



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for June 7, 2019

President signs disaster relief package

(American Hospital Association) President Trump yesterday signed legislation providing \$19.1 billion in [disaster relief](#) for areas affected by hurricanes, wildfires and other recent natural disasters. Approved by Congress this week, [the legislation](#) provides \$1.4 billion for Puerto Rico, including funding to repair infrastructure and stabilize health care systems; and funding for Medicaid programs in the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam and American Samoa to support health services. Other health care-related funding includes \$100 million for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration to support behavioral health treatment and other services for people affected by recent natural disasters; and \$80 million for the Health Resources and Services Administration to help support community health center services and renovation in disaster-affected areas.

New - KDPH HPP Program Staff Regional Assignments

As of July 1st, the Preparedness Branch is shifting assignments for their staff assigned to support the Health Care Coalitions. Note that the map below reflects consolidations that take effect on July 1st.

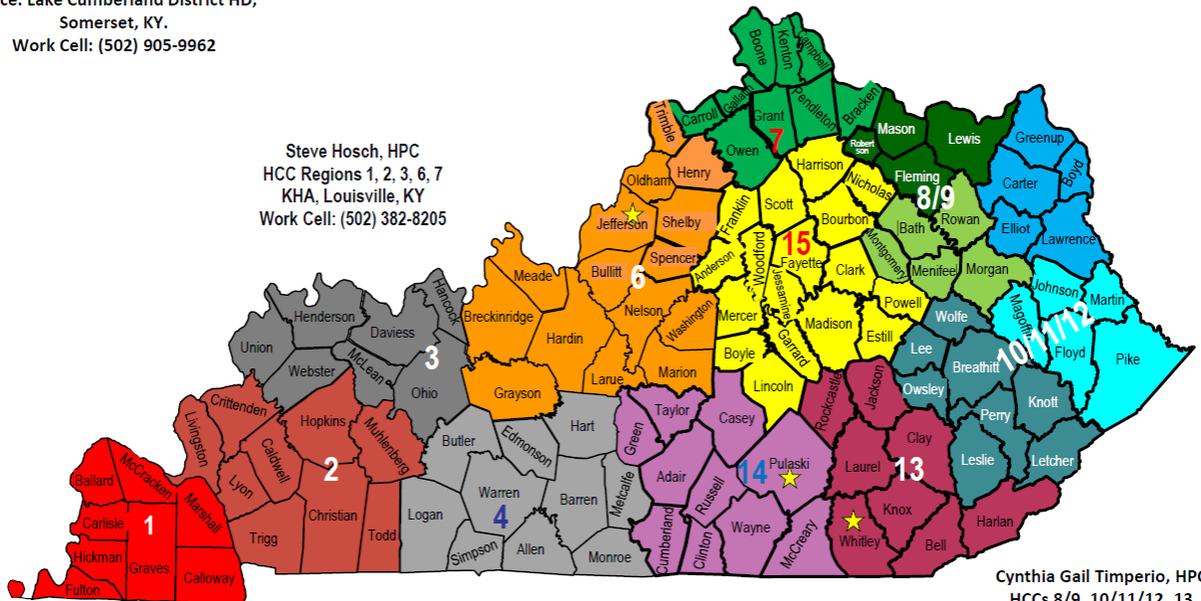


Kentucky Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

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★ Office Locations

7-1-19

Study links understaffing to hospital infections

(Modern Healthcare) Researchers at the Columbia University School of Nursing found an association between inadequate nurse staffing and an increase in healthcare-associated infection in a [study published in the Journal of Nursing Administration](#).

The study examined nursing unit–level data from 2007 to 2012 for 100,000 patients at a large urban hospital system. It found the infection risk was 15% higher for patients who were treated on units that were understaffed for both the day and night shift. For units that were understaffed for only one shift, there was not a significantly higher risk of infection. It defined understaffing as registered-nurse staffing levels that were less than 80% of the median level.

Patients acquire healthcare–associated infections in about 4% of hospital stays nationwide. The analysis looked at the rates of urinary tract infections, bloodstream infections and cases of pneumonia.

Full story: <https://www.modernhealthcare.com/safety-quality/study-links-understaffing-hospital-infections>

CDC HEALTH ADVISORY

CDC HAN-00420 - June 6, 2019, 11:30 AM ET

Direct Website URL for **FULL HAN**: <https://emergency.cdc.gov/han/han00420.asp>

**Nationwide Shortage of Tuberculin Skin Test Antigens:
CDC Recommendations for Patient Care and Public Health Practice**

Summary: The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is expecting a 3 to 10 month nationwide shortage of APLISOL®, a product of Par Pharmaceuticals. APLISOL® is one of two purified-protein derivative (PPD) tuberculin antigens that are licensed by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use in performing tuberculin skin tests. The manufacturer notified CDC that they anticipate a supply interruption of APLISOL® 5 mL (50 tests) beginning in June 2019, followed by a supply interruption of APLISOL® 1 mL (10 tests) in November 2019. The expected shortage of APLISOL® 1 mL (10 tests) could occur before November 2019, if demand increases before then. The 3-10 month timeframe for the nationwide shortage is the manufacturer’s current estimate and is subject to change.

To monitor the status of this supply interruption, visit FDA’s “Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)-Regulated Products: Current Shortages” webpage: <https://www.fda.gov/vaccines-blood-biologics/safety-availability-biologics/cber-regulated-products-current-shortages>.

New York: Undercover Operation Reveals Times Square Explosives Plot

(US DHS TRIPwire) - On 6 June 2019, the FBI’s Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) and New York Police Department (NYPD) arrested a man for allegedly plotting to detonate an IED in Times Square. The suspect had been under surveillance since law enforcement learned of his interest in acquiring grenades, and the JTTF and NYPD executed a sting operation to catch him when he sought to purchase weapons with the serial numbers removed. The suspect also allegedly spoke of executing a person-borne IED attack by wearing a suicide vest and targeting politicians in New York City and Washington, DC. While authorities believe the suspect was a lone actor and not part of a larger terror plot, law enforcement are taking his alleged threats seriously because the suspect had taken surveillance video of his intended target location of Times Square.

**Emergency Responder Note (ERN)
Homemade Explosives Precursor Matrix**

The DHS Office for Bombing Prevention (OBP) TRIPwire OSINT Team published an Emergency Responder Note (ERN) on homemade explosives entitled “Homemade Explosives Precursor Matrix.” The ERN is designed as a reference aid and is intended to increase situational awareness for those who may encounter homemade explosives. This document can be found in the [Emergency Responder Notes \(ERN\)](#) section of the [TRIPwire library](#).

**First Responder's Toolbox:
Multilayered Approach can Help Mitigate
Challenges Posed by Homemade Explosives and IED Mitigation**

The NCTC Joint Counterterrorism Assessment Team (JCAT) published a new product, “First Responder's Toolbox: Multilayered Approach can Help Mitigate Challenges Posed by Homemade

Explosives and IED Mitigation.” The JCAT is a collaboration by NCTC, DHS, the FBI, and state, local, tribal, and territorial government personnel to improve information sharing and enhance public safety. The product can be found on [TRIPwire](#)..

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines
Extracts from [June 7, 2019](#)

[Large Ebola Outbreaks New Normal, Says WHO](#) (*BBC News*) The world is entering "a new phase" where big outbreaks of deadly diseases like Ebola are a "new normal", the World Health Organization has warned. [Go to article](#)

[Bipartisan Bill Proposes Forum on U.S. Academic Espionage](#) (*Science*) The free flow of people and ideas has helped make U.S. research universities the envy of the world. But those institutions have become a target amid growing concern from policymakers that international scientific collaborations may be undermining U.S. economic and military security by giving foreign governments, especially China, unfair access to new technology. [Go to article](#)

[Hundreds of Children in Pakistan Have Been Infected with HIV. Used Needles Could Be to Blame.](#) (*The Washington Post*) Health authorities here are scrambling to control an HIV outbreak in the country's south after the virus was diagnosed in about 700 people, most of them children, in recent weeks. [Go to article](#)

FBI FLASH: *RobbinHood* Ransomware

This [FBI FLASH](#) provides Indicators of Compromise Associated with RobbinHood Ransomware. The document is marked TLP: green.

Between 7 April and 7 May 2019, three US cities were victims of RobbinHood Ransomware attacks. These attacks represent the first observed instances of RobbinHood Ransomware in the US. RobbinHood encrypts the files on the victim's network using RSA-4096., an asymmetric cryptographic algorithm. Once a machine has been infected, the RobbinHood actors issue a ransom note, providing the victim with two options to recover their data. The first option requires the victim to send 3 Bitcoin (BTC) for each affected system. The second option requires the victim to send 13 BTC for all affected systems. The note also states the ransom amount will increase by \$10,000 per day, after the fourth day, if payment is not received. ([Link](#))

Report: Potential Human Cost of Cyber Operations

This [80-page report](#) developed by the International Committee of the Red Cross provides an account of the discussions that took place during a meeting of experts in November 2018 on the potential human cost of cyber operations. Session 2 discussed cyber attacks that could affect the delivery of health care, including hospitals, other medical facilities, and medical and biomedical devices. The report also details the challenge of fixing vulnerabilities in medical devices, and resilience of the health care sector to cyber attacks. ([Link](#))

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.