



## Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for May 19, 2019

### PAHPAI passes US Senate House now needs to concur

(AHA) Thursday night the US Senate passed, by voice vote, the stand-alone [Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation Act](#) (S. 1379). Sen. Richard Burr (R-NC) introduced the stand-alone version last week. The House now needs to pass the bill once again, since they most recently passed a combined PAHPA-Over-the-Counter bill.

(PAHPAI is a bill to reauthorize certain programs under the Public Health Service Act and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to public health security and all-hazards preparedness and response, and for other purposes.)

-----

### Study Finds Alarming Changes in Suicide Rates *Rate of young girls killing themselves is climbing*

(Newser) – Boys are still more likely to kill themselves than girls are, but a new study has found a change in the established patterns, [CNN](#) reports. Suicide rates among girls are climbing faster. An analysis of a database run by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention found that, starting in 2007, the suicide rate for girls age 10 to 14 rose 12.7% per year, compared with 7.1% for boys the same age. For those age 15 to 19, the rate went up 7.9% for girls and 3.5% for boys, said the study, published Friday in [JAMA](#). Suicide is the No. 2 cause of death among those 10 to 19 years old, per the CDC, after accidents and unintentional injuries. Rates of suicide have historically been higher for boys than girls across all age groups, and that remains the case now.

Read full story: <https://www.newser.com/story/275325/suicide-rates-rise-faster-among-young-girls.html>

CNN Story link: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/05/17/health/suicide-rates-young-girls-study/index.html>

May 17 JAMA report: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/05/17/health/suicide-rates-young-girls-study/index.html>

-----

### More than 800 cases of measles in US *NY outbreak continuing to lead*

(CNN) The number of measles cases in the United States is now at 839 for the year, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's [weekly measles update](#). That's 75 more cases than the agency reported last week, inching closer to the 963 reported in 1994, which is the highest number of cases in a year in the past 25 years.

Some good news this week is that no new states reported cases, leaving the number unchanged at 23. The states that have reported measles cases this year are [Arizona](#), [California](#), [Colorado](#), [Connecticut](#), [Florida](#), [Georgia](#), [Illinois](#), [Indiana](#), [Iowa](#), [Kentucky](#), [Maryland](#), [Massachusetts](#), [Michigan](#), [Missouri](#), [Nevada](#), [New Hampshire](#), [New Jersey](#), [New York](#), [Oregon](#), [Pennsylvania](#), [Texas](#), [Tennessee](#) and [Washington](#). But still troubling: Sixty-six of the 75 new cases were in New York.

Full story: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/05/13/health/measles-update-cdc-800-cases/index.html>

-----

### Low-dose aspirin linked to bleeding in the skull, new report says

(CNN) Taking low-dose aspirin to prevent heart disease and stroke is associated with an increased risk of bleeding in the skull in people without a history of those conditions, according to a new report.

Researchers analyzed data from 13 previous studies in which over 130,000 people ages 42 to 74, who didn't have a history of heart disease or stroke, were given either low-dose aspirin or a placebo for the prevention of these conditions.

People who took the placebo had a 0.46% risk of having a head bleed during the combined trial periods. For those who took low-dose aspirin, the risk was 0.63%, the equivalent of an additional 2 out of every 1,000 people developing a bleed, according to the study, published Monday in the journal [JAMA Neurology](#).

Three recent large [studies](#) concluded that taking a daily low-dose aspirin is, at best, a waste of money for healthy older adults. At worst, it may raise their risk of internal bleeding and early death.

Full story & video report: <https://www.cnn.com/2019/05/13/health/aspirin-head-bleed-study/index.html>

## Red Cross Needs Type O Blood to Ease Shortage

(HealthDay News) -- There's a severe nationwide shortage of Type O blood, and the American Red Cross has issued an urgent appeal for donations.

The current supply of Type O blood is critically low: Six units are available for every 100,000 people in the United States, but at least twice as much is required every day.

Type O-negative is the universal blood type (anyone can receive it), making it the one most needed in hospitals. Only 7% of people have Type O-negative blood.

Full story: <https://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=221093>

## U.S. FDA labels J&J surgical staplers' recall as severest

(Reuters) - The U.S. Food and Drug Administration warned of risks of serious injury or death from surgical staplers made by Johnson & Johnson's Ethicon unit, labeling a recent recall of the device as its most serious.

The recall, initiated early April by Ethicon, covers 92,496 surgical staplers and is now labeled as "Class-1" - the strictest form of recall issued by FDA, where use of faulty devices may cause serious injury or death.

Read more: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-johnson-johnson-recall/u-s-fda-labels-jj-surgical-staplers-recall-as-severest-idUSKCN1SN1T4>

## Ruling turns up pressure for FDA to strictly regulate e-cigarettes

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/05/16/health/fda-ecigarette-ruling-bn/index.html>

## The Unanswered Questions About Anthrax

(NPR) Nowadays, many people associate anthrax with bioterrorism. Indeed, the anthrax bacteria is "one of the biological agents most likely to be used" in terrorism, according to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#), because microscopic anthrax spores can be produced in a lab and be put into powders, sprays, food and water.

But that's only part of the anthrax profile. The bacteria occur naturally in soil all over the world. And there's a lot we don't know about the risks posed by anthrax in nature — notably, how many animal and human cases there are each year.

Learn more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2019/05/17/724305507/the-unanswered-questions-about-anthrax>

## Johns Hopkins: *Health Security Headlines* - Extracts for [May 17, 2019](#)

[Human Antibody Reveals Hidden Vulnerability in Influenza Virus](#) (NIH)

[Global Platform on Disaster Risk Reduction: We Need a Drastic Change of Course](#) (*Reliefweb*)

[Mass Gatherings Medicine: Public Health Issues Arising from Mass Gathering Religious and Sporting Events](#) (*The Lancet*)

## Microsoft Issues Rare Legacy OS Patch to Prevent Another WannaCry

Microsoft released a patch for its outdated Windows XP, and other legacy systems, after finding a vulnerability that would allow an RDP exploit – much like what happened with WannaCry.

Windows 2003, Windows 7, Server 2008, and XP are no longer maintained by the tech giant and no longer receive patches to shore up security flaws. However, much of the healthcare sector – and some of its medical devices – still heavily use those platforms.

Get the details: <https://healthitsecurity.com/news/microsoft-issues-rare-legacy-os-patch-to-prevent-another-wannacry>

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.