



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for September 18, 2018

KY Air Guard sending Fatality Search and Recovery Team to North Carolina

(WTVQ) – The Kentucky Air National Guard is sending more help to North Carolina. The guard says, at the request of North Carolina public health officials, the Kentucky Air National Guard's 123rd Fatality Search and Recovery Team is deploying 11 members to North Carolina in the wake of Hurricane Florence. The team will help augment the North Carolina Medical Examiner. Hurricane Florence has claimed at least 18 lives so far.

Full story: <https://www.wtvq.com/2018/09/17/ky-air-guard-sending-fatality-search-recovery-team-north-carolina/>

North Carolina family travels to Bowling Green to evacuate after Florence

(WBKO) -- A large family of more than 20 from New Bern, North Carolina is now housed at First Baptist Church in Bowling Green, Kentucky by the Southern Kentucky chapter of the American Red Cross. The family escaped the hurricane before it hit their homes.

They have family who live in the Bowling Green area, but their family didn't have enough room to house and feed them all. The Red Cross received a call from a family member living in Bowling Green, but couldn't find their exact location, so volunteers drove around the area looking for North Carolina license plates in order to track down the evacuees and help them.

The family is worried about the jobs they left behind, their belongings, and their homes. Most of the family members plan on staying in town until Friday when the water and flooding goes down

Full story: <https://www.wbko.com/content/news/New-Bern-North-Carolina-family-travels-to-Bowling-Green-to-evacuate-Hurricane-Florence-493429361.html>

Body of 1-Year-Old Swept Away in NC Flood Is Found Police say mother drove around barricades on flooded road

(NEWSER) – A 1-year-old boy was killed Sunday night when he was swept away in Hurricane Florence's rushing flood waters. The mother of Kaiden Lee-Welch was driving near Charlotte, NC, and drove around barricades to attempt to get through a flooded section of road, the Union County Sheriff's Office said in a Facebook post. Her car was swept off the road, and though she was able to get Kaiden out of his car seat, she then "lost her grip on him in the rushing water," the sheriff's office says.

Story link: <http://www.newser.com/story/264730/body-of-1-year-old-swept-away-in-flood-is-found.html>

FEMA Chief Brock Long Could Face Federal Charges

(NEWSER) – [A probe into President Trump's FEMA chief](#) has been referred to prosecutors. The *Wall Street Journal* reports that it's now up to them to decide whether federal criminal charges will be brought against Brock Long, who potentially broke "multiple laws" when he and two officials took taxpayer-funded trips to his North Carolina home. [Politico](#) first reported that Long had become the focus of a Department of Homeland Security inspector general investigation about a caravan of federal workers he took with him multiple times to the city of Hickory, some 800 miles round-trip from Washington.

Full story: <http://www.newser.com/story/264749/fema-chief-probe-now-in-the-hands-of-federal-prosecutors.html>

[ASC outpatient transfers can't be rejected by hospitals, Medicare says](#)

(Modern Healthcare) The CMS wants to buck a trend of hospitals denying patient transfers from ambulatory surgery centers. The proposal is part of a broader effort to reduce providers' administrative burdens and improve access to care. [READ MORE](#)

[CMS urged to adopt core quality measures for rural providers](#)

(Modern Healthcare) The National Quality Forum released its first-ever set of quality measures for rural hospitals and ambulatory care facilities to improve quality of care and access in rural communities. [READ MORE](#)

[White House OKs ambulatory surgery center safety database](#)

(Modern Healthcare) HHS will create a patient safety database to track quality of care at ambulatory surgery centers, as they become more prevalent across the country. [READ MORE](#)

[Phase 1 Human Clinical Trials Begin on Antimalarial Drug](#)

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, in conjunction with the Duke University School of Medicine, has begun enrolling for a Phase 1 clinical trial of a new antimalarial drug and its efficacy in humans. ([Homeland Preparedness News, 9/12/18](#))

Ebola Virus Disease Preparations Do Not Protect the US Against Other Infectious Outbreaks

(*American Journal of Public Health*) The 2014-2016 West African Ebola virus disease (EVD) epidemic took the world by surprise. While 11 patients were treated in the US, it challenged public health, health care, and emergency response infrastructures. The outbreak highlighted the need for robust systems of screening and care for patients with highly hazardous communicable diseases (HHCDs), especially because the outbreak showed how modern travel hastens international disease spread.

Full report: <https://ajph.aphapublications.org/doi/abs/10.2105/AJPH.2018.304667>

[Save the Date: Suicide Prevention Conference](#)

KHA, in association with The Ridge Behavioral Health System and the Advocacy Action Network, will host a conference on suicide prevention systems on **Friday, December 7** at The Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington. The focus this year is **Suicide: Among All Ages and Stages**. Mark your calendars now! More details will be available soon including a full agenda and registration information.

World's 1st hydrogen-powered trains hit the tracks in a breakthrough for 'green' fuel

(WTVQ) Some German commuters can now ride the rails on a pollution-free hydrogen train, a significant milestone for "green" transportation powered by natural resources. It is an important step in Germany's "energy transition" plan that aims to dramatically reduce pollution and boost the use of renewable energy by 2050.

Although they are more expensive than their polluting diesel counterparts — most German trains run on diesel fuel — the new locomotives are pollution-free, emitting only steam and water. Energy is stored in an ion lithium battery on each vehicle.

Full story: <https://www.wtvq.com/2018/09/18/world039s-1st-hydrogen-powered-trains-hit-the-tracks-in-a-breakthrough-for-039green039-fuel/>

Top 10 Emerging Technologies of 2018

(*Scientific American*) Artificial intelligence will greatly hasten the design of innovative drugs and materials. Advanced diagnostic tools will enable increasingly personalized medicine. Augmented reality will be everywhere, overlaying information and animation on real-world images to help you with everyday tasks--and to help industry to operate more efficiently.

Full story: <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-top-10-emerging-technologies-of-2018/>

John Hopkins: Health Security Headlines Extracts from [September 14](#) & [September 17, 2018](#)

[West Nile Virus Sickens 73 Iowans, Kills 3, Making This State's Worst Season Since 2003](#) (*Des Moines Register*) Late-summer mosquitoes are sparking Iowa's worst West Nile virus outbreak in 15 years, state experts said Friday. The virus is believed to have seriously sickened 73 Iowans so far this year, killing three, the Iowa Department of Public Health said. Iowa saw just 12 confirmed cases in all of last year. Mosquito season is likely to continue for at least a few more weeks. "We expect these numbers to rise," said Ann Garvey, the department's deputy epidemiologist. [Go to article](#)

[We Calculated the Deaths from Hurricane Maria. Politics Played No Role.](#) (*Washington Post*) Last December, a week before the holiday break, I received a call from the government of Puerto Rico seeking a meeting to discuss Hurricane Maria and its aftermath. In the cab on the way to meet Gov. Ricardo Rosselló, I knew the number of Puerto Rican lives lost was, and would continue to be, a highly charged issue. But I had no idea that after the Milken Institute School of Public Health, of which I am the dean, released our independent study, the issue would be the subject of several presidential tweets. The tweets suggested a political motive for our study's finding of 2,975 excess deaths in Puerto Rico after Hurricane Maria. [Go to article](#)

[The Race to Evacuate More Than 120 Seniors and People with Disabilities Ahead of Florence Flooding](#) (*Buzzfeed News*) Wrapped in a white blanket, a small woman with gray hair was rolled out in a wheelchair from the front hall of Cedar Creek Assisted Living, located on the outskirts of Fayetteville, North Carolina, to an evacuation bus waiting in the flooded parking lot. One member of FEMA's Nebraska Task Force 1 unit held her feet up off the wet ground. Another from the search and rescue squad pushed the wheelchair, and a third held a

big blue-and-white striped umbrella, slightly storm-battered, in an effort to shelter the elderly woman from Hurricane Florence's constant rains. An iteration of this scene was repeated for the facility's at least 124 residents, many of whom are elderly and have severe disabilities, between 7 p.m. and midnight on Saturday, Sept. 15. [Go to article](#)

[Quick and Easy Test for Viral Infections Reduces Hospital Admissions and Antibiotic Use](#) (*EurekAlert*) A quick and easy test for viral infections can reduce unnecessary antibiotic use and hospital admissions, according to new research presented to the European Respiratory Society International Congress today (Monday). The test, which takes just 50 minutes to obtain results, could save hospitals around €2,500 (about \$2,927) per patient not admitted to hospital, would help to relieve winter pressures on available beds, and may help to reduce the development of antibiotic resistance. [Go to article](#)

[FDA Plan Focuses on Antibiotic Development, Stewardship](#) (*CIDRAP*) The FDA today announced a multipronged strategy to address antimicrobial resistance that emphasizes new measures to spur development of antibiotics and alternative therapies, promote antibiotic stewardship in animal health, advance antibiotic resistance surveillance, and enhance regulatory science. [Go to article](#)

[Russians Allegedly Targeted Lab Studying Chemical Weapons](#) (*NPR*) A Swiss laboratory likely involved in analyzing samples from a March chemical attack in Salisbury, England, has reportedly been targeted by Russian agents. Two Russian intelligence agents were planning to break into the computer network of Spiez Laboratory, Switzerland's main laboratory for analyzing chemical weapons, according to accounts published Friday in Swiss and Dutch media. [Go to article](#)

[Radioactive Material is Still Missing in Malaysia: Cause for Concern?](#) (*Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*) A radioactive source was reported missing on August 10 in Malaysia. Since then, Malaysian authorities have expressed growing concern about the possible use of this material in a terrorist attack. The reality is that this material could be used to build a radiological dispersal device (RDD), commonly known as a "dirty bomb," and it can be found virtually in any country in the world. [Go to article](#)

Doctors: It's Time to Ban Baby Walkers

New study finds thousands of serious injuries each year

(NEWSER) – For many parents, baby walkers are an aid to help their little ones scoot around before they can do it totally on their own. But the head of an American Academy of Pediatrics injuries committee tells [NPR](#) the walkers are "inherently dangerous objects that have no benefit whatsoever," and that he thinks they should be banned. Dr. Benjamin Hoffman's remarks represent a reinvigorated movement to stop the manufacture and sale of the wheeled walkers in the US, and that mission is backed by a new study published Monday in the journal [Pediatrics](#).



The study found that, between 1990 and 2014, more than 230,000 kids younger than 15 months ended up in ERs after using a walker. More than 90% of the injuries were to the head and neck, [CBS News](#) notes. "There's absolutely no reason these products should still be on

the market," study author Gary Smith tells NPR. Full story link: <http://www.newser.com/story/264719/doctors-its-time-to-ban-baby-walkers.html>

----- **Animal in Preparedness News** -----

Cat Causes Power Outage Affecting Thousands

(NEWSER) – Thousands of New Orleans residents who lost power for more than an hour Monday have a cat to blame, [USA Today](#) reports. The animal got into one of [Entergy New Orleans'](#) substations, touched the equipment, and caused a flash. The cat did not survive.

Full story: <http://www.newser.com/story/264735/cat-causes-power-outage-affecting-thousands.html>

6 Trapped Dogs Rescued Just in Time in North Carolina

(NEWSER) – Not all the news in the wake of Florence is grim. A viral video posted by freelance reporter Marcus DiPaola shows him and another person rescuing six dogs from rising water in a locked kennel, reports the Daily Dot. The dogs are clearly thrilled with the development.

See the video & the rest of the story: <http://www.newser.com/story/264778/video-6-trapped-dogs-saved-from-rising-water.html>

Disaster Information Management Research Center

National Library of Medicine | National Institutes of Health

[Disaster Information Management Research Center sent this bulletin at 09/17/2018 01:20 PM EDT](#)

Make sure your agency is covered in the event of a disaster. Power outages, floods, fires, etc., can damage your physical space and disrupt service to your patrons and clients. Do you have backup plans for your staff and your facility if a disaster strikes close to home?

- Take a look at [sample Continuity of Operations \(COOP\) plans](#) in the Disaster Lit® database.
- Learn about a [backup email communication system for health facilities](#) that relies on ham radio operators for support.
- Check out your [regional medical library](#) to find information about state emergency medical management offices.

There is a webinar this *Thursday, September 20 at 1:30pm ET*, entitled **Planning for Disaster: Partnerships Ensure Continuity of Operations**. It will feature speakers from DIMRC along with Ann Holman from Darnall Medical Library, Walter Reed National Military Medical Center. Find login details on our [webinars page](#).

FEMA EMI Training Opportunities - 1434 & 1435

E0210 Recovery from Disaster: The Local Community Role
E0948 – Situational Awareness and Common Operating Picture (SA/COP)

The next University of Louisville's **Trauma Nursing Lecture Series** is October 16th! Time is 12 PM to 4 PM (ET) at UofL in the ACB Auditorium. Lunch will be provided as well as 4.0 hours of CE's. No charge. If anyone would like more info, or to register, please contact Stefanie Upton at stefanup@ulh.org.

ATLS Course with CME: 17 hours (Cat-1)

October 15 & 16, 7:30 AM to 5 PM

Pikeville Medical Center,

2-day course fee: Physician \$850; APRN/PA/CRNA \$600;

Registration: angie.reed@pikevillehospital.org, (or call: 606-218-6334)

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 added or deleted, or have something you would like to contribute to a future edition of the Emergency Preparedness Update, please contact 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.