



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for February 14, 2019

Winter Weather Advisory Fri Night

6-10 PM ● Light Snow Begins

10 PM ● Accumulating Snow 1-2 inches

1 AM ●

SAT Midnight ● Freezing Drizzle South of I-64

6 AM ●

SAT Early Morning ● Precipitation Ends



National Weather Service
Louisville Kentucky
02/14/2019 03:34 PM EST

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ISSUED: 4 PM - Thursday, February 14, 2019

Source: <https://www.weather.gov/lmk/weatherstory>

NWS Louisville: WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY IN EFFECT FROM 6 PM EST / 5 PM CST / FRIDAY TO 7 AM EST / 6 AM CST / SATURDAY. Minor snow accumulations of 1 to 2 inches along and north of the Western Kentucky and Bluegrass Parkways. Minor ice accumulations less than a tenth of an inch south of I-64. Snow begins Friday evening. Best time for accumulating snow late evening. Changeover to freezing drizzle after midnight.

NWS Paducah: WINTER WEATHER ADVISORY IN EFFECT FROM NOON FRIDAY TO 3 AM CST SATURDAY. Mixed precipitation expected. Total snow and sleet accumulations of up to two inches are expected generally along and north of a line from Perryville Missouri to Marion Illinois to Owensboro Kentucky.



Further south, ice accumulations of around one to two tenths of an inch are expected. From noon Friday to 3 AM CST Saturday, precipitation will begin first in southeast Missouri and southwest Illinois early Friday afternoon and then progress eastward to include the entire region during the evening

NWS Jackson: Light Wintry Mix Possible Friday Night into Saturday Morning. Rain will overspread the area on Friday. As colder air moves into the area Friday night behind a passing cold front, precipitation will change over to a combination of snow, ice pellets, and perhaps some freezing rain. 1 to 2 inches of snow will be possible along and north of

the Mountain Parkway, with little or no snow accumulation south of the Hal Rogers Parkway and Highway 80 corridors. Less than a tenth of an inch ice is possible across all of eastern Kentucky, mainly accumulating on elevated surfaces. This will lead to some slick travel

conditions. Source: <https://forecast.weather.gov/wwamap/wwatxtget.php?cwa=lmk&wwa=special%20weather%20statement>

KY Watches, Warnings and Advisories source: <https://alerts.weather.gov/cap/ky.php?x=1>

Parkland shooting victims are remembered in silence

(AP) — Students at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High and other schools across the U.S. bowed their heads in a moment of silence and took part in volunteer projects Thursday to mark the anniversary of the shooting rampage that claimed 17 lives. But for many Parkland students, the tragedy was still so raw they couldn't bring themselves to set foot in the building.

Fewer than 300 of the 3,200 students at the high school showed up for what was only a half-day, with classes cut short so that the teenagers would not be there around 2:20 p.m., the traumatic moment last year when gunfire erupted.

The massacre on Feb. 14, 2018 — Valentine's Day — inflamed the nation's debate over guns, turned some Parkland students into political activists and gave rise to some of the biggest youth demonstrations since the Vietnam era.

Many Stoneman Douglas students arrived wearing the burgundy #MSDStrong T-shirts that have become an emblem of the tragedy. Outside, clear plastic figurines of angels were erected for each of the 14 students and three staff members killed.

See and read full AP story: <https://apnews.com/2b95e512119c4be5aa723d00381440b4>

Parkland survivors reflect on gun control a year later

(CNN) School massacre survivors David Hogg and Ryan Deitsch reflected on what they see as progress on gun control a year after the Parkland, Florida, mass shooting -- and what's next for them and their movement. Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/13/politics/parkland-anniversary-hogg-deitsch-cnntv/index.html>

KY Proposal to eliminate requirements for conceal carry

(WDRB) -- A new bill in Kentucky would eliminate requirements to hold a permit or license to carry a handgun. Currently, people wanting to carry a concealed firearm in Kentucky have to receive a permit for their local sheriff's office. Openly carrying a gun is legal in most part of the state. Senate bill 150 would eliminate the licensing requirement to carry a concealed deadly weapon.

Under current law, in order to receive a carry concealed deadly weapon (CCDW) license, a person must 21 years old, not be a convicted felon and complete and pass a safety class.

Read more: https://www.wdrb.com/news/proposed-bill-would-eliminate-requirement-for-safety-course-to-carry/article_f1ef65e4-2f0a-11e9-b478-ab4c785593b2.html

KY LRC link to SB 150: <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/19rs/sb150.html>

One in six U.S. kids have mental health disorders

(Reuters Health) - Roughly in six U.S. kids have at least one mental health disorder, and only about half of them receive treatment from a mental health professional, a new study suggests.

Nationwide, an estimated 7.7 million children ages 6 to 17 have at least one mental health disorder, or about 16.5 percent of school age kids, the study found. The prevalence of childhood mental health problems ranged from a low of 7.6 percent in Hawaii to a high of 27.2 percent in Maine.

Half of kids with conditions like depression, anxiety, and attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder received no care from mental health professionals

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-children-mental-health/one-in-six-u-s-kids-have-mental-health-disorders-idUSKCN1Q02HZ>

Brock Long Quits FEMA

(Newser) – The head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency is resigning, months after [an investigation found he misused government vehicles](#) to travel to his home in North Carolina. Brock Long said in a letter Wednesday to agency employees that he was resigning to spend more time with his family, the [AP](#) reports.

Read more: <http://www.newser.com/story/271276/fema-chief-resigning.html>



Bugs Vs. Superbugs:

Insects Offer Promise In Fight Against Antibiotic Resistance

(NPR) Nobody likes a cockroach in their house. But before you smash the unwelcome intruder, consider this: that six-legged critter might one day save your life.

That's right. Insects—long known to spread diseases—could potentially help cure them. Or rather, the microbes living inside them could. Scientists have discovered dozens of microorganisms living in or on insects that produce antimicrobial compounds, some of which may hold the key to developing new antibiotic drugs.

They can't come too soon. More infections [are becoming resistant](#) to common antibiotics, and the pipeline of new antibiotic drugs [has slowed to a trickle](#).

Learn more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2019/02/13/694118623/bugs-vs-superbugs-insects-offer-promise-in-fight-against-antibiotic-resistance>

Giving Medicine To Young Children? Getting The Dose Right Is Tricky

(NPR) In a recent survey, 1 in 5 parents thought that using a household spoon was OK for measuring their child's medicine. It's not. Here's how to help little kids without overdosing them.

Read more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2019/02/11/690483391/giving-medicine-to-young-children-getting-the-dose-right-is-tricky>

Ohio teen defies mother and gets vaccinated after turning to strangers online

(CBS) Disproven and dubious theories about the [safety of childhood vaccines](#) are pitting an Ohio mother against her teenage son. High school senior Ethan Lindenberger recently defied his mother and got vaccinated, saying his parents' misguided beliefs put his health, and the health of his younger siblings, at risk. Lindenberger is 18 and in Ohio, he's old enough to get shots without his parents' permission. In December, he got vaccinated for influenza, hepatitis, tetanus and HPV. His 16-year-old brother, who is now considering also getting his shots, will have to wait. There is no federal law mandating children be immunized but only seven states and Washington D.C. allow minors to get vaccinations without parental consent.

See, hear and read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/ohio-teen-ethan-lindenberger-defies-mother-and-gets-vaccinated/>

**VaevTissue: This Company Is Selling \$79 Tissues Used by Sick People
It's "non-prescription" and "organic" because it's snot.**

Ignoring, for a moment, the heap of other issues — the health risk, the ick factor — [VaevTissue](#) has a business model that is risky at best. Founder Oliver Nissen [tells Time](#) that his company has a “stable” of 10 go-to sick people who are employed to sneeze into tissues. These tissues are then sold online for \$79 apiece. VaevTissue claims that, by rubbing your face with the company’s germ-ridden tissue, you can get “sick on your own terms,” not when the common cold comes to strike.

According to the VaevTissue website, the company’s supply is [sold out](#), having run through its collection of 1,000 tissues.

Learn more: <https://www.inverse.com/article/52764-vaev-tissue-cold-prevention-scam>

Suffering and dying in Kentucky.’ Clinic owners convicted in pain pill scheme.

(Herald-Leader) The owners of a Tennessee clinic conspired to illegally distribute pain pills that worsened the drug problem in southeast Kentucky, a federal jury has ruled.

The jury convicted the owners of the Tennessee Pain Institute, Anwar Mithavayani and Pete Anthony Tyndale, along with Timothy Dennis Gowder, a doctor who worked there, of scheming to distribute pain pills in Laurel, Bell, Knox, Whitley and McCreary counties for several years.

Read more: <https://www.kentucky.com/news/state/kentucky/article226134805.html>

**Hackers are stealing millions of medical records
– and selling them on the dark web**

(CBS) As health care providers store patients' medical records digitally, some have left their files vulnerable to being exposed – and even sold on the black market, or the internet's dark web. Thieves want people's medical records. "It's just a treasure trove of all this information about you," said Gary Cantrell, head of investigations at the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Inspector General.

See and read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/hackers-steal-medical-records-sell-them-on-dark-web/>

How Sleep Fights Infection: Snoozing Makes Killer Immune Cells More Sticky

<https://news360.com/article/487734649>

EPA to limit manmade chemicals in drinking water

(Reuters) - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will announce on Thursdays limits on how much toxic chemicals from cookware and carpeting are allowed in drinking water.

The agency will announce a plan to control a group of chemicals known as PFAS that are linked to cancer, liver and thyroid damage, and other health and fetal effects. The substances, which include PFOA and PFOS, are found in non-stick cookware, stain-resistant carpeting and other manmade materials.

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-epa-chemicals/epa-to-limit-manmade-chemicals-in-drinking-water-idUSKCN1Q307C>

Kentucky governor outlines support for medical marijuana

Kentucky's Republican governor says he would be happy to sign a bill to make marijuana legal for medical purposes.

Bevin said his support for a bill legalizing medical marijuana would depend on how the bill is written, adding he would be opposed to a bill written solely to raise money for the state's general fund.

Republican state Sen. Stephen West filed Senate Bill 170 on Tuesday that would make medical marijuana legal in Kentucky. He said the bill is identical to House Bill 136, filed by Republican Rep. Jason Nemes.

Read more: <https://www.wkyt.com/content/news/Kentucky-governor-outlines-support-for-medical-marijuana-505741661.html>

KY LRC link to SB 170: <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/19rs/sb170.html>

KY LRC link to HB 136: <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/19rs/hb136.html>

Heart attack tied to edible marijuana is a warning to doctors

(Reuters Health) - As medical and recreational marijuana becomes legal in more and more places, experts worry there isn't enough science on the risks and benefits of the drug, especially for patients with heart disease.

In a new case report, doctors describe the heart attack of a man who ate a lollipop laced with high levels of THC, marijuana's psychoactive ingredient. This patient's story may serve as a warning that cannabis isn't as benign as some would like to think, doctors write in the Canadian Journal of Cardiology.

Read more: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-heart-marijuana/heart-attack-tied-to-edible-marijuana-is-a-warning-to-doctors-idUSKCN1Q225X>

CDC issues warning over potentially contaminated raw milk

Health officials say they are investigating after people in 19 states may have been exposed to dangerous drug-resistant bacteria from drinking [raw milk](#). At least one person has gotten sick.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, one case of an infection called brucellosis has been confirmed in New York. The individual consumed [raw, unpasteurized milk](#) from Miller's Biodiversity Farm in Quarryville, Pennsylvania.

Investigators have determined that people in 19 states bought or consumed raw milk from the farm. The milk was sold in Alabama, California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, and Virginia.

Learn more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/cdc-raw-milk-warning-cdc-issues-warning-over-potentially-contaminated-raw-milk/>

Drugmaker that pushed pill on elderly now facing fines

(CNN) A pharmaceutical company that aggressively marketed a drug to nursing home residents now faces significant financial penalties as the result of an investigation by the Justice Department.

Avanir Pharmaceuticals was the subject of a 2017 CNN investigation that found inappropriate and potentially fraudulent use of its main drug Nuedexta in elderly dementia patients since its release in 2011.

On Wednesday, Avanir publicly acknowledged the DOJ investigation in a press release stating it had reached a tentative agreement with the agency related to certain sales and marketing of the drug prior to 2017. Details of the deal, including civil and criminal agreements, are still being finalized.

Read more: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/13/health/nuedexta-doj-investigation-invs/index.html>

At-home decolonization cuts MRSA, other infections

(CIDRAP) The results of a randomized, controlled clinical trial involving patients colonized with methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) indicate a twice-monthly decolonization routine after discharge could significantly reduce the risk of MRSA and other types of bacterial infection.

In a study yesterday in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, researchers from the University of California Irvine (UCI) School of Medicine and elsewhere reported that, when compared with patients who received only education about MRSA, patients who received education and underwent decolonization cut their MRSA rates substantially.

Read more: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2019/02/study-home-decolonization-cuts-mrsa-other-infections>

HHS announces new Medicare payment model for ambulance services

(AHA Today) The Department of Health and Human Services' Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation today [announced](#) a new payment model for emergency ambulance services that aims to allow Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries to receive the most appropriate level of care at the right time and place with the potential for lower out-of-pocket costs. According to HHS, the [Emergency Triage, Treat and Transport \(ET3\) model](#) will make it possible for participating ambulance suppliers and providers to partner with qualified health care practitioners to deliver treatment in place (either on-the-scene or through telehealth) and with alternative destination sites (such as primary care doctors' offices or urgent-care clinics) to provide care for Medicare beneficiaries following a medical emergency for which they have accessed 911 services. The model also will encourage development of medical triage lines for low-acuity 911 calls in regions where participating ambulance suppliers and providers operate. The model will have a five-year performance period, with an anticipated start date in early 2020. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services expects to release a request for applications from Medicare-enrolled ambulance suppliers and providers this summer, and a funding opportunity notice for the triage lines for low-acuity 911 calls this fall.

Hospital Security Readiness Assessment Tool

The New Jersey Hospital Association recently updated its "Security Readiness Assessment Tool," a great resource for any healthcare facility needing to create or review its security plans. Updated to include modern threats like active shooters, this new version covers three types of healthcare entities: acute care, long term care and Federally Qualified Health Centers. The easy-to-use toolkit walks users through topical sections as access, communications, staffing, training and risk assessment. The toolkit also provides a security training checklist that can be printed and given to each employee, then dated and initialed when they've received the training indicated. Well-planned and repetitive training is crucial in an emergency to ensure staff is prepared to respond effectively during an emergency or disaster.

Source: <http://www.njha.com/pressroom/daily-message/2018-daily-message/june/june-08-2018-njha-releases-2018-security-readiness-assessment-tool/>

What to Know About the Dangers of Radon Gas in Your Home

<https://news360.com/article/487727952>

Solar bill clears Kentucky Senate

(AP) The Kentucky Senate has passed a bill to change how utility companies provide credits to customers with rooftop solar panels. The measure, backed by power companies, cleared the Senate on a 23-12 vote Wednesday, a few hours after it cleared a committee. The bill pitting utilities against solar companies now goes to the House, where its top leaders took steps to put it on a fast track.

Read more: <https://www.wkyt.com/content/news/Solar-bill-clears-Kentucky-Senate-505797701.html>

Adventist Health to lay off 1,300+, keep wildfire-damaged hospital closed

Adventist Health will not try to reopen Camp Fire-damaged Feather River Hospital, at least for the time being. In the meantime, more than 1,300 employees have been laid off, receiving paychecks until last week.

Adventist Health conducted a townhall meeting for employees on Dec. 5 in Chico, talking about the future, and also sent an email to the workforce. Other media have reported the hospital told employees it might look at reopening in 2020.

In December, Adventist Health told the San Francisco Chronicle that the 100-bed hospital was "severely damaged and services will not be restored until 2020 at the earliest."

It also told the Chronicle that it had agreed to pay all employees' full salaries through Feb. 5, and that health benefits would continue until May.

Feather River Hospital was Paradise's largest employer in an area where it provided health care services not only to the local residents, but to others beyond the town limits.

Full story: <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/hospital-management-administration/adventist-health-to-lay-off-1-300-keep-wildfire-damaged-hospital-closed.html>

[FYI - Adventist Health System operates *AdventHealth Manchester* hospital in Kentucky.]

April 9: Harm Reduction Summit, Covington, KY

Join us for a collaboration event being sponsored by the Kentucky Department for Public Health and the University of Kentucky IRP, with guest speakers to include [Dr. Jon E. Zibbell, PhD](#) and [Austin Eubanks](#), Columbine School Shooting Survivor, who will speak on substance abuse. Registration is coming soon!

Traveling out of the country?

Kentucky post offices holding passport fairs

(WKYT) The U.S. Postal Service is hosting several Passport fairs Saturday at various post offices for people looking to travel outside the country.

Attendees can apply for a passport book for all international travel or a passport card for land and sea travel to Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean and Bermuda. The card costs \$15 for people under 16 and \$30 for those 16 and older. The book costs \$80 and \$110 respectively. Other fees may apply.

You must complete a Passport Application Form and provide a birth certificate or naturalization papers. You will also need a driver license, a previous or current passport card, certificate of naturalization, certificate of citizenship, military identification or a government employee identification card.

See the story: <https://www.wkyt.com/content/news/Traveling-out-of-the-country-Kentucky-post-offices-holding-passport-fairs-505791221.html>

Ready or Not: New TFAH Report Details States' Emergency Preparedness *Kentucky is in the BOTTOM 13 states.*

REPORT LINK: <https://www.tfah.org/report-details/ready-or-not-protecting-the-publics-health-from-diseases-disasters-and-bioterrorism-2019/>

Link to KY Report: <https://www.tfah.org/state-details/kentucky/>

Emergency Management Specialist Vacancy/Opportunity Robley Rex VA Medical Center, Louisville

Louisville VA Medical Center is currently seeking an Emergency Management Specialist. Read more about the Emergency Management Specialist position at: <https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/524119200>

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 (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.