positions are through the University of Kentucky (UK) College of Public Health, are federally funded, and stationed in Frankfort. These jobs have a 37.5 hour work week with full UK benefits including tuition benefits.

If you want to be part of a growing program that is working to make healthcare safer in Kentucky, please consider applying for one of these jobs. Here is the official listing and quick links to the open positions:

Nurse Infection Control RE 15512 – 51013195 <http://ukjobs.uky.edu/postings/199828> This posting is currently open until September 11, 2018

Nurse Infection Control RE 15526 – 51030667 <http://ukjobs.uky.edu/postings/200055> This posting is currently open until September 11, 2018

If you have any questions, please email [Andrea.Flinchum@ky.gov](mailto:Andrea.Flinchum@ky.gov)

### Providers worry CMS rule will limit infusion drug use at home

(Modern Healthcare) Providers have come out against a proposed CMS rule that could prevent Medicare beneficiaries from taking infusion drugs at home, saying the plan will increase costs and force patients to seek costlier treatment at hospitals.

The CMS' 2019 home health pay rule [proposed to pay infusion drug suppliers](#) only for days when a skilled provider is present to administer them to patients. That change could drastically change how infusion drug patients receive care, as many regularly administer their own drugs without a nurse or other provider present.

If infusion drug suppliers can't get paid for those home treatments, more patients will have to go to the hospital for the medication, according to several comments sent to the CMS. The comment period on the proposed rule closed Friday.

Full story link: <http://www.modernhealthcare.com/article/20180831/NEWS/180839972>

### Safe Kids Coalition meeting

Wednesday, September 5th at 10:30am (EDT)

5<sup>th</sup> floor conference room

Norton Healthcare Pavilion (315 E Broadway, Louisville, KY)

### Questions:

Erika G. Janes, RN  
Injury Prevention Coordinator  
Norton Children's Hospital  
502-629-7335 (p)

The KHREF Emergency Preparedness Update is assembled several times a week. When events make it necessary, the Update may be sent out several times a day to keep our hospital and the 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 add or delete, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact [rbartlett@kyha.com](mailto:rbartlett@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.