



## Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for February 11, 2019

### Kentucky Senate passes school safety bill

(WSAZ/WAVE) -- Kentucky state senators have unanimously passed a bill aimed at keeping students safe in school. Some who voted for SB 1 said they wanted to assure the families of Marshall County school shooting victims that they won't be forgotten. SB 1 includes the creation of a state school safety marshal and local leaders, resource officers at every school, and required active shooter training for staff members. It also touches on mental health requiring training and a mental health professional assigned per 1,500 students. SB 1 incorporates school threats as part of a terroristic threatening in the second degree charge.

Full story: <https://www.wsaz.com/content/news/Kentucky-Senate-passes-school-safety-bill-505606781.html>

KY LRC site for SB-1: <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/19rs/sb1.html>

### Parents question whether shooting drills traumatize kids

(AP) — Long before an ex-student opened fire on his former classmates in Parkland, Florida, many school districts conducted regular shooting drills — exercises that sometimes included simulated gunfire and blood and often happened with no warning that the attack wasn't real.



'Red Flag' Gun Laws Grow  
Since Parkland Shooting

Feb 9, 2019 3:30 PM CST

The drills began taking shape after the Columbine High School shooting in 1999. But 20 years later, parents are increasingly questioning elements of the practice, including whether the drills traumatize kids. Thirty-nine states require lockdown, active-shooter or similar safety drills. Other states have less explicit requirements or leave it to districts, according to the Education Commission of the States.

Read full AP story: <https://apnews.com/e8ea3acddb574f07ad3b6b3cf2278711>

<< Link to "Red Flag" story: <http://newser.com/s271089>

### Related: After Parkland, Teens Talk with NPR about Guns in America

<https://www.npr.org/2019/02/07/688761215/watch-in-a-post-parkland-america-teens-talk-about-gun-culture>

### A Water Crisis Is Growing in a Place You'd Least Expect It

(NPR/APM) The crisis is especially acute where you would least expect it – the Great Lakes, the region of the country with the most abundant fresh water. A nine-month investigation by APM (American Public Media) Reports [examined the cost of water](#) in six large cities near the Great Lakes – Chicago, Cleveland, Milwaukee, Detroit, Buffalo and Duluth – over the past 10 years and found that rates have risen alarmingly fast. In Chicago, the cost of water for the average family of four nearly tripled between 2007 and 2018. Cleveland's rates more than doubled – to \$1,317 per year for an average family of four. And families in Detroit paid an astounding \$1,151 annually. By contrast, that same average family living in Phoenix, which pipes in much of its water from 300 miles away and has been called the least-sustainable city in the country, paid about two-thirds less.

Many cities have been forced to raise rates to deal with decrepit infrastructure – leaking, cracking water pipes that in some places date to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. With the federal government allocating less money for water infrastructure, most cities have foisted the bill on to their customers, especially those who can least afford it. The APM Reports investigation found that the rising cost of water has hit poor families the hardest.

Parts of America's crumbling water infrastructure was built more than a century ago. Even the newer pipes – the ones installed in the 1960s and 1970s – are nearing the end of their lifespan. Dealing with these aging pipes, including repairing or replacing them or losing untold gallons to leaks, is costing water utilities an increasing amount of money. Learn more: <https://www.npr.org/691409795>

### Dangerous Bacteria May Lurk in Hospital Sinks

(HealthDay News) -- Hospital germ detectives say the sinks next to toilets in patient rooms may harbor potentially dangerous bacteria. Researchers at the Medical College of Wisconsin checked a large Wisconsin hospital for *Klebsiella pneumoniae carbapenemase*. KPC is a type of bacteria that can cause health care-associated infections such as [pneumonia](#), bloodstream infections, [wound](#) infections or surgical site infections. KPC was found in 87 percent of patient sinks next to toilets, compared with about 22 percent of sinks near room entry doors. In 4 out of 5 rooms where KPC was found in the entry door sinks, it was also found in the sink near the toilet, suggesting a possible source of cross-contamination.

Full story: <https://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=218590>

## Kentucky studies new Louisville bypass through 7 rural counties



(WDRB) Kentucky is studying whether to build a new road linking Interstate 65 in Bullitt County with I-71 in Oldham or Henry counties, creating an interstate-type bypass around Louisville farther east of the Gene Snyder Freeway. Planners are evaluating routes through six or possibly seven counties. Kentucky lawmakers approved funds for the study in last year's highway plan, and the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet awarded a \$1.9 million contract to HDR Engineering last fall. A final report expected in mid-November would include three to four corridor options, including the possibility of building no road at all.

The project is a logical way to address areas where growth is expected, said Dan Ison, Shelby County's Judge-Executive. He likens it to the planning that occurred before the Watterson Expressway and Snyder Freeway were built decades ago as Louisville's population pushed out from the city core.

## Projected Change in Total Population 2015 - 2040



Source: Kentucky State Data Center  
Projections of Population and Households, v2016

Full story with video report: [https://www.wdrb.com/in-depth/sunday-edition-kentucky-studies-new-louisville-bypass-through-rural-counties/article\\_77c9a8a0-2be1-11e9-824e-ff15b54bd91a.html](https://www.wdrb.com/in-depth/sunday-edition-kentucky-studies-new-louisville-bypass-through-rural-counties/article_77c9a8a0-2be1-11e9-824e-ff15b54bd91a.html)

### CPR Not Always Given at Dialysis Clinics When Needed

(HealthDay News) -- When [kidney failure](#) patients undergoing treatment at [dialysis](#) clinics suffer [cardiac arrest](#), the clinic staff usually jumps in to perform lifesaving CPR, but not always, a new study finds.

"It is reassuring that bystander CPR was associated with improved outcomes in dialysis clinics just as it is in other settings, but it is concerning that the rate of dialysis staff-initiated CPR isn't closer to 100 percent, considering that all staff should be CPR-trained," said study author Dr. Patrick Pun, from Duke University, in Durham, N.C.

Read more: <https://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=218618>

### Opioid Addicts Are Overdosing on Diarrhea Drug

(HealthDay News) -- A popular anti-diarrheal drug is fast becoming another dangerous byproduct of the opioid crisis, as more addicts take huge quantities of it to ease withdrawal symptoms or get dangerously high.

Investigators found that the number of patients who were reported to the U.S. National Poison Data System after taking toxic doses of [loperamide](#) (one [over-the-counter](#) brand is [lmodium](#)) skyrocketed by more than 90 percent between 2010 and 2016.

Read more: <https://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=218601>

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**KY girl, 4, tests positive for cocaine after going unresponsive at school  
2-year old sibling also tested positive**

Story: <https://www.wkyt.com/content/news/Police-Kentucky-boy-4-tests-positive-for-cocaine-after-going-unresponsive-at-school-505574081.html>

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**Flakka: Teens May Be Ingesting This Dangerous Drug without Knowing It**

(A primer from healthline) Less than 1 percent of high school kids report using the (cocaine-like) club drug nicknamed “flakka.” But more may be exposed to this dangerous synthetic drug than they realize, especially if they take more popular club drugs such as ecstasy or Molly. The [first report](#) to estimate the prevalence of flakka use among U.S. teens found that 0.8 percent of high school seniors in 2016-2017 reported using flakka in the past year. Hair samples gathered at nightclubs and parties where synthetic drug use is common often reveal traces of flakka among youths who admit to using other party drugs but insist they don’t use flakka.

**What is flakka?** Flakka is the street name for alpha-PVP, a synthetic cathinone in a class of psychoactive drug commonly referred to as “bath salts.” Cathinone is the psychoactive ingredient found in khat, a shrub whose leaves have been chewed in Africa for centuries as a stimulant. These drugs act as both hallucinogens and stimulants — a potent combination that has landed tens of thousands of people in emergency rooms in recent years. Flakka can be used in a variety of ways — eaten, snorted, injected, or vaped. It is listed as a banned schedule 1 drug by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, meaning it has high potential for abuse and no medical use. The real dangers include rapid heart rate, elevated body temperature, anxiety, seizures, agitation, aggression, hallucinations, paranoia, and suicidality. Even in the emergency room, it’s difficult to tell whether patients have ingested flakka, which doesn’t show up on routine drug tests,

Dr. Robert Glatter, an emergency physician at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York, told Healthline that club drug users are essentially “playing Russian roulette” because they don’t know about the adulterants that are commonly added to the pills they take. “Rural areas of Ohio and Florida have been hotbeds of use,” he said. “It should be on our radar, especially among kids who are known to use other street drugs.”

Full story: <https://www.healthline.com/health-news/what-is-flakka-and-is-your-teen-using-it#What-is-flakka?>

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**Chronic pain most common reason U.S. patients get medical marijuana**

(Reuters) Almost two-thirds of patients in the U.S. who get medical marijuana are using it as a treatment for chronic pain, a new study suggests.

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**Armed Louisville man in body armor arrested  
with 'massive' amounts of drugs and ammo**

(WDRB) -Feb 6 - Police in Louisville say a man in body armor was arrested early Wednesday morning, after he was found with several handguns and a "massive" amount of drugs and ammunition. According to an arrest report, they found him wearing body armor with a 9-millimeter handgun strapped to his chest. Officers say they found three more handguns hidden in his pockets and in his body armor. All of the weapons were fully loaded and had extra magazines, according to police. The serial numbers of at least one of the weapons was scratched out. Additionally, police say they found "an enormous" amount of ammunition.

Story: [https://www.wdrb.com/news/police-armed-louisville-man-in-body-armor-arrested-with-massive/article\\_41169152-2a50-11e9-8f77-abc060aef45.html](https://www.wdrb.com/news/police-armed-louisville-man-in-body-armor-arrested-with-massive/article_41169152-2a50-11e9-8f77-abc060aef45.html)

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**Pennsylvania hospital patient tests negative for Ebola**

An unidentified patient who was kept in isolation at a Philadelphia hospital while being tested for Ebola has been confirmed as not infected with the deadly virus, a hospital spokesman said last Wednesday. The hospital had said it was conducting tests on the patient in an abundance of caution because the patient met the screening criteria for Ebola.

Story link: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-ebola-usa/pennsylvania-hospital-patient-tests-negative-for-ebola-idUSKCN1PV272>

## Register Today - Hospital-Based Incident Command Systems: Small and Rural Hospitals Webinar

ASPR TRACIE) Hospital-based incident command systems (e.g., HICS) have been used formally in U.S. hospitals since the late 1970's as a way to manage incidents, coordinate resources and communications, and collaborate with community-based response agencies. Despite their widespread adoption and use, there is very little published information available on lessons learned, best practices, and real-world adaptation of these systems. [This free webinar](#) (the second in our series) is scheduled for **March 12, 2019, from 1:00-2:30 PM ET** and will feature speakers from small and rural hospitals who have experienced a recent emergency and activated their hospital-based incident command systems. The speakers will provide a brief overview of the incident, describe how they implemented their incident command system, share lessons learned and tools for small and rural hospitals, and discuss how they have incorporated these lessons into their current systems and plans. [Register today!](#)

### New! Webinar Recording Available:

#### ASPR Healthcare and Public Health Risk Identification and Site Criticality (RISC) Toolkit

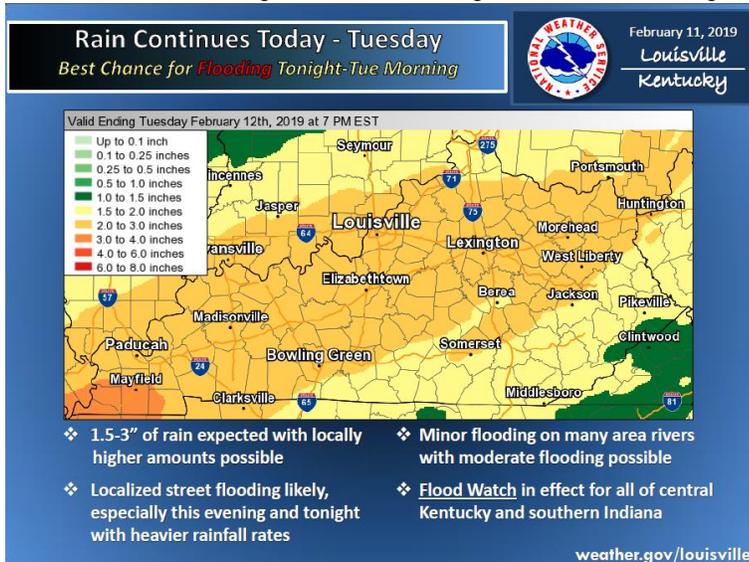
(ASPR) The [RISC Toolkit](#) was developed with the input of a team of healthcare partners and risk management subject matter experts and designed to help healthcare facility owners and operators identify risks in an easy-to-follow format using objective, national-level data. In [this webinar](#), speakers provided a brief overview of the RISC Tool and share how they have implemented the toolkit. While most questions were answered during the webinar, [this document](#) includes responses to questions that were collected afterwards.

### Unnecessary ED visits from chronically ill patients cost \$8.3 billion

(Modern Healthcare) Six common chronic conditions accounted for 60% of 24 million ED visits in 2017, and about 30% of those visits—or 4.3 million—were likely preventable and could be treated in a less expensive outpatient setting, according to a new Premier report. [READ MORE](#)

### Rain, Wind and Potential Flooding in Forecast

The main story, of course, is continued rain showers today through tomorrow and a risk for flooding. The highest risk for flooding, including isolated flash flooding, is tonight into Tuesday morning. A [Flood Watch](#) remains in effect for the entire region. River flooding will continue throughout this week.



Also noteworthy are the strong winds that will develop Tuesday afternoon through Tuesday night. Sustained winds from the west of 20-25 mph will gust in excess of 40 mph at times. These winds may bring down water logged trees and limbs. Isolated power outages are also possible.

[NWS Jackson:](#) Flood Watch continues for through Tuesday afternoon. Rainfall of 1.5 to 2 inches expected through early Tuesday afternoon. Locally higher amounts will be possible. Excessive rainfall could lead to flooding, especially in low lying areas, and will likely cause streams to run high through at least mid-week. Significant rises are also expected on area rivers, especially along the main stem of the Kentucky and Red River Basins. Due to the rainfall, a threat for mud

and rock slides will continue through Tuesday afternoon.

Tuesday through Sunday, a passing cold front on Tuesday will bring another round of moderate to heavy showers, resulting in a continued threat of flooding along creeks, streams, as well as some of the larger rivers. Additionally, these rains will bring a threat for mud and rock slides. West winds could gust up to 40 mph Tuesday evening and into the night.

[NWS Paducah:](#) Flood Watch continues through late tonight. Additional rainfall amounts of one and a half to three inches are expected. Locally higher amounts will also be possible, especially over southern portions of southeast Missouri and western Kentucky. With rivers already in flood, and most of our creeks, streams, and tributaries still at or near bank full from recent rains, the already saturated soil conditions will allow any additional rainfall to run off and create additional flooding concerns. River flooding will likely be prolonged, and possibly

could worsen with time. Rainfall rates have been light to moderate so far but rates should increase today into tonight.

Tuesday through Sunday, strong, gusty winds, with gusts 30 to 40 mph, will be possible Tuesday, especially during the afternoon.

[NWS Wilmington](#): Flood Watch continues through Tuesday afternoon. A stalled frontal boundary will result in a prolonged period of precipitation with a storm total rainfall of 1.5 to 2.5 inches through Tuesday afternoon. With saturated ground, rivers and streams still in flood or running high, this additional rainfall will likely lead to flooding.

Tuesday through Sunday, strong winds are expected later Tuesday afternoon and Tuesday night. Wind gusts from 35 to 50 mph will be possible. Scattered power outages and minor tree damage will be possible.

Briefing slides with river crest forecasts:

[https://www.weather.gov/media/lmk/briefing/11Feb2019\\_4ambriefingslides.pdf](https://www.weather.gov/media/lmk/briefing/11Feb2019_4ambriefingslides.pdf)

Find and click on weather alerts for your area: <https://www.weather.gov/>

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**Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines**  
**Extracts from [February 8, 2019](#)**

**[An Increase in Reports of Acute Flaccid Paralysis](#)** (*AFP*) in the United Kingdom, 1 January 2018 - 21 January 2019: Early Findings In November 2018, PHE began to receive reports of acute flaccid paralysis. A national task force was established to investigate the apparent increase. Here, we describe the preliminary epidemiological, clinical and microbiological features of cases as at 21 January 2019. [Go to article](#)

**[Disease Threatening Deer Population Has Spread to 26 States](#)** (*The Wall Street Journal*) An illness similar to mad-cow disease that is fatal to deer is spreading across the US, worrying hunters, wildlife-management officials and scientists. [Go to article](#)

**[8,000 Flu Death Prevented Last Year With Vaccine: Study](#)** (*MEDPAGE Today*) End-of-season influenza vaccine efficacy for the 2017-2018 flu season was a mediocre 38% (95% CI 31%-43%), but flu shots were still estimated to have prevented 7 million illnesses and 8,000 deaths, researchers found. [Go to article](#)

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**Microsoft Issues Internet Explorer Upgrade Warning**

(Forbes) Microsoft's transformation into a modern, cross-platform business has one victim: its legacy services. Following news this week that Windows 7 is about to get [a lot more expensive](#), now Microsoft has issued a serious warning about the once all-conquering Internet Explorer web browser...

In a subtle-as-a-brick [blog post](#) called 'The perils of using Internet Explorer as your default browser', Microsoft has warned that using Internet Explorer is downright dangerous and the company goes so far as to no longer even describe it as a web browser.

Read more: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/gordonkelly/2019/02/09/microsoft-internet-explorer-upgrade-warning-edge-google-chrome-firefox/#3c3c822a3907>

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**Apple iOS 12.1.4 Has A Nasty Surprise**

Read more: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/gordonkelly/2019/02/10/apple-ios-12-1-4-problem-iphone-cellular-data-wifi-upgrade-ipad/#552eed3131d0>

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**Safety Coordinator Vacancy**

The Radcliff Veterans Center, a coalition partner in HPP Region 5, is looking for a full-time Safety Coordinator. This is a state position within the KY Department of Veterans Affairs. Closing date is **February 12th at 7 PM ET**. For more information see the job posting on the KY Personnel Cabinet website: <https://kypersonnelcabinet.csod.com/ats/careersite/JobDetails.aspx?id=5498&site=2>

NOTE: We are having a temporary problem with the international email security provider we use here at KHA, MIMECAST, and Gmail. Gmail's system is blocking our mail, including things from our listserve system, like this Emergency Preparedness Update. This includes organizations that use Gmail as their base platform to host their own email domain. The problem has been reported to Mimecast, and they are reportedly working on it. In the meantime, if you have someone who is either a Gmail user, or is part of an organization that uses Gmail to host their domain, and they have stopped receiving it you may want to forward the Emergency Preparedness Update to them until this problem is resolved.

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](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.

## **Public Health Continues to Promote Hepatitis A Vaccination** *Statewide Outbreak Continues, More Deaths Reported*

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Feb. 8, 2019) – People who are considered high risk for exposure to the Hepatitis A virus should get vaccinated as soon as possible to avoid contracting the virus and lessen the spread of the disease. High risk groups include individuals who use illicit drugs, close contacts of illicit drug users, and homeless people.

The Department for Public Health (DPH) is making this recommendation as part of its efforts to respond to the ongoing outbreak of Hepatitis A. Since the outbreak began in August 2017, reported cases continue to rise and have now been recorded in 103 of Kentucky's 120 counties.

"If you are at-risk of exposure to the Hepatitis A virus, we urge to get vaccinated immediately. Immunizations can be obtained from a healthcare provider, pharmacies, and clinics throughout the state. Local health departments have limited vaccine supply for at-risk individuals who are uninsured," said DPH Commissioner Dr. Jeff Howard. "In addition, if you live in a county currently experiencing an outbreak, we also urge you to be vaccinated for Hepatitis A as well as continue to practice regular and thorough hand washing, particularly if you are engaging with any of the high risk groups."

About 80 percent of cases in the current outbreak are people in the high risk groups. Other priority populations include;

People with direct contact with someone who has Hepatitis A (particularly during their infectious period);

Men who have sexual contact with men; and

People who are at increased risk of complications from Hepatitis A (e.g., people with chronic liver disease).

As of Jan. 26, 3,819 cases have been reported in Kentucky due to the outbreak. A recent year-end review of Kentucky mortality records revealed additional deaths, increasing the total known deaths to 40 associated with the current Hepatitis A outbreak. Counties have reported 1,862 hospitalizations due to Hepatitis A.

To date, 80 counties have reported five or more cases, meaning they meet the threshold for what is considered an outbreak of Hepatitis A virus. Boyd, Carter, Fayette, Floyd, Jefferson, Kenton, Laurel, Madison, and Whitley counties report 100 or more cases associated with the outbreak.

Hepatitis A is a highly contagious, vaccine-preventable disease of the liver, which causes inflammation of the liver and affects the organ's ability to function. Signs and symptoms of Hepatitis A include nausea, diarrhea, and loss of appetite, fever, fatigue, jaundice (yellowing of the skin or eyes), clay-colored bowel movements, dark-colored urine, and abdominal discomfort. Signs and symptoms usually appear 2-4 weeks after exposure, but may occur up to 7 weeks after exposure. Children under 6 years of age with Hepatitis A often show few signs and symptoms.

Hepatitis A virus is found in the stool of infected people, and is usually spread person-to-person when infected people do not properly wash their hands or do not have access to proper sanitation. Transmission typically occurs when a person ingests infected fecal matter, even in microscopic amounts, from contact with contaminated objects, food, or drinks. DPH recommends frequent hand washing, particularly after using the restroom, or before eating, to prevent transmission of hepatitis A and many other common diseases.

To prevent new cases from occurring, DPH has partnered with local public health staff, health care providers, correctional facilities, faith-based organizations, homeless shelters, and substance abuse treatment centers to vaccinate people who are at the highest risk of getting Hepatitis A. People who have had Hepatitis A disease or previously received 2 doses of the Hepatitis A vaccine do not need to be immunized.

"Vaccination of high risk groups is crucial to stopping the outbreak in Kentucky," added Dr. Howard. "If you or someone you know might be at risk for Hepatitis A, please get vaccinated as soon as possible at your local health department, primary care physician's office, or local pharmacy. If you suspect you might have Hepatitis A infection or are experiencing symptoms (including, vomiting, diarrhea, jaundice/yellowing of the skin and eyes), you should seek medical care immediately."

Individuals also are advised to contact their local health department or the Reportable Disease program at DPH at (502) 564-3261.

Since 2006, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended that all children receive the Hepatitis A vaccine series. DPH recommends children aged 1 to 18 years receive the two-dose Hepatitis A vaccine, as well as at-risk adults. Kentucky now requires all students in kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade to have two doses of the Hepatitis A vaccine in order to attend school or receive a provisional certificate of immunization.