



Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for August 14, 2019

University of Louisville acquires Jewish Hospital system State of Kentucky and two foundations assist to make it happen!

(University of Louisville) The University of Louisville has reached an agreement to assume KentuckyOne Health's Louisville-area assets. The agreement comes two months after initial negotiations ended when UofL could not find a suitable partner to help fund the acquisition. However, support from both the state and two local foundations revived the talks to save the struggling Jewish Hospital and other vital area medical facilities.

As part of the new agreement, UofL will pay \$10 million to acquire the assets from KentuckyOne's parent company, CommonSpirit Health, while CommonSpirit will forgive \$19.7 million in outstanding promissory notes from University Medical Center Inc. Additionally, UofL will assume more than \$76 million in accounts receivable from KentuckyOne, providing an immediate source of capital.

To help secure the purchase, Kentucky Governor Matt Bevin and Economic Development Cabinet Secretary Vivek Sarin have promised to support a \$50 million, 20-year loan – half of which will be forgiven if the university meets certain criteria in areas of employment or service to underserved areas of the community and commonwealth. Kentucky Senate President Robert Stivers and Speaker of the House David Osborne also expressed support for the loan.

Further, the Jewish Heritage Fund for Excellence and the Jewish Hospital and St. Mary's Foundation, are investing in the facilities, contributing \$10 million and \$40 million respectively, to be paid throughout four years.

The purchase includes:

- Jewish Hospital, including the Outpatient Center, Rudd Heart and Lung Center, offices and parking garages
- Frazier Rehab Institute
- Mary and Elizabeth Hospital
- Our Lady of Peace
- Jewish Hospital Shelbyville
- Jewish Medical Centers East, Northeast, South and Southwest
- Physicians groups affiliated with KentuckyOne

[As a side note, Dr. Bendapudi said during the press conference this morning that the deal got unanimous support from the UofL Board of Trustees at a special meeting this morning, and that the deal will close by November 1st. She also said that time was of the essence since it appeared an announcement was coming from KentuckyOne Health as soon as tomorrow to close Jewish Hospital. "This is too important not to act", she added.]

Full UofL News story: <http://www.uoflnews.com/post/uofltoday/uofl-to-assume-kentuckyone-louisville-assets-with-support-from-the-state-foundations/>

Read full Governor's Office press release: <https://kentucky.gov/Pages/Activity-stream.aspx?n=KentuckyGovernor&prld=1014>

Mosquitoes with West Nile Virus caught in Louisville

Story: <https://www.lex18.com/mosquitoes-with-west-nile-virus-caught-in-louisville>

Norton Healthcare: Although the risk of becoming sick or developing West Nile virus symptoms is low, here's what you need to know.

Learn more: <https://nortonhealthcare.com/news/west-nile-virus-found-in-mosquitoes-in-louisville>

Active shooter situation prompts lockdown at Chicago VA hospital

A man with an assault rifle opened fire at a Chicago-based Veterans Affairs hospital Aug. 12, prompting a lockdown, reports [Chicago Tribune](#). The suspect fired several shots into the Jesse Brown VA Medical Center around 2:40 p.m. Police apprehended the shooter less than a minute after he entered the building, and no one was injured.

"VA police were coming down the hall, and they drew weapons and took him down," former Army medic Oliver Robinson told [CBS 2 Chicago](#). "He didn't fight or anything."

After the incident, police barred anyone from entering or exiting the building. The suspect, whose identity was not released, is in custody. Lori Lohar, the VA hospital's acting director, told reporters she didn't believe the suspect is a veteran.

Chicago police are investigating the incident. The U.S. Attorney's Office may press charges, as the VA hospital is a federal facility, reports [CNN](#).

Read more: <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/patient-flow/active-shooter-situation-prompts-lockdown-at-chicago-va-hospital.html>

Between gun massacres, a routine, deadly seven days of U.S. shootings

(Reuters - Aug 11) - A boy accidentally killed by his father during a fishing trip in Montana. A woman dead and her husband behind bars after a single gunshot in a Dallas hotel room. A teenager cut down on his porch on a warm day in Washington state.

During the week bookended by mass shootings in Gilroy, California; El Paso, Texas; and Dayton, Ohio, in which gunmen killed 34 people, hundreds of others were shot to death across 47 U.S. states, according to the Gun Violence Archive, a nonprofit group that uses local news and police reports to track gun incidents.

The deaths were the sort of everyday murders, suicides and accidents that may not grab the headlines of mass shootings, but in many ways show the true toll of the gun violence endemic to the United States.

More than 36,000 people are shot to death every year on average in America, according to U.S. government data compiled by the gun-control advocacy group Everytown for Gun Safety. That works out to about 100 a day, or one every 14-1/2 minutes. Suicides account for more than 60 percent of those deaths. Slightly more than a third are homicides.

Read more: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-shooting-insight/between-gun-massacres-a-routine-deadly-seven-days-of-u-s-shootings-idUSKCN1V10A3>

...and it continues - 10,000 Rounds of Ammo and 25 Guns Seized from a teen threatening to kill federal officers

An 18-year-old Ohio man charged Monday with threatening a federal officer allegedly posted extensively online about mass shootings, specifically targeting Planned Parenthood. According to an affidavit, the bulk of Justin Olsen's radicalized content was posted under the name ArmyOfChrist on meme-hosting app iFunny.

Federal agents seized 15 rifles, 10 semiautomatic pistols, and 10,000 rounds of ammunition during the arrest earlier this month. Read more: <https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/ryanhatesthis/ammo-guns-seized-from-teen-radicalized-on-ifunny>

**Did you know the U.S. once had a ban on Assault Weapons?
Why and When did it Expire?**

Learn more from NPR:

<https://www.npr.org/2019/08/13/750656174/the-u-s-once-had-a-ban-on-assault-weapons-why-did-it-expire>

Related: More Than 10K Guns Have Been Turned Over in New Zealand Buyback
<http://newser.com/s279040>

Physician Burnout: Isolation, Loneliness and the Loss of the American Hospital

(Forbes) Physicians nearing the end of their careers often mourn the loss of the hospital as it once was—the undisputed center of the healthcare universe. They remember a time when every community doctor rounded on patients in the morning and every surgery was performed in one of the hospital's main operating rooms. Times, like hospitals, have changed.

This article, which concludes a [three-part series](#) on physician burnout, looks at how the changing role of the American hospital has left doctors (both old and young) feeling lonely, isolated and, increasingly, burned out.

Read this article: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/robertpearl/2019/08/12/physician-burnout-isolation/#c5c8af258a01>

Article 1 in the series: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/robertpearl/2019/07/08/physician-burnout-1/#136f7c9b119e>

Article 2 in the series: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/robertpearl/2019/07/24/burnout-and-physician-hierarchy/#52072d933438>

Bills from out-of-network doctors rising at in-network hospitals

(Reuters) A growing number of Americans treated at hospitals that are part of their insurance networks are getting billed for out-of-network care, a U.S. study suggests. The proportion of emergency room visits to in-network hospitals that result in out-of-network bills surged from 32.3% to 42.8% from 2010 to 2016, the study found. Over the same period, the proportion of inpatient hospital admissions to in-network hospitals that result in out-of-network bill surged from 26.3% to 42%. Patients' tabs for these out-of-network bills has climbed too, from an average of \$220 to \$628 for ER visits and from an average of \$804 to \$2,040 for inpatient hospital admissions.

For ER visits, out-of-network billing was particularly common for ambulance services: 85.6% of ambulance encounters resulted in balance billing, researchers report in JAMA Internal Medicine. About one-third of

patients treated by emergency physicians at in-network hospitals got balance billed, as did more than one in five patients receiving care from an internist or an anesthesiologist.

Learn more about this: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-insurance-surprise-billing/bills-from-out-of-network-doctors-rising-at-in-network-hospitals-idUSKCN1V21VS>

Alarms in emergency rooms rarely important, which can desensitize staff

(Reuters) Walk into any emergency room in the U.S. and you'll hear a regular din of beeping alarms going off from machines connected to patients. But a new study found only a tiny fraction of the alarms signals a condition important enough to require a change in the patient's care.

And that creates a problem: the nearly constant din tends to desensitize hospital staff to the sounds, a phenomenon dubbed "alarm fatigue," which can result in real emergencies being missed, researchers warn in The American Journal of Emergency Medicine.

Full story: <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-emergency-rooms-alarms/alarms-in-emergency-rooms-rarely-important-which-can-desensitize-staff-idUSKCN1V21XE>

Pure CBD Won't Make You Fail a Drug Test, But...

(HealthDay News) -- As the CBD craze sweeps the nation, some users may wonder whether the cannabis extract can make them fail a drug test. A preliminary study suggests the answer is "no" -- at least if the CBD is pure. Researchers found that CBD, or cannabidiol, did not react with either of two commercially available tests used to screen for [marijuana](#) use. However, another cannabis compound -- cannabinol (CBN) -- did.

Learn more: <https://www.medicinenet.com/script/main/art.asp?articlekey=223549>

The unintended consequences of more potent pot

(CBS) The [legalization of recreational marijuana](#) in [almost a dozen states](#) shows how America's attitude toward the drug may be changing. But the drug has changed too: Newly developed strains of marijuana are far stronger than what people were smoking in the past, leading to unintended consequences like addiction and marijuana toxicity.

"Typically, young children around the age of 2 are getting into caregivers' -- whether it's parents', grandparents', babysitters' -- marijuana products, often edible products," said Dr. Sam Wang.

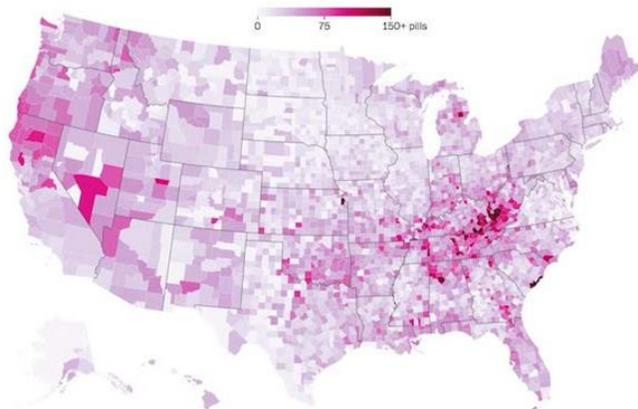
Wang's findings from Colorado's Children's Hospital are included in [a new nationwide study](#) that showed a 27% increase in children and teenagers getting emergency treatment for marijuana toxicity. Seventy percent of the cases occurred in states with legalized marijuana.

An exponential increase in marijuana's psychoactive ingredient, THC, is at the center of the crisis. THC content has spiked from 3.7% to more than 20% -- and some cannabis concentrates contain close to 100% THC.

Read more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/marijuana-the-unintended-consequences-of-more-potent-pot/>

DEA database shows Kentucky a major source of pain pills from 2006 through 2012

Last month The Washington Post published a story and interactive map about the [Drug Enforcement Administration database](#) that reveals the distribution patterns of opioid painkillers from 2006 through 2012, when the opioid epidemic was surging.



The first map showed the number of pills by county; a new map makes them easily visible by store, and the Post did a story about the data, with a list of the pharmacies that handed out the most pills per person in its county.

Shearer Drug of Albany, Ky., ranked first in the nation, dispensing 6,778,550 pills, or enough to give every person in surrounding Clinton County 96 pills a year. No. 4 was Booneville Discount Drugs in Owsley County, with 2,850,040 pills, or 86 per person per year. No. 6 was Glenn's Apothecary of Marion, with 5,171,800 pills, 80 per year for each person in Crittenden County.

Read more: <https://www.kyforward.com/interactive-map-of-dea-database-shows-kentucky-a-major-source-of-pain-pills-from-2006-through-2012/>

Downloads of data: https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/2019/07/18/how-download-use-dea-pain-pills-database/?tid=a_inl_manual
Original July Washington Post story: https://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/opioid-death-rates-soared-in-communities-where-pain-pills-flowed/2019/07/17/f3595da4-a8a4-11e9-a3a6-ab670962db05_story.html

Hospitals rationing immune disorder drug

(Becker's Hospital Review) A shortage of a drug used to treat immune disorders has forced U.S. hospitals and infusion clinics to ration it or suspend treatment for many patients who use it, according to [The Wall Street Journal](#). The medicine, immune globulin, is derived from human blood plasma. It is used to help patients with compromised immune systems fight infections. It also treats muscle and nerve disorders.

Recently, hospitals and clinics have been faced with shortages of the drug. Some facilities have stopped giving the drug to patients with diseases deemed to be non-life threatening and are saving the treatment for those who need it to stay alive. The shortage is being felt by hospitals nationwide, according to the Journal. In June, Cincinnati Children's Hospital notified the families of 150 patients that receive regular immune globulin infusions that they would suspend or reduce treatment for some of them in order to conserve supply for patients with life-threatening conditions.

Full story: https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/pharmacy/hospitals-rationing-immune-disorder-drug.html?oly_enc_id=5801D9400678F3Z

Drinking bleach and "Miracle Mineral Solution" will not cure cancer or autism, FDA warns

(NBC) Federal regulators [issued a warning Monday](#) urging people not to drink a chlorine dioxide solution that is often promoted online as a remedy for autism, HIV/AIDS, cancer and other conditions.

The products — known as "Miracle Mineral Solution", MMS and Chlorine Dioxide Protocol among other monikers — have not been approved by the Food and Drug Administration and can have life-threatening side effects, the department said in a news release.

"Ingesting these products is the same as drinking bleach," said FDA acting Commissioner Ned Sharpless, according to the release. "Consumers should not use these products, and parents should not give these products to their children for any reason." This is not the first time the department has issued such warnings.

Poison control centers have managed more than 16,000 related cases over the last five years. Fifty of them were life threatening; in eight instances people died, according to data from the American Association of Poison Control Centers.

Full story: <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/drinking-bleach-will-not-cure-cancer-or-autism-fda-warns-n1041636>

FDA Press release: <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-warns-consumers-about-dangerous-and-potentially-life-threatening-side-effects-miracle-mineral>

To Find the Next Antibiotic, Scientists Give Old Drugs a New Purpose

(NPR) With antibiotic-resistant bacteria on the rise, scientists are urgently trying to find drugs that will work against persistent infections. But coming up with new ones does not have to be the only strategy.

A recent study [published](#) in *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* found that they can repurpose **bithionol** — a drug formerly used to treat parasitic infections in horses — to kill antibiotic-resistant bacteria, including MRSA, a common hospital-acquired infection. The results not only suggest a promising treatment for this infection but hint at new ways scientists could tackle the problem of antibiotic resistance, by exploring new uses for old drugs and also using them in combination with traditional antibiotics.

Full story: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2019/08/12/749366768/to-find-the-next-antibiotic-scientists-give-old-drugs-a-new-purpose>

What is hepatitis A?

Health emergencies declared as liver infection cases spike

(NBC Today) From tainted frozen berries and [contaminated candies](#), to infected restaurant workers handling food, the threat from hepatitis A is causing alarm in communities across the country.

The virus, which is spread from person to person or in food-borne outbreaks, causes a highly contagious liver disease that can be fatal. Many people think it only affects the homeless or drug users, but anyone who isn't vaccinated can be infected when exposed to contaminated food or drink.

This month alone, [Florida](#) and the city of [Philadelphia](#) have both declared public health emergencies after seeing a spike in cases. The Minnesota Department of Health [declared an outbreak](#) of hepatitis A in multiple counties on Thursday. Other states are concerned, too.

Across the U.S., the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has been monitoring "[widespread outbreaks](#)" of hepatitis A, with 23,638 cases and 233 deaths in 29 states since 2016.

Read more: <https://www.today.com/health/what-hepatitis-health-emergencies-declared-liver-infection-cases-spike-t160413>

CDC: People getting sick from fecal parasite in pools

(USA Today) Cooling off in the pool or spending the day at a water park are classic summer activities, but government health officials warn that there are parasites lurking in communal water that even chlorine can't kill. In a well-chlorinated pool, the Giardia parasite can survive for up to 45 minutes, and the hepatitis A virus can survive for about 16 minutes, according to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#). A parasite called cryptosporidium, or crypto, can survive for more than a week even in a properly treated pool or water park, according to epidemiologist Michele Hlavsa.

Exposure to crypto in pools and water playgrounds caused 4,232 illnesses from 2009 to 2017, according to a report released Thursday by the CDC. People, children in particular, who swim too soon after having a case of diarrhea can spread the parasite

Story link: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2019/06/27/illnesses-caused-parasite-pools-rise-cdc-finds/1519038001/>

More than half of U.S. beaches have fecal bacteria

- More than half of American beaches have high levels of E. coli bacteria at least one day a year.
- The bacteria, present in animal and human waste, get into water from waste treatment plants or storm water runoff.
- Beaches in the Gulf Coast, West Coast and Great Lakes regions had more than the average number of high-bacteria days.

Learn more: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/americas-dirtiest-beaches-half-of-u-s-beaches-have-e-coli-fecal-bacteria-environmentalists-say/>

Hundreds of US hospices have at least one 'serious deficiency

(USA Today) The majority of hospices in the United States have at least one problem with their care and about 20% have at least one "serious deficiency," according to a government watchdog investigation. More than 80% of the 4,563 hospice centers that provide care to Medicare beneficiaries surveyed nationwide from 2012 to 2016 had at least one deficiency, according to a report this month from [the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General](#). Read more: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/health/2019/07/09/report-details-deficiencies-us-hospices/1682191001/>

How to prepare for an earthquake and assemble a bugout bag

- In the past decade, there have been at least 16 magnitude 8.0-plus earthquakes around the globe.
- The 1994 Northridge Earthquake near Los Angeles that killed 57 and caused an estimated \$50 billion in property damage was a 6.7.
- Proper earthquake preparedness could mean the difference between life and death, and between property damage or catastrophic loss.
- With a plan in place and with the proper supplies at the ready, you greatly increase your chances of getting through an earthquake and its aftermath relatively unscathed.
- In this guide, we'll walk you through how to prepare for an earthquake, how to come up with an emergency plan, and all the things you need to [assemble a bugout bag](#).

Learn more: <https://www.businessinsider.com/how-to-prepare-for-an-earthquake>

Johns Hopkins: Health Security Headlines
Extracts from [August 13, 2019](#) & [August 14, 2019](#)

[Global measles outbreaks make 2019 a record-setting year](#) (CIDRAP) Measles continues to spread in global outbreaks, with the first 6 months of 2019 producing more measles cases than any year since 2006, the World Health Organization (WHO) said in a new report on measles activity in the first half of 2019.

[Making Microbes that Transform Greenhouse Gases](#) (EurekaAlert) Researchers at the University of South Florida are harnessing the power of human physiology to transform greenhouse gases into usable chemical compounds - a method that could help lessen industrial dependence on petroleum and reduce our carbon footprint.

[Report: There's A Growing Water Crisis In The Global South](#) (NPR: Goats and Soda) Many major cities in Africa, Southeast Asia, and South America are falling dangerously behind in their efforts to provide residents with reliable and affordable access to clean water, according to a new report by the World Resources Institute. The data in the report offer a stark new account of the scale of the threat posed by unsafe and unaffordable water to public health and the economy in the Global South's quickly-expanding urban centers.

[Hajj health and safety boosted by new Health Early Warning System](#) (WHO EMRO) Authorities in Saudi Arabia are deploying a new health surveillance system to help keep people protected from communicable diseases during the annual hajj pilgrimage. For the first time, the Global Centre for Mass Gatherings Medicines of the Saudi Ministry of Health is using the [Health Early Warning System](#) (HEWS), which ensures the early detection of and timely response to health threats and emergencies related to mass gatherings. The new system monitors clinical reporting to identify clusters of unusual health events. Using a mixture of syndromic and indicator-based surveillance, it is well adapted to spot the diarrhoeal diseases and respiratory infections that are

liable to occur during mass gatherings which may occur due to crowding, variable living conditions and poor hygiene. The system is being applied electronically in 17 hospitals and 96 health facilities in vicinity of hajj areas. Read more: <http://www.emro.who.int/media/news/hajj-health-and-safety-boosted-by-new-health-early-warning-system.html>

Webinar: Mumps in U.S. Detention Facilities

August 28, 2-3 PM ET

Since September 2018, there have been over 800 mumps cases in adult migrants detained in US detention facilities, who are under US Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) custody. [This webinar](#) will provide an overview from CDC and ICE regarding mumps cases and provide guidance to help health departments to respond more efficiently and help to stop outbreaks sooner. Participants will also learn about CDC and ICE Health Service Corps (IHSC) resources and receive guidance on frequently answered questions. Detention facilities should follow local or state health department guidance and recommendations for mumps outbreak management. *(Limited to 1,500 registrants; CE will not be available - informational only.)*

CDC - Register for "Mumps in US Detention Facilities: <https://www2.cdc.gov/vaccines/ed/mumpsreg/>

CDC - Mumps info for healthcare providers: <https://www.cdc.gov/mumps/hcp.html>

The Modern Evidence Trail

The FBI's Regional Computer Forensics Laboratories Are Vital in the Digital Age

(FBI) Technology and connected devices touch nearly every facet of modern life, and they often hold key evidence in criminal investigations. "Every single case now involves some sort of digital evidence," said FBI Supervisory Special Agent Steven Newman, director of the [New Jersey Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory](#) (NJRCFL). Digital evidence can be on any device and can follow subjects almost anywhere they traverse in the cyber world. As such, digital evidence is key in Internet-enabled crimes, but it is also critical in cases that range from terrorism to fraud.

The [FBI's 17 RCFLs](#) are strategically located throughout the country to support state and local agencies in the proper handling and examination of digital evidence, along with reporting and providing expert testimony on what is found. The [newest RCFL](#) opened just last month to better serve agencies in New England. RCFLs will take cases from non-participating agencies that are within their service area and sometimes non-participating agencies outside their service area, as resources allow.

Full story: <https://www.fbi.gov/news/stories/rcfls-follow-the-modern-evidence-trail-081219>

NACCHO 2020 Preparedness Summit from March 31–April 3 in Dallas

NACCHO will be hosting the **2020 Preparedness Summit from March 31–April 3** at the **Hilton Anatole Hotel** in Dallas, TX. This year's theme, ***Fixing Our Fault Lines: Addressing Systemic Vulnerabilities***, will focus on methods to identify systemic weaknesses and highlight tools and policies that can empower all communities, and particularly the ones that are most vulnerable, to address those weaknesses and become more resilient.

The abstract submission period for the [2020 Preparedness Summit \(March 31-April 3, 2020\)](#); Dallas, TX) is officially open. This year's Summit Planning Committee invites public health, healthcare, disaster relief, emergency management, and other professionals nationwide to showcase and share their research findings, best practice training models, tools, or other resources that advance the field of public health and healthcare preparedness and response. Deadline, [September 17th](#).

[The Suicide Prevention Resource Center](#) is offering the free online course [Locating and Understanding Data for Suicide Prevention](#). The course explores a variety of commonly used data sources for information on suicide deaths and attempts, suicidal ideation, and related factors—as well as new frontiers in suicide surveillance, such as interactive dashboards and real-time data collection

4th Annual Children's Environmental Health Summit

October 10, 2019, Center for Rural Development, Somerset, KY

CEU's available for RN, RS & CHES.

More information and Registration: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/childrens-environmental-health-summit-2019-registration-62139099720>

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.