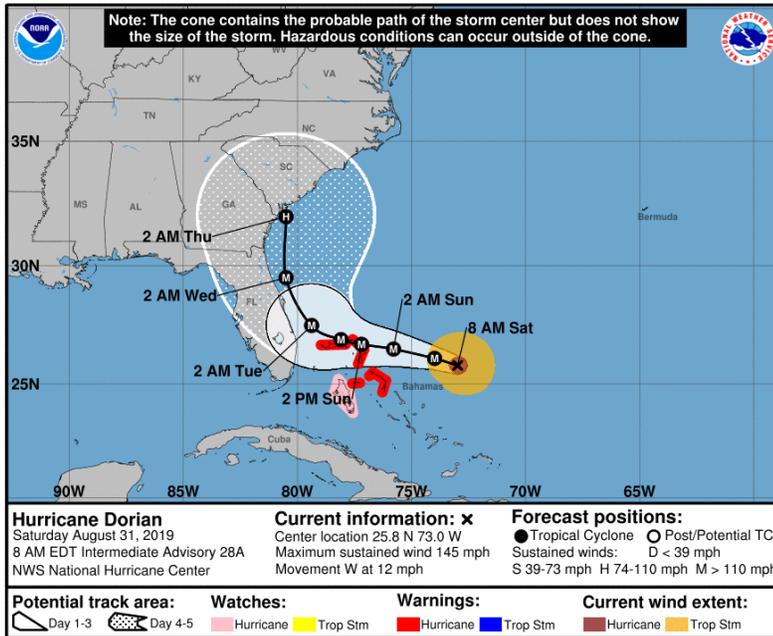




Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for August 31, 2019

New Hurricane Dorian path keeps center off Florida coast, but state still in the cone *Projected landfall now near SC-GA border*

(Orlando Sentinel) Hurricane Dorian strengthened into a Category 4 storm on Friday night with 145 mph winds, but the Saturday morning forecast shows Florida may be spared a direct hit.



The projected path by the National Hurricane Center as of its 8 a.m. forecast showed the storm strafing the northern Bahamas Sunday and Monday, but then taking a sharp right so the center of the storm doesn't make Florida landfall.

The path has shifted several times since Thursday with projected landfalls suggesting it would slam into Florida as far south as West Palm Beach and as far north as Flagler Beach. Its path all day Friday had it targeting Orlando, but the various computer models kept shifting the path farther east.

The state's east coast from Fort Lauderdale up to Cape Canaveral and inland to Orlando are still within the three-day cone of uncertainty, though.

The five-day projection includes even

more of the state, but the consensus path now has the storm headed for landfall near the South Carolina and Georgia border.

Full story: <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/weather/hurricane/os-ne-hurricane-dorian-florida-saturday-update-20190831-sei43wuqaramdbrxvlgvqgrsy-story.html>

Link to National Hurricane Center site: <https://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>

----- KU and LG&E sending crews to Florida ahead of hurricane

(WTVQ) – With a state of emergency declared for all of Florida and Hurricane Matthew tracking in the state's direction, Kentucky Utilities Company and Louisville Gas and Electric Company are answering a call for utility assistance ahead of the storm's arrival.

KU and LG&E have coordinated the release of more than 140 contractor line technicians, team leaders, tree trimmers and additional support staff to assist Florida Power and Light.

The contractor crews are being dispatched from areas across the KU and LG&E service territory including Lexington, London, Louisville, Maysville, Mount Sterling and Richmond, Kentucky as well as Norton, Virginia.

The crews will mobilize and begin the trip to Florida Tuesday evening through Wednesday morning. Once they arrive, they'll participate in pre-staging activities as officials track the hurricane's path and will be assigned to locations as needed following its impact.

The efforts are a result of KU and LG&E's participation in nationwide mutual assistance organizations, in which a collection of utility companies assist other utilities in times of natural disasters and crisis situations. Source: <https://www.wtvq.com/2016/10/04/ku-lge-sending-crews-florida-ahead-hurricane/>

A Speedy Test for Norovirus Could Help Water Supplies Check for Contamination

(NPR) Norovirus tends to make the news when an outbreak occurs on cruise ships. But the virus affects many more people than ocean-going vacationers.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [estimates](#) some 20 million people suffer acute intestinal illness from norovirus each year in this country. It's responsible for more than half of all cases of foodborne illness in the United States.

It can also get into municipal water supplies, when old pipes or storm overflow cause waste water contaminated with the norovirus to mix with drinking water.

Podcast and more: <https://www.npr.org/sections/health-shots/2019/08/30/755964938/a-speedy-test-for-norovirus-could-help-water-supplies-check-for-contamination>

Kentucky to Begin Tracking Mysterious Lung Illness Linked to Vaping

(WFPL) The Kentucky Department of Public Health will begin tracking cases of a mysterious illness linked to [vaping](#). Nearly 200 cases among teenagers and young adults from as many as 22 states have been [reported to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) as of late last week. Acting Kentucky State Epidemiologist Douglas Thoroughman said beginning next week, the agency will ask providers to voluntarily report any cases of teens or young adults with symptoms of the severe lung illness. Learn more: <https://wfpl.org/kentucky-to-begin-tracking-mysterious-lung-illness-linked-to-vaping/>

New antimicrobial coating could be key in fight against hospital-acquired infections

(Phys.org) Scientists at the University of Birmingham have created an antimicrobial coating for steel surfaces which has proven to rapidly kill bacteria that cause some of the most common hospital-acquired infections.

Working with the Royal Centre for Defence Medicine and the Royal Navy, the researchers conducted a clinical trial which saw NitroPep coated on steel surfaces—including [door handles](#), an operating theater and part of a communal toilet—on board a Royal Fleet Auxiliary ship.

Both the surfaces coated in NitroPep, and 'control' surfaces that were not treated with the coating, were subject to standard daily cleaning regimes while the ship was at sea for an 11 month period.

The surfaces were swabbed on a weekly basis and the results were then analyzed in the laboratory at the University of Birmingham.

The results showed that the coating was effective against five different bacteria that are responsible for hospital-acquired infections—*Staphylococcus aureus*, *Staphylococcus epidermidis*, *Enterococcus*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* and *Escherichia coli*. Learn more: <https://news360.com/article/505930720>

Mumps sickens hundreds of detained migrants in 19 states

(AP) Mumps has swept through 57 immigration detention facilities in 19 states since September, according to the first U.S. government report on the outbreaks in the overloaded immigration system. The virus sickened 898 adult migrants and 33 detention center staffers, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said in [its report](#) Thursday.

New cases continue as migrants are taken into custody or transferred between facilities, the report said. As of last week, outbreaks were happening in 15 facilities in seven states. The CDC report said more than 80% of patients were exposed while in custody.

Read more: <https://apnews.com/1684ee01b6754c44bf728f2bb1b22fac>

CDC: Domestic *Cyclospora* cases spike to 1,696 with 1,100 new infections

([CIDRAP News Scan](#)) In a monthly update yesterday on domestic *Cyclospora* cases, the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said 1,116 more have been reported, raising the overall total to 1,696. Three more states have reported cases, lifting the number of those affected to 33.

At least 205 of the cases from this year have been tied to an outbreak linked to imported Mexican basil, but the CDC said in yesterday's update that federal and state health officials are investigating multiple clusters linked to different restaurants or events. The agency added that it's not known yet if other cases in the country are linked to the outbreak tied to fresh basil. So far, 92 people have been hospitalized for their infections, which can produce profuse diarrhea that can last weeks to months. No deaths have been reported.

Backyard poultry *Salmonella* outbreak tops 1,000 cases

([CIDRAP News Scan](#)) Multistate *Salmonella* outbreaks linked to backyard poultry, first announced in the middle of May, have grown by 235 more cases since the middle of July, raising the overall total to 1,003 infections, the CDC said today in an update.

One more state reported cases, putting the number of affected states at 49. The number of deaths remained at two, and so far 175 people have been hospitalized. The latest illness onset was Aug 9. Of 850 people with available information, 23% were children younger than 5 years old.

Deaths from cars running red lights hit 10-year high, AAA study finds

Deaths from drivers running red lights reached a 10-year high in 2017, according to a new study. The number of people killed when someone plowed through a light reached 939 in 2017, the last full year numbers were available, according to the study by the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety. That was up 31% from a low of 715 in 2009. And the fatalities in those red-light collisions increased for a fifth straight year in 2017. Read more: <https://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2019/08/29/traffic-deaths-red-light-running-aaa-study/2122242001/>

Operation indiscriminately infects iPhones with spyware

(AP) Researchers say suspected nation-state hackers infected Apple iPhones with spyware over two years in what security experts on Friday called an alarming security failure for a company whose calling card is privacy.

A mere visit to one of a small number of tainted websites could infect an iPhone with an implant capable of sending the smartphone owner's text messages, email, photos and real-time location data to the cyberspies behind the operation.

Announced late Thursday by Google researchers, the last of the vulnerabilities were quietly fixed by Apple by February but only after thousands of iPhone users were believed exposed over more than two years.

Sensitive data accessed by the spyware included WhatsApp, iMessage and Telegram text messages, Gmail, photos, contacts and real-time location — essentially all the databases on the victim's phone. While messaging applications may encrypt data in transit, it is readable at rest on iPhones. The discovery should dispel any notion that it costs a million dollars to successfully hack an iPhone.

Learn more: <https://apnews.com/063551dd1cc244dc84e604e23032cfba>

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.