Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation
Emergency Preparedness Update
for July 31, 2019

UC Health expands to Louisville with transplant clinic

(Business First) A Cincinnati-based health system has opened its first location in Louisville. UC Health, a Cincinnati-based integrated academic health system, will open a new pre-transplant outreach clinic for kidneys on Aug. 1, according to a news release from the group. The system is made up of four hospitals — including Cincinnati's largest hospital by bed count, University of Cincinnati Medical Center — and an 800 physician practice called University of Cincinnati Physicians.

The new office will be located at 12700 Townepark Way, Suite 103, in Middletown. The expansion into Louisville is part of a larger effort by UC Health to grow its network of pre-transplant outreach clinics across Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana, according to the news release. The practice sees patients in Louisville, Elizabethtown, Danville, Bardstown and Shelbyville.

The move to expand into Louisville comes on the heels of the news that KentuckyOne Health Inc. was shuttering, at least temporarily, the historic heart transplant program at Jewish Hospital.

Full story: https://www.bizjournals.com/louisville/news/2019/07/31/major-regional-hospital-system-expands-to.html

UC Health Press Release: https://www.uchealth.com/press-releases/uc-health-expands-transplant-outreach-clinic-network/

Related: CMS eyes sweeping regulatory changes for organ transplant system

(Modern Healthcare) The agency has asked for public comment on how the U.S. organ transplant system can work better—from the contractors who procure and distribute the organs to the transplant centers.

READ MORE > https://www.modernhealthcare.com/government/cms-eyes-sweeping-regulatory-changes-organ-transplant-system

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Protect Expecting Mothers During National Immunization Awareness Month

(Precision Vaccinations) August is the observance of National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) which highlights the importance of 'getting recommended vaccines throughout your life.' This Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) month-long event empowers pregnant women with trustworthy vaccine information needed to make informed decisions on how to protect themselves and future families against serious diseases.

Vaccines are given before pregnancy to help protect expecting mothers from serious diseases including rubella, which can cause miscarriages and birth defects.

Full article: https://www.precisionvaccinations.com/vaccines-given-pregnancy-help-protect-expecting-mothers-and-babies-serious-diseases

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Why parents should fear measles, not the vaccine

(MedicalXpress) Measles is not trivial. It is the most severe of the once-common childhood infections. It is highly contagious and difficult to recognize until the rash appears later in the illness. The infection begins in the respiratory tract, with nasal congestion, sore throat, red eyes and increasing cough. Unlike common colds, measles gets worse over several days, causing increasingly high fever (often to 40 C or 104 F) and putting children in bed with nausea, vomiting, chills and headache. No antiviral drug is available to treat the illness or its complications.

This pre-rash phase lasts about four days, during which the infected person sheds huge numbers of viruses into their surroundings, accounting for measles being highly contagious. Children are contagious from three to four days before the rash onset, when symptoms mimic a cold or flu infection. One person with measles can infect 75 to 90 percent of susceptible members of a household by coughing and sneezing viruses into the air. Communicability is especially high in group settings such as daycares and school classrooms but can also occur with just brief exposure to an infected person.

Read full story: https://medicalxpress.com/news/2019-07-parents-measles-vaccine.html

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Hospitals drive spread of resistant Klebsiella in Europe, study finds

(CIDRAP) New research by a team of European scientists indicates that the rise of carbapenem-resistant Klebsiella pneumoniae in Europe is being fueled mainly by four strains that are being spread among hospital patients. The authors of the study say the findings highlights the fact that, while there has been an increasing focus on antibiotic use in animals and how the spread of resistance genes in the environment might affect human health, hospitals remain the primary source of transmission for multidrug-resistant pathogens.

Learn more: http://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2019/07/hospitals-drive-spread-resistant-klebsiella-europe-study-finds

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FDA clears for marketing 4 new tests for Lyme diagnosis

(CIDRAP News Scan for July 30) Four previously cleared tests that can detect Lyme diseases are now cleared for market use, the FDA announced yesterday.
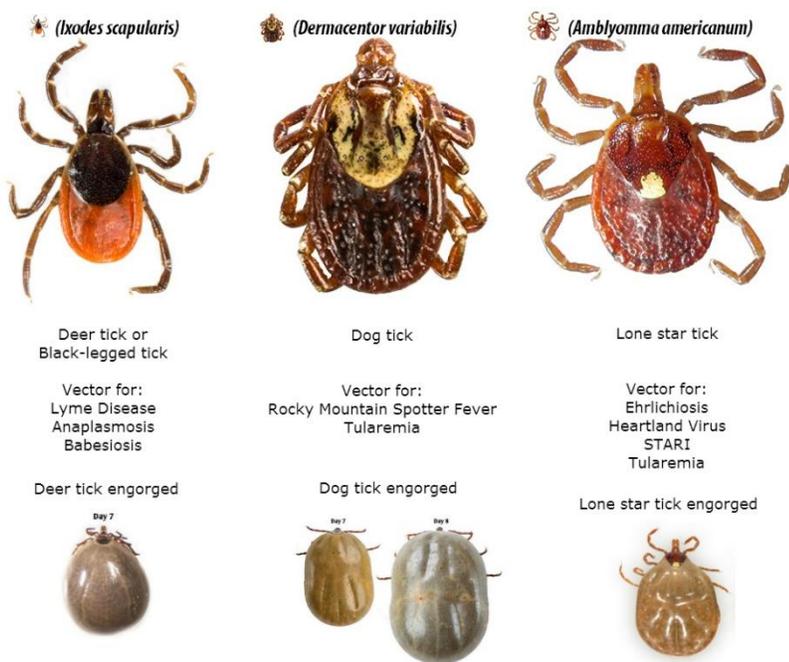
"Lyme disease can have a devastating impact on patients," said Tim Stenzel, MD, PhD, director of the Office of In Vitro Diagnostics and Radiological Health in the FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health. "With today's action, clinicians have a new option to test for Lyme that is easier to interpret by a clinical laboratory due to the streamlined method of conducting the test. These tests may improve confidence in diagnosing a patient for a condition that requires the earliest possible treatment to ensure the best outcome for patients."

Traditional Lyme assays require a two-step process to detect the presence of antibodies against *Borrelia burgdorferi*, the bacterium that causes Lyme disease. The standard tests require both enzyme immunoassays (EIA) and Western blots results to confirm Lyme.

The new tests, manufactured by ZEUS Scientific, of Branchburg Township, New Jersey, will require only one step—a modified approach that uses only EIA technology-based tests, the FDA said.

The FDA said officials recorded 42,743 confirmed and probable Lyme cases in 2017, an increase of 17% from 2016. The disease can cause a range of symptoms from mild to debilitating, including rash, joint pain, and fever.
Jul 29 FDA press release

(Ixodes scapularis)   (Dermacentor variabilis)   (Amblyomma americanum)

Deer tick or
Black-legged tick

Vector for:
Lyme Disease
Anaplasmosis
Babesiosis

Deer tick engorged

Day 7

Dog tick

Vector for:
Rocky Mountain Spotter Fever
Tularemia

Dog tick engorged

Day 7   Day 8

Lone star tick

Vector for:
Ehrlichiosis
Heartland Virus
STARI
Tularemia

Lone star tick engorged

Scores of Rocky Mountain spotted fever cases reported in Lincoln Trail area; awaiting confirmation

(KyForward) Rocky Mountain spotted fever, the main tick-borne disease in Kentucky, has affected scores of people in the area served by the Elizabethtown-based Lincoln Trail District Health Department.

The six-county department "has investigated a total 79 cases of Rocky Mountain spotted fever for June in the district, which comprises Har-din, Meade, LaRue, Nelson, Washington and Mar-ion counties," Mary Alford reports for The News-Enterprise in Elizabethtown.

In Grayson County, which is in the Lincoln Trail Area Development District but has a separate health department, 26 cases were reported from July 7 to 17.

Full story: https://www.kyforward.com/scores-of-rocky-mountain-spotted-fever-cases-reported-in-lincoln-trail-area-awaiting-confirmation/

Aug. 20 webinar on the health professional's role in helping sex-trafficked youth

AHA's *Hospitals Against Violence* initiative Aug. 20 at 2 p.m. ET will host a webinar to help health professionals understand some of the unique needs in caring for youth and young adults who have been or are being sex trafficked. The webinar will highlight a case-based scenario that demonstrates some of the issues often confronted by health professionals in identifying and responding to youth and young adult sex trafficking survivors. In addition, it will focus on the importance of using a trauma-informed approach particularly when addressing issues around mandated reporting, consent and confidentiality often raised with this aged population. **View more information and register**.

VxWorks/Wind River Mitigation strategy

The two attached mitigation documents are from Wind River, the maker of the VxWorks software associated with the Urgent/11 advisory that you received ye sterday. Recall that this is related to the

operating system for billions of IoT devices and controllers. Readers may want to pass this information along to your IT Managers and Bioengineers for their review.

Emergency Preparedness stories from Trust for America's Health

• *Homeland Security Today.US*: [How Intelligence Can Map Wildfire Risk and Help Reduce Catastrophes](#)

• *International Atomic Energy Agency:* [New CRP: Effective Use of Dose Projection Tools in the Preparedness and Response to Nuclear and Radiological Emergencies](#)

<mark>*Reminder:* **First Responders, Nurses and Medical Personnel**</mark>
<mark>**"Taking Care of Our Own"**</mark>

Friday, August 2, 2019; 8:30 AM to 3 PM (ET)
WestLex General Aviation Services, 4464 Gumbert Rd, Lexington, KY

The course is offered to all first responders, hospital personnel and interested individuals who care about the emotional wellness of our providers. The course is sponsored by The MedEvac Foundation International has joined with Air and Surface Transport Nurses Association (ASTNA) and the International Association of Flight and Critical Care Paramedics (IAFCCP); and is supported by KBEMS and the KY Fire Commission, but is open to everyone. Lunch is provided, and 4.7 CE will be available.

Register at: https://aams.formstack.com/forms/mfi_tcoot2019