



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for April 4, 2019

Federal appeals court upholds HB 2 ultrasound law

(Frankfort - Governor's Office) A federal appeals court upheld the constitutionality of House Bill 2 (2017). HB 2 requires an abortion provider to provide mothers with an ultrasound and the opportunity to receive a description of what it depicts, as well as the opportunity to hear the fetal heartbeat, before she chooses to terminate her pregnancy.

Full press release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=KentuckyGovernor&prId=919>

FBI in Norther KY rejects "teen's" claim to be long-missing boy *Turns out to be 23-year old ex-con from Medina, OH*

Read AP story: <https://apnews.com/f71e66c5f134498ea934b14ac2ce1fa5>

Dazed and confused: States push for legal clarity on CBD

(AP) — CBD oil-infused gummy bears, lattes and other food, drinks and dietary supplements are selling quickly even though the U.S. government says they're illegal and local authorities have forced some retailers to pull products. The confusion has the nation's two largest states and others moving to legalize the cannabis compound that many see as beneficial to their health.

Lawmakers in Texas and California are often in opposition, but they're both pushing bipartisan legislation to sidestep federal law and allow sales of the compound found in hemp and marijuana. Republicans and Democrats in Congress also are urging the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to change its stance.

A growing number of federal lawmakers, including Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell and Democratic Sen. Ron Wyden of Oregon, are urging the FDA to approve CBD. They backed a measure taking hemp off the U.S. government's list of banned substances.

Full AP story: <https://apnews.com/4567f5dc7cff4346ac0d487f67b90426>

Related: CBD is getting buzz, but does it work? And is it legal?

(AP) With CBD showing up everywhere, U.S. regulators announced Tuesday they are exploring ways the marijuana extract could be used legally in foods, dietary supplements and cosmetics. Here are the key questions explored in the story:

- WHAT IS CBD?
- IS IT A MIRACLE CURE?
- ANY SIDE EFFECTS?
- IS IT LEGAL?
- ARE CBD LABELS ACCURATE?
- WHAT'S AHEAD?

AP story link: <https://apnews.com/ad2774e00eeb41ffa1be1489171f9a0f>

FDA To Investigate Cases of Seizure After Vaping

(Forbes) The US Food and Drug Administration says it is investigating reports from around the country of people having seizures after vaping, and seeks to uncover possible links or public health risks. The FDA announced Wednesday that it will investigate 35 reports that the agency has received of seizures occurring after electronic cigarette or vape use since 2010, mostly among teens and young adults.

Read full story: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/janetwburns/2019/04/03/fda-to-investigate-cases-of-seizure-after-vaping/#137540b325fe>

Why More People Are Going to the ER After Eating Cannabis Products

<https://news360.com/article/492642366>

Uninsured Get Short Shrift on Hospital Stays

(HealthDay News) -- Folks who aren't covered by private insurance are much more likely to get booted out of the hospital early, a new study finds.

Uninsured patients were also more than twice as likely to be transferred to another hospital and 66% more likely to be discharged outright, compared with people with private insurance, the findings showed.

People on Medicaid had nearly 20% increased odds of being transferred, but about the same odds of being discharged as those covered by private insurance, the researchers said.

Read more: <https://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=219874>

Health Care Costs Sent Americans Into \$88-B Debt in Last Year
Survey also finds one-quarter of Americans have held off on treatments due to cost
<http://www.newser.com/story/273386/health-care-costs-sent-americans-into-88b-debt-in-last-year.html>

Study: Hospital outpatient clinics treat poorer, sicker patients than ASCs

(AHA Today) Medicare patients who receive care in a hospital outpatient department clinic are more likely to be poor, previously hospitalized and have severe chronic conditions than those treated in an ambulatory surgical center, according to a [study](#) by KNG Health Consulting released today by the AHA. The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services reduced payments for off-campus HOPD clinic visits under the outpatient prospective payment system final rule for calendar year 2019, prompting the AHA and Association of American Medical Colleges, along with three individual hospitals, to file a [lawsuit](#) alleging the agency acted outside the law.

Medicare already reimburses hospitals – which have more comprehensive licensing, accreditation and regulatory requirements than do freestanding physician offices and ASCs – less than the cost of providing care. For example, Medicare margins for outpatient services were negative 12.8 percent in fiscal year 2017, while overall Medicare margins were a record-low negative 9.9 percent. Compounding these shortfalls with proposals that treat HOPDs and ASCs the same could threaten access to care for the most vulnerable patients and communities, AHA said.

"America's hospitals and health systems provide around-the-clock care to all who come to us; this includes the sickest patients and those in the most vulnerable communities," [said](#) AHA President and CEO Rick Pollack. "Physicians tend to refer more complex patients to hospital outpatient departments for safety reasons, as hospitals are better equipped to handle complications and emergencies. Proposals that treat hospital outpatient departments the same as ambulatory surgical centers and other sites of care are misguided, and ignore the health care needs of the patients and communities we serve."

Gov. Bevin Receives Confirmation of SBA Disaster Loans for Kentucky Federal assistance available for citizens and businesses in 9 counties

(Frankfort) Gov. Matt Bevin today received confirmation that the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has approved disaster assistance loans for the severe storms and heavy flooding that affected the Commonwealth on Feb. 6 through March 10, 2019. SBA will make low-interest disaster loans available to homeowners, renters and businesses who sustained damage during the approved time period. Primary counties included in the SBA declaration are Johnson and Magoffin, along with the contiguous counties of Breathitt, Floyd, Knott, Lawrence, Martin, Morgan, and Wolfe. Further information about what types of loans are available, how to apply and deadlines for loan applications is available at sba.gov/funding-programs/disaster-assistance.

Governor signs law to certify professional midwives

(WKYT/WAVE) – Governor Bevin has signed a new bill into law that will license midwives in Kentucky, in an effort to help new mothers.

[WAVE3 News reports that advocates say the legislation will provide parents with peace of mind, by allowing mothers who choose home birth over a hospital to do so more safely.](#)

Being a midwife was never illegal in Kentucky, but the industry hasn't been regulated in the state since 1975. That means pretty much anyone could attend your birth, and call themselves a midwife, until now. Senate Bill 84 lays out a framework for home birth, and equips certified professional midwives with a license.

Read more: <https://www.wkyt.com/content/news/Gov-Bevin-signs-law-to-certify-professional-midwives-508059451.html>

HHS: emPOWER Program Web-Based Training

This [course](#) is designed to help partners understand the Health and Human Services (HHS) emPOWER Program and integrate its mapping and dataset tools into their emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation activities. It includes program information and tool details, step-by-step instructions, practical applications, and real-world case studies to support partners in applying the emPOWER Program tools. The emPOWER Initiative provides public health departments and their partners with tools that provide critical information to enhance preparedness and response activities impacting at-risk populations who are dependent on electricity-dependent durable medical equipment and various health services. More information: <https://www.train.org/main/course/1083714/>

Report: Exploring Medical and Public Health Preparedness for a Nuclear Incident

A National Academies workshop held on August 22–23, 2018, explored medical and public health preparedness for a nuclear incident. This [188-report](#) summarizes presentations and discussions from the event, which brought together experts from government, nongovernmental organizations, academia, and the private sector to discuss current assumptions behind the status of medical and public health preparedness for a nuclear incident, examine potential changes in these assumptions in light of increasing concerns about the use of nuclear warfare, and discuss challenges and opportunities for capacity building in the current threat environment.

More information: <https://www.nap.edu/catalog/25372/exploring-medical-and-public-health-preparedness-for-a-nuclear-incident>

Tyson unit recalls 20,000 pounds of frozen beef patties

(Reuters) Tyson Foods Inc is recalling about 20,000 pounds of ready-to-eat beef patties due to plastic contamination, marking its third major product recall this year. A Tyson unit, AdvancePierre Foods, is recalling 'fully cooked flame broiled beef patties' after two consumers complained about soft purple plastic in the product, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service said bit.ly/2VhFgp4 on Tuesday.

Tyson has recalled tons of chicken strips and nuggets this year for contamination due to possible traces of rubber or metal.

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-tyson-foods-recall/tyson-unit-recalls-20000-pounds-of-frozen-beef-patties-idUSKCN1RF118>

Health worker among 7 new DRC Ebola patients

(CIDRAP) - The health ministry of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) said a health worker in Musienene is one of seven new Ebola patients added to the outbreak today. The healthcare worker in Musienene brings the total number of health workers infected during the outbreak to 82 (7.4% of all confirmed or probable cases), and 29 of them have died, the DRC said.

Read more: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2019/04/health-worker-among-7-new-drc-ebola-patients>



The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day addresses a crucial public safety and public health issue. According to the 2017 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, **6 million Americans misused controlled prescription drugs**. The study shows that a majority of abused prescription drugs were obtained from family and friends, often from the home medicine cabinet. The DEA's Take Back Day events provide an opportunity for

Americans to prevent drug addiction and overdose deaths.

Results: October 2018 16th National Take Back

- Total Law Enforcement Participation: **4,770**
- Total Collection Sites: **5,839**
- Total Weight Collected: **914,236 lbs. (457.12 Tons)**

[Click here for additional details about the 16th National Take Back Day.:](#)
Find a site near you...<https://takebackday.dea.gov/>

Hospitals Look To Nursing Homes To Help Stop Drug-Resistant Infections

(NPR) Hospitals and nursing homes in California and Illinois are testing a surprisingly simple strategy to stop the dangerous, antibiotic-resistant superbugs that kill thousands of people each year: washing patients with a special soap.

The efforts — funded with roughly \$8 million from the federal government's Centers for Disease Control and Prevention — are taking place at 50 facilities in those two states.

This novel collaboration recognizes that superbugs don't remain isolated in one hospital or nursing home but move quickly through a community, said [Dr. John Jernigan](#), who directs the CDC's office on health care-acquired infection research

Read more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2019/04/02/707842736/enter-title>

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines Extracts for [April 4, 2019](#)

[China to Require Meat Processors to Test for African Swine Fever - Agriculture Ministry](#)

(Reuters) China's agriculture ministry said on Wednesday it will require pork processors handling raw pork to test for the presence of the African swine fever virus from May 1. The tougher procedures come as the virus continues to spread through the world's largest pig herd. It has often been found in food products. [Go to article](#)

[Opioid Epidemic is Increasing Rates of Some Infectious Diseases](#) (NIH) The US faces a converging public health crisis as the nation's opioid epidemic fuels growing rates of certain infectious diseases, including HIV/AIDS, hepatitis, heart infections, and skin and soft tissue infections. Infectious disease and substance use disorder professionals must work together to stem the mounting public health threat, according to a new commentary in the *Journal of Infectious Diseases*. [Go to article](#)

[FDA's Final Rule Ensures Safer, Better Tests to Detect Anthrax-causing Bacteria](#) (Homeland Preparedness News) The FDA on Monday issued a final rule that restricts both the use and distribution of Bacillus bacteria detection devices, which are prescribed to preliminarily identify and diagnose cases of anthrax and other infectious diseases. [Go to article](#)

[This Tiny Guillotine Decapitates Mosquitoes to Fight Malaria](#) (Wired) The idea behind the guillotine is this: If you're going to execute someone, you may as well do it efficiently and humanely, at least by 18th-century standards. Decapitating the condemned with an ax or sword may take a few swings—unacceptable for carrying out justice in a "civilized" society. The guillotine, on the other hand, is downright surgical, a perversely methodical way to end a life. [Go to article](#)

[US Army Formulates New, Fast-acting Spray for Chemical Weapons Decontamination](#)

(TechLink) Chemical and biological weapons experts earned the US Army a patent on Tuesday for their groundbreaking work on rapid decontamination. Gregory Peterson, Joseph Myers, George Wagner, Matthew Shue, John Davies, Jr., and Joseph Rossin were listed as the inventors on US Patent 10,245,456, "Process for Decontamination and Detoxification with Zirconium Hydroxide-Based Slurry." [Go to article](#)

**The Four Elements
Of a National Guard CERFP**

Command and Control Element/Team

- Directs and deploys the overall activity of the CERFP
- Reports to the JTF-State and the incident commander

Search and Extraction Element/Team

- Conducts casualty search and rescues at incident sites
- Extracts victims
- Lifts and moves debris and heavy items using ropes, chains, wires, or cranes (rigging)
- Uses equipment designed to support the sides of an excavation and prevent cave-ins (shoring)

Decontamination Element/Team

- Conducts site selection
- Establishes log-in and log-out procedures
- Conducts clothing removal
- Ambulatory and non-ambulatory decontamination

Medical Element/Team

- Performs medical triage and initial treatment
- Provides emergency medical treatment
- Provides medical transport
- Stages for military and civilian evacuation
- Provides medical support for patient decontamination and search and extraction

Most of you know about the 41st Civil Support Team (CST) here in Kentucky But, have you ever heard of CERFP Units?

Besides the 41st CST based in Louisville, there is a sister program here in Kentucky called a **CERFP**. These teams can be a National Guard asset to consider helping during an event that requires mass decontamination or large mass casualty events.

The U.S. military domestic CBRN Response Enterprise includes National Guard units assigned to the National Guard's [Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams \(WMD-CSTs\)](#), **CBRN Enhanced Response Force Packages (CERFPs)**, and [Homeland Response Forces \(HRFs\)](#).

The CERFP is designed to deploy within 6 hours of notification using a phased deployment. They have the ability to integrate with first responder teams, augment, or operate independently.

The CERFP is comprised of four elements staffed by personnel from already established National Guard units. Elements include: search and extraction, decontamination, medical, and command and control.

The command and control team directs the overall activities of the CERFP, and coordinates with the Joint Task Force-State (JTF-State) and the incident commander. The search and extraction element is assigned to an Army National Guard Engineering Company, the decontamination element is assigned to an Army National Guard Chemical Company, and

the medical element is assigned to an Air National Guard Medical Group.

Security duties for the incident site and the four CERFP elements are performed by the state National Guard Response Force.

Source: <https://cbrnecentral.com/profiles/name/cbrn-enhanced-response-force-packages-cerfp/>

The [Domestic Preparedness Journal](#) did a feature in 2007 on these *Chemical, Biological, Radiological/Nuclear, and High-Yield Explosive Event Enhanced Response Force Package* (CERFP) programs that planners may want to be aware of.

<https://www.domesticpreparedness.com/preparedness/cerfps-the-essential-elements/>

New report gives Kentucky's bridges, infrastructure C-

(WHAS-11) A new report gave Kentucky bridges a C- and roads a D+. While the grades do not mean the infrastructure will collapse immediately, it does show the state needs major repairs.

Learn more: <https://www.whas11.com/article/news/kentucky/new-report-gives-kentuckys-bridges-infrastructure-c/417-fcc0c43e-e5aa-4e1d-a68d-75009795d452>

Remembering April 3, 1974

Kentucky hit by worst tornado outbreak in US history 45 years ago

(WDRB) – Forty-five years ago, on April 3, 1974, Kentuckiana and portions of the South and Midwest were pummeled with tornadoes that left a trail of death and destruction. It's considered the worst tornado outbreak in U.S. history. Brandenburg, Louisville and Hanover were among the hardest hit places.

Those who endured the storms recall seeing a wall of clouds as black as they'd ever seen and loud horrible roars. When the storms passed, the aftermath looked like a war zone. Streets were covered



with debris. Trees and power lines were snapped. Cars were flipped over, and portions of land were wiped clean.

In Meade County, 31 people were killed that day, and another 300 were injured.

The tornado that hit Louisville started at the fairgrounds, tearing holes though the roof at Freedom Hall, and traveled 20 miles. It tore across Eastern Parkway and Bardstown Road and ripped a path of destruction through

Cherokee and Seneca Parks.

Three people were killed in Louisville with 200 others injured. And in southern Indiana, 16 people were killed.

The storms broke out that day around 1 p.m. and lasted until 7 a.m. the next day. The U.S. was overwhelmed by a record 148 tornadoes across 13 states.

Story and video report: https://www.wdrb.com/news/kentuckiana-hit-by-worst-tornado-outbreak-in-us-history-years/article_fd0e0e5a-55a5-11e9-9d1d-ef239b2c842c.html

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.