

**Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH)
Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council
Healthcare Sector Conference Call Minutes**

Date and Time of Call: Tuesday, October 27, 2009 - 0830 to 0930

Call Number: **1-888-776-3766**

Call Room Number: **3251726 press the star (*) key before and after the room number**

Please note this is a new call-in number and call procedure, the call will not be answered by an operator, but by an automated attendant.

Also please be advised that the call will be recorded.

1. Welcome, Identification of committee members in alphabetical order, Review of Agenda

(Sallie Shipman)

1. Paul Abel, Emergency Preparedness Manager/Safety Officer, DCH System
2. Agha Afgan, Safety Officer, Jackson Hospital
3. Joyce Altsman, Compliance Officer, Alabama Board of Pharmacy
4. Zoe Baker, Black Belt Medical Reserve Corps
5. Stanley Batchelor, Human Services Branch Director, Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA)
6. Beth Beck, Springhill Medical Center
7. Ann Brantley, Hazard Vulnerability Analysis (HVA) Nurse Coordinator, Asst. Center for Emergency Preparedness (CEP) Healthcare Sector Liaison, ADPH, CEP
8. Cathy Caldwell, ADPH, Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
9. Dr. John Campbell, State Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Medical Director, ADPH
10. Valerie Cochran, Asst. State Nursing Director, ADPH
11. Jeff Crews, Jacksonville Medical Center
12. Carolyn Dean, Infection Control Coordinator, Jackson Hospital & Clinic
13. Labridgette Ellis, Chief Operating Officer/HIPAA Privacy Officer, Whatley Health Services, Inc.
14. Carter English, Indigent Drug Program Pharmacist, Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation & Mental Retardation
15. Dr. John G. Fisher, Director, Alabama Poison Center
16. Linda Freeman, Black Belt Medical Reserve Corps
17. Dr. Tom Geary, Medical Director for Bureau of Health Provider Standards & ADPH Leader Healthcare Sector Committee, ADPH
18. Yvonne George, Quality of Life Health Services
19. Tina Givens, University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB)
20. Dr. Wesley Granger, Associate Professor and Program Director, UAB, Respiratory Therapy Program
21. Ashley Hayes, Director, North Alabama Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)
22. Karen Holland, Director of Quality and Regulatory Compliance, Jackson Hospital & Clinic
23. Sharon Howard, Chapman Healthcare Center
24. Tina Howell, Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services
25. Angelia Huntley, Infection Control Coordinator, Hospital Educator, and Employee Health Nurse, HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital Of Montgomery
26. Connie King, Assistant Area Administrator, ADPH, Area 8
27. Acquanetta Knight, Coordinator of Planning and New Initiatives, State of AL Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation
28. Mary Hooks, Black Belt Medical Reserve Corps

29. Dereck Morrison, Emergency Management Coordinator, Bryan Whitfield Memorial Hospital
30. Sondra Nassetta, Surveillance Nurse Coordinator, ADPH, Area 2
31. Larry Patterson, Regional Director, AEMA
32. Mary Porzig, Department of Senior Services
33. Benjamin P. Rackley, Director, Black Belt Medical Reserve Corps
34. Sallie Shipman, HVA Nurse Coordinator, Asst. CEP Healthcare Sector Liaison, ADPH, CEP
35. Cyndi Tereszkievicz, Sr. Environmentalist, ADPH, Area 10
36. Charles Thomas, State Pharmacy Director, ADPH
37. Joyce Thomas, Education Specialist/ Emergency Preparedness, Huntsville Hospital Emergency Department
38. Rita Tidwell, Chapman Healthcare Center
39. Tom Tucker, Finance Director, Alabama Primary Health Care Association, Inc.
40. Ron Turner, Center for Domestic Preparedness, Anniston
41. Dr. David Wallace, Director, Bioterrorism Preparedness Training, USA College of Medicine
42. Dr. Albert White, Public Health Officer, ADPH, Area 3
43. John Wible, General Counsel, Alabama Department of Public Health
44. Clarence Wilson, Quality of Life Health Services

2. Review and approval of minutes from July 28, 2009 Healthcare Sector Meeting
(Sallie Shipman)

Minutes were approved without change and are available at:

<http://www.adph.org/CEP/assets/7-28-09ConferenceCallMinutesHCS.pdf>

3. Old Business (Subcommittee Co-chair or designee)

Discussion Items:

A. Subcommittee Updates-

Healthcare Coordination/Operational Planning – Sallie Shipman

Next meeting - Thursday, December 10, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.

The current H1N1 planning and response have been the main focus of the subcommittee discussions.

ADPH is in the process of reviewing the data from the County and Area Emergency Support Function (ESF) 8 All-Hazards Assessments initial submission. The next submission will be conducted January 2010. Because this was the first assessment and the ongoing H1N1 response, the department would like to assure that the areas and other divisions will have adequate time to review and update the data.

Training and Exercise Planning – Ann Brantley

Next meeting - Wednesday, December 16, 2009 at 1:00 p.m.

ADPH is contracting with UAB to conduct Closed Point of Dispensing (POD) training for schools and universities. There will be at least one training conducted in each of the six Hospital Planning Regions, with possibly two trainings in the larger regions, covering the entire state.

ADPH is in the early stages of planning for a fatality management table top series in each of the six coroner's districts. The purpose of these table top exercises will be to provide a frame work to facilitate organized and effective local response planning for an event involving overwhelming loss of life in Alabama. Participants will evaluate current response concepts, plans, and capabilities for handling mass fatalities when presented with two different mass fatality scenarios.

ADPH is waiting for guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on conducting the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) Drills.

Plans are underway for a flood table top exercise to be conducted in Public Health Area Six. More information including dates will follow.

Plans for a functional exercise to be conducted in Bibb County, Public Health Area Three, are underway. More information including dates will follow.

Pharmacy Issues – Charlie Thomas

Next meeting - Monday, December 14, 2009 at 1:30 p.m.

There are 3687 pharmacists in the Alabama Emergency Response Technology (ALERT) system according to Amy Coody, State ALERT Coordinator. Notices have been sent through ALERT to the pharmacist. ADPH is working on increasing the message capacity within ALERT.

A proclamation of emergency declared by the Governor would allow for therapeutic substitutions.

Mass Dispensing: Medications will have labels that will route the caller to either Auburn (AU) or Samford drug information centers, or the Alabama Poison Control Center (APC). Countermeasure Response Administration (CRA) system is the data submitted to CDC during an event. Dr. John Fisher reported, during the subcommittee call, he was working on developing an exercise to test this system sometime next year.

H1N1 planning and response - Alabama physicians and pharmacists can now request government-supplied Tamiflu and Relenza to treat influenza patients who do not have insurance coverage for these medications. Providers must agree to certain terms and stipulations. Requests must be made through the Alabama Department of Public Health website, <http://www.adph.org>, by clicking on "[Log In](#)" at the top of the home page and then choosing "ORDER."

The hospital pharmacy goes through the ORDER system that is located in the Log-in section of our website. When they sign in the terms and stipulations will be listed. Only providers with an Alabama address are able to receive antivirals. No shipments will be sent to an out-of-state address. The H1N1 vaccine orders are processed through ADPH using

the ORDER system. An amendment to the Alabama Emergency Operations Plan to allow for the distribution of the antivirals is complete.

For those participating in the Minnesota Multistate Contracting Alliance for Pharmacy (MMCAP): In preparation for the upcoming influenza season and potential pandemic, Redbird Medical is offering members significant savings on its disease-neutralizing respirators. If you would like further information on the masks visit: www.redbirdarmor.com/. Please feel free forward this notification to all your state's participating facilities. "Flu Ready" Stock up promotion on the new, disease-neutralizing NT-V Mask™ Redbird Medical is offering a 10% discount on all case orders of the disease-neutralizing NT-V2™ Mask to members of MMCAP on orders placed September 8, 2009 through October 31, 2009.

Program Details

Qualifying Product:

§ Product: NT-V2™ Mask. Item #: RMS010402.

The new NT-V2™ Mask - NIOSH approved N95 Respirators that utilizes a proprietary silver coating to neutralize viruses and bacteria on contact!

Discount

§ 10% off per case

Minimum Quantity

§ Offer applies to case quantities only

Promotion Dates

§ Discount applies to orders placed September 8 through October 31, 2009.

§ Order must be shipped by November 15, 2009.

To take advantage of this offer, contact Redbird Medical at 866-292-6903 or Email: hartmanm@redbirdmedical.com Please mention the MMCAP "Flu Ready" Stock up promotion.

Faith Based/Community and Other Volunteers Sector – Charlie Crawford

The volunteer update includes information pertaining to the volunteer database, volunteers for the H1N1 clinics, and other meetings of concern pertaining to volunteers.

The volunteer database received a new updated feature just in time for the H1N1 clinic campaign. The system now has a volunteer deployment manager that allows deployment notifications and surveys to not only be sent but also record the volunteer's information as they respond. The system allows a photo to be updated into the volunteers profile for identification and also for the badge printing feature. The information could be accessed at any level state or local and this will be limited to the users who have been identified as the volunteer

coordinators for an event –in other words, not everyone will be given this access to the system.

In May of 2009, an email was sent to volunteers asking them to update their profile in the volunteer database. In July, another request was sent to the volunteers asking to update their profiles and to be aware that there may be a chance that H1N1 clinics would be conducted and that volunteers may be asked to help. In August, the ADPH Nursing Division and the Alabama Board of Nursing (ABN) partnered in a campaign to recruit nurse volunteers. A joint letter was sent to all nurses within the state asking for nurses to register in the volunteer database in preparation of the upcoming H1N1 clinics. The success has been very positive—the number of nurse volunteers has gone from around 600 to almost 1800 in less than 60 days.

An availability survey was developed and has been sent out to the volunteers (existing and new). The survey asked basic questions of the volunteer's preferred available times. The volunteer lists and availability survey responses are updated compiled weekly and sent to the Area Nursing Directors, Area Immunization Managers, and the Area EP Coordinators. These lists are being used at the local levels to coordinate volunteers and the H1N1 clinics.

ADPH has sent out the annual Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Request for Proposal (RFP) for this grant cycle funding to the MRCs. The proposals have been received from the MRCs throughout the state. ADPH will be grading the responses and making the awards.

4. New Business (Sallie Shipman)

Discussion Items:

A. Collaborative Efforts for Emergency Planning Between ADPH and Healthcare Organizations Conference Progress – Dr. Tom Geary, ADPH Medical Director for Bureau of Health Provider Standards and ADPH Leader, Healthcare Sector Committee

Two of the Hospital Planning Regions, One and Six, are completed. The participation has been excellent with 24 out of 27 hospitals participating in the first two regions. The evaluations have been extremely positive as well. The following regions are scheduled as follows:

Region 5, Mobile – October 30, 2009

Region 2, Tuscaloosa – November 2, 2009

Region 4, Montgomery – November 4, 2009

Region 3, Birmingham – November 16, 2009

A list of questions regarding implementation is being compiled during these presentations. ADPH will be working to address the

questions and will discuss all questions during the December 2, 2009 satellite broadcast. For more information please visit the CEP Training webpage at: <http://www.adph.org/CEP/Default.asp?id=512>

B. Update on H1N1 Pandemic Planning and Response– Valerie Cochran, MSN, RN, NE-BC, ADPH Assistant State Nursing Director

County health departments will start administering a limited number of doses of H1N1 influenza vaccine to individuals in targeted high-risk groups beginning Wednesday, October 28, 2009 at locations throughout the state. Statewide the health department has 55,000 doses available at this time.

Vaccine in injectable form will be offered only to

- pregnant women;
- children 6 months through 4 years old;
- parents, siblings and caregivers of children less than 6 months old;
- children 5 to 18 years old who have underlying medical conditions; and
- health care workers.

As more vaccine becomes available, our department and other health care providers will begin vaccinating school children and others outside of these target groups. With the limited supply of vaccine, the vaccination clinics for the 800,000 school children will be delayed until late November or early December. ADPH has hired 100 contract nurses to assist with the vaccination clinics. As of today, the plan is to give the **FluMist** (Influenza Virus Vaccine Live, Intranasal) to kindergarten - Third grade by end of November.

5. New Business, not identified on the agenda (Sallie Shipman)

The press conference held by Dr. Williamson and Governor Riley was conducted the day of this conference call. Please visit the www.adph.org/H1N1flu for more information regarding the H1N1 response. All press conferences are available at: <http://www.adph.org/ALPHTN/Default.asp?id=1551>

Alabama and the nation are experiencing significant delays in the amount of H1N1 influenza vaccine received. Vaccine supply is short for both private providers and health departments.

The number of vaccine doses sent to each county health department has been allocated based on population. The public can find clinic dates, times and locations at www.adph.org. Information is also available by calling the health department's toll-free hotline at 877-377-7285 between 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Please advise staff, planning partners, and the general public that additional information is being uploaded to the www.adph.org/H1N1Flu website on a daily basis and that we have an "Information for Healthcare Providers" page located at:

<http://www.adph.org/H1N1Flu/Default.asp?id=3574> . The Area EP Coordinator (map located at: <http://www.adph.org/CEP/index.asp?id=509>) and Area EP Surveillance Nurse are (map located at: <http://www.adph.org/epi/index.asp?id=1438&dev=true>) kept updated with the latest information regarding H1N1 efforts. The majority of the seasonal influenza vaccine shipments have not arrived yet. ADPH will hold clinics when supplies arrive.

6. Review date and time of next call, **Tuesday, January 26, 2010** then to be held quarterly on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 8:30 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. (Sallie Shipman)
7. Other topics and announcements (All)
8. Adjourn