



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for April 26, 2019

## Reminder: National Take Back Day is April 27

(DEA) **National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day** will be Saturday, April 27, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. National Take-Back Day is a safe, convenient, and responsible way to dispose of unused or expired prescription drugs.



The last Take-Back Day brought in more than 900,000 pounds of unused or expired prescription medication.

This brings the total amount of prescription drugs collected by DEA since the fall of 2010 to 10,878,950 pounds.

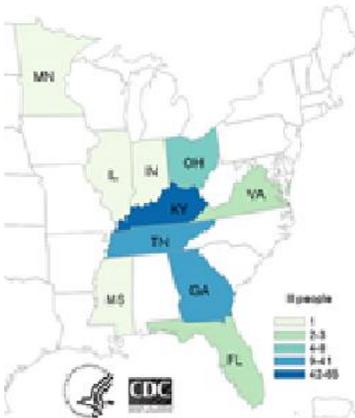
Check [DEA's official Take Back Day website](#) for more information and to find year-round collection sites near you.

**Quiz:** [Test your knowledge on proper drug disposal.](#)

**Find a site near you:** <https://takebackday.dea.gov/>

## Thousands of pounds of ground beef shipped to Kentucky recalled after E. coli outbreak

(WDRB) An Illinois packing company is recalling thousands of pounds of raw ground beef because of concerns it could be tainted with E. coli 0103.



The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Safety Inspection Service [announced the recall of 53,000 pounds of ground beef](#) Wednesday. According to the FDA notice, the raw ground beef was produced by Grant Park Packing out of Franklin Park, Illinois on Oct. 30-31, 2018, and Nov. 1, 2018. It was shipped to Minnesota to be distributed in Kentucky "for institutional use" only.

The recall comes as officials from FSIS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Kentucky Department of Public Health, and other agencies [investigate an outbreak of E. coli](#) in Kentucky and several other states.

According to the [CDC's website](#), people can get sick from Shiga toxin-producing E. coli an average of three to four days after eating contaminated food. Symptoms include diarrhea (often bloody), severe stomach cramps, and vomiting.

Full story: [https://www.wdrb.com/news/thousands-of-pounds-of-ground-beef-shipped-to-kentucky-recalled/article\\_4d50d336-674c-11e9-a808-236af36e374f.html](https://www.wdrb.com/news/thousands-of-pounds-of-ground-beef-shipped-to-kentucky-recalled/article_4d50d336-674c-11e9-a808-236af36e374f.html)

## Related: Food poisoning remains persistent US problem

(AP) — As recent illnesses tied to [raw turkey](#) , [ground beef](#) , [cut melon](#) and [romaine lettuce](#) suggest, U.S. food poisoning cases don't appear to be going away anytime soon.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said in a report Thursday that the frequency of several types of food poisoning infections climbed last year, but that the increases could be the result of new diagnostic tools that help identify more cases.

Learn more: <https://apnews.com/b000965003cb409aaddfd2a4a79bb66a>

## Kentucky part of multi-million dollar initiative to reduce Hepatitis C in five states

(WDRB) -- Kentucky is at the top of the charts, when it comes to the number of hepatitis C cases in the U.S. But a new multi-million dollar, five-year initiative is aimed at reducing and preventing the virus. Gov. Matt Bevin helped announce the "HepConnect" plan Thursday morning. He says it's important to tackle the spread of the disease.

Watch and read more: [https://www.wdrb.com/news/kentucky-part-of-multi-million-dollar-initiative-to-reduce-hepatitis/article\\_f81b77c8-6772-11e9-9419-6fee6860d44d.html](https://www.wdrb.com/news/kentucky-part-of-multi-million-dollar-initiative-to-reduce-hepatitis/article_f81b77c8-6772-11e9-9419-6fee6860d44d.html)

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**CDC Reports Largest U.S. Measles Outbreak Since Year 2000**

(NPR) The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports 695 measles cases in 22 states.

"This is the greatest number of cases reported in the United States since measles was eliminated from this country in 2000," says a CDC [statement](#) issued late Wednesday.

The agency attributed the high number of cases primarily to a few large outbreaks — one in the state of Washington and two others in New York state. The New York outbreaks are among the largest and longest-lasting since 2000.

Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar said in a [statement](#) that the rise in measles cases is "avoidable."

Full story: <https://www.npr.org/716953746>

Related CIDRAP story: <http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2019/04/soaring-us-measles-cases-near-700-set-record>

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**Amid Measles Fears, More Than 200 Students and Staff at LA Universities Are Quarantined**

(*Los Angeles Times*) Trying to stop a measles outbreak from spreading, health officials announced Thursday that more than 200 students and staff members at UCLA and Cal State LA who have been exposed to measles are being asked to stay home. The five people diagnosed with measles so far in LA County this year include a UCLA student and a Cal State LA student. Concerned about the quick spread of disease on busy college campuses, health officials have ordered that students and staff exposed to measles who cannot show they have been vaccinated be quarantined until further notice.

[Go to article](#)

***If my measles shot was years ago, am I still protected?***

An expert answers 5 common questions about the measles vaccine

Seek the answers: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/if-my-measles-shot-was-years-ago-am-i-still-protected-5-questions-answered/>

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**Backseat passengers may be more prone to severe injuries**

(CBS) The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) [released](#) an alarming report about backseat safety on Thursday. The top highway safety group found that even in a head-on crash, you may be safer in the front seat than the rear seat.

Crash tests show up-front, belts automatically tighten while front and side airbags deploy, keeping people away from the steering wheel and dashboard. Those belts also have force-limiters to reduce the risk of chest injuries.

But in the back, there are no front airbags and seat belts lack those potentially life saving features, making it possible for passengers to collide with parts of the vehicle interior. The safety group wants carmakers to make the backseat as safe as the front.

Video report and full story: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/passengers-in-the-back-seat-may-be-more-prone-to-severe-injuries-study-2019-04-25/>

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**U.S. NTSB to investigate Illinois chemical spill that sent 37 to hospitals**

(Reuters) The U.S. National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) will investigate a chemical spill (a spill of anhydrous ammonia) in a small Illinois village north of Chicago on Thursday that sent 37 people to hospitals and forced nearby residents to shut their windows and shelter in place, authorities said.

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-illinois-chemical/u-s-ntsb-to-investigate-illinois-chemical-spill-that-sent-37-to-hospitals-idUSKCN1S120A>

## Homemade kits with tourniquets make gunshot first aid more available

(Reuters Health) - Homemade kits used to train bystanders to step in and stop bleeding after a gunshot wound could save lives, a new report suggests.

St. Louis doctors came up with some ingenious adaptations to lower the price of training kits used to teach people how to stop severe bleeding that can cost a life, and describe their inner-city focused training program and tools in JAMA Surgery.

Each training kit, including limb model, gauze, gloves and other supplies costs about \$25, Andrade and her colleagues write in their report.

The payoff can be huge. "The average ambulance response time is 7.7 minutes in urban areas in the United States, which is longer than the time it takes to bleed out from an arterial injury," the researchers note.

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-emergency-bleeding/homemade-kits-with-tourniquets-make-gunshot-first-aid-more-available-idUSKCN1S12QK>

**Mark Your Calendar!** May 2019 is the first ever National Stop the Bleed Month. **May 23** is the second annual **National Stop the Bleed Day**. More: <https://www.bleedingcontrol.org/may>

## How Do Mosquitoes Taste DEET? Hint: It's Not With Their Mouthparts

Curious? Go to <https://www.npr.org/716767256>

## As Derby approaches, so does need to be vigilant on human trafficking

Attorney General Andy Beshear joined human trafficking prevention advocates, including law enforcement and survivors, on Monday to urge the community to help stop trafficking at the 145<sup>th</sup> Kentucky Derby. Beshear said it is no fault of the Derby, but just a fact: human traffickers target many large-scale sporting events to prey on victims and profit from the crime.

"By raising awareness with partners, our community will be better prepared to stop traffickers this Derby," said Beshear. "While there is no one single indicator of trafficking, there are several signs that are common in victims, including traveling together, having identical tattoos, branding and not being able to identify where they are or where they are staying."

Read more: <http://kentuckytoday.com/stories/as-derby-approaches-so-does-need-to-be-vigilant-on-human-trafficking-ag-says.19069>

### Report Human Trafficking

If someone is in immediate danger dial **9-1-1**  
To report suspected trafficking of a *child*: **877-KYSAFE1**  
National Human Trafficking Hotline: **888-373-7888**

## Men warned of the serious health risk of using fake online Viagra

(Daily Mail) Figures from show that 84 per cent of illicit medicine seized in the UK in 2018 were for erectile dysfunction. Men are turning to illegal websites despite the drug being available in pharmacies. Illegal copies of the erectile dysfunction pill have been found to contain an array of potentially toxic chemicals.

Read more: <https://www.dailymail.co.uk/health/article-6950781/Men-warned-health-risk-using-fake-online-Viagra.html>

## No screen time for babies; only 1 hour for kids under 5

(AP) — The World Health Organization has issued its first-ever guidance for how much screen time children under 5 should get: not very much, and none at all for those under 1.

The U.N. health agency said Wednesday that kids under 5 should not spend more than one hour watching screens every day — and that less is better.

The [guidelines](#) are somewhat similar to advice from the American Academy of Pediatrics. That group recommends children younger than 18 months should avoid screens other than video chats. It says

parents of young children under two should choose “high-quality programming” with educational value and that can be watched with a parent to help kids understand what they’re seeing.

Full story: <https://apnews.com/407f5d418ab749fd9faa405251071715>

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**\$264 million and counting:  
The rising cost of opioid addiction at UK’s hospitals**

(Herald-Leader) By 2018, the number of patients treated for problems caused by opioid addiction had skyrocketed 481 percent to 8,782 and the cost had soared 733 percent to \$63.3 million. The total cost of treating opioid addiction at the two hospitals over the entire decade was \$264 million, according to data compiled by UK at the request of the Herald-Leader. About 54 percent of those costs are paid by Medicaid; another 19 percent is paid by Medicare and the rest by private insurers or the patient.

Full story" <https://www.kentucky.com/news/state/kentucky/article229013794.html>

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**Pentagon, DHS considering designating fentanyl a WMD**

(CNN) Top military and Homeland Security officials are considering classifying fentanyl as a weapon of mass destruction, according to an internal DHS memo.

The synthetic opioid, blamed in health surveys for [surging drug overdose deaths](#) in the United States, has for decades concerned national security officials because of its potential widespread lethality in terror attacks, and in recent months, officials from DHS and the Pentagon have met to discuss an official WMD designation as a tool to disrupt the drug's widespread availability on the black market, the memo says.

"Fentanyl's high toxicity and increasing availability are attractive to threat actors seeking nonconventional materials for a chemical weapons attack," the DHS assistant secretary for countering weapons of mass destruction, James F. McDonnell, wrote in the memo, which was [obtained by the military news publication Task & Purpose](#).

Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/04/21/politics/dhs-fentanyl-wmd/index.html>

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**FDA gives approval to generic version of opiod overdose antidote Narcan**  
<https://news360.com/article/494277398>

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**County Jails Struggle with a New Role  
As America's Prime Centers For Opioid Detox**

(NPR) Faced with a flood of addicted inmates and challenged by lawsuits, America's county jails are struggling to adjust to an opioid health crisis that has turned many of the jails into their area's largest drug treatment centers.

In an effort to get a handle on the problem, more jails are adding some form of medication-assisted treatment, or MAT, to help inmates safely detox from opioids and stay clean behind bars and after release.

But there are deep concerns about potential abuse of the treatment drugs, as well as worries about the efficacy and costs of programs that jails just weren't designed or built for.

Learn more: <https://www.npr.org/716398909>

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**Hospitals sue over new national liver transplant policy**

(AP) — Hospitals and patients have sued to block a new nationwide liver transplant policy that they say will waste viable livers, lead to fewer transplants and likely cause deaths.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the United Network for Organ Sharing hastily adopted the new policy and based it on faulty assumptions, according to the suit filed Monday in Atlanta federal court.

At issue is a change in how patients are prioritized for liver transplants. Where a patient lives affects whether he or she will get a timely liver transplant or die waiting. Some parts of the country have fewer available organs — and higher demand for them — than others.

The change set to go into effect on April 30 redraws the map that governs how donated livers are distributed. Read more: <https://apnews.com/59a564e232234ef9a4b9b9c6f4552f0f>

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**Experimental treatment for peanut allergy increases anaphylaxis risk, study finds**  
<https://news360.com/article/494749904>

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**Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines**  
**Extracts from April 27, 2019**

**[The Antibiotics Business Is Broken—but There's a Fix](#)** (*Wired*) Last week, the biotech company Achaogen announced that it was filing for bankruptcy. That might not seem like much news: Businesses crash and burn all the time. But Achaogen, founded in 2002, was an antibiotics company. Its first drug, Zemdri (plazomicin), was approved by the Food and Drug Administration last June. [Go to article](#)

**[Over 20 Million Children a Year Miss Out on First Dose of Measles Vaccine](#)** (*NY Times*) Nearly 170 million children worldwide, including more than 2.5 million in the United States and half a million in Britain, missed out on the first dose of the measles vaccine during the past eight years, opening the door to global outbreaks of the disease, a Unicef report said on Thursday. [Go to article](#)

**[Infectious Diseases Society of America Position Statement on Telehealth and Telemedicine as Applied to the Practice of Infectious Diseases](#)** (*Clinical Infectious Diseases*) The technologies spanning telehealth, telemedicine, and mobile health are rapidly evolving, and the Infectious Diseases Society of America has prepared this updated position statement to educate its membership on the use of telemedicine and telehealth technologies. [Go to article](#)

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**Health Tip: Understanding the Tetanus Shot**  
<https://news360.com/article/494225268>

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**For school shooting survivors, trauma has no time limit**

(AP) The mental health resources after a school shooting range from therapy dogs and grief counselors at school to support groups, art therapy and in-home counseling. But there is no blueprint for dealing with the trauma because each tragedy, survivor and community is different. Many survivors don't get counseling right away — sometimes waiting years — making it difficult to understand the full impact.

The struggle is getting them to seek help in the first place. In the two decades since the [Columbine High School](#) massacre, a network of survivors has emerged, reaching out to the newest victims to offer support that many say they prefer to traditional therapy.

As the anguish festers, the danger grows, illustrated by the recent suicides of two Marjory Stoneman Douglas survivors and a father whose young child died in the shooting at Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Connecticut.

"It changes the community," said psychologist Robin Gurwitsch, a trauma specialist at Duke University Medical Center.

Grief, troubling memories and emotions can bubble up any time for survivors and even community members who didn't see the bullets fly, she said. They can hit on anniversaries of the tragedy, birthdays of victims, graduations and new mass shootings, Gurwitsch said. The trauma can even rush back with a song, favorite meal, video game or fire alarms.

Full story: <https://apnews.com/0b020b37e24a42778342d4a728a64e5e>

## [4-year-old is best friends with the man who cleaned his hospital room](#)

(CNN) The friends first met a year ago when 4-year-old Cooper Baltzell was driving a toy car down the hospital corridor, handing out candy to the staff. This is the story of how the pair became best friends.

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**Working with the Media:**

### **A Short Course for Emergency Responders in Winchester, KY on May 16**

The Rural Domestic Preparedness Coalition (RDPC) is bringing AWR 209 - Working with the Media: A Short Course for Emergency Responders to Winchester, KY beginning on May 16, 2019, 8 a.m. (EDT).

Adapted from FEMA's IG-290 curriculum, this 7-hour course provides rural first responders with skills needed to communicate with the public through the media. Examines roles of the media and the rural first responder/public information officer. Participants learn how to give print/electronic media interviews, write news releases, provide information at the scene, and how they fit into the joint information system.

Registration Deadline - All participants must register by May 2, 2019, 5 p.m. to ensure their spot in the course.

Follow the link to the flyer: <https://www.ruraltraining.org/training/schedule/2019-05-16-awr209-winchester-ky-001/>

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**Openings! Health Care Coalition Response - Leadership Course (May 29-31)**

(ASPR/CDP) HPP has unanticipated openings for two health care coalitions (HCCs) to participate in the Health Care Coalition Response Leadership (HCRL) course at the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) in Anniston, AL. The purpose of the course is to provide instruction and practical experience in the best practice procedures for preparing and responding as a health care coalition leadership team to community and regional public health and medical emergencies.

HCRL Training Week 35: Travel: Tuesday, May 28; Class dates: May 29 - 31; Travel: Saturday, June 1, 2019.

NOTE: Monday, May 27<sup>th</sup> is Memorial Day

Course participation is fully funded for non-federal attendees. Travel, lodging, and meals will be provided for non-federal participants who are registered through CDP for the course.

**More info:** <https://cdp.dhs.gov/find-training/course/MGT-454>

*(Surprise - Jim House and members of a KY Coalition are featured!)*

Given that we had to cancel some classes this fiscal year due to hurricane responses and the government shutdown, we are eager to fill this class; therefore, we are extending the application deadline.

In order for the CDP to complete registration and make travel arrangements please submit your completed application by COB Monday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. We will notify all applicants of their status by COB Wednesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Time commitment:** Five days: one day travel to FEMA CDP Anniston, three days of instruction, one day travel from CDP Anniston.

**Target audience.** The target audiences for this course are representatives from core members of health care coalitions: hospital leaders, emergency medical service leaders, public health, and emergency management leaders.

**Please send completed applications for the HCRL FY 2019 Week 35 class by COB Monday, May 13 directly to [Richard.Hunt@hhs.gov](mailto:Richard.Hunt@hhs.gov)**

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.