



August 2009

In honor of National Preparedness Month IPHCA is discussing Personal Preparedness, including Flu readiness, in its monthly staff meeting. If you would like the resources IPHCA is using please contact Jenifer Nelson.



IPHCA update

IPHCA recently created an alternate email address for use in the event of an emergency. Please add indianaprimry-healthcareassn@gmail.com to your list of safe senders.

Thanks!

IPHCA Emergency Management Communicator

Get Ready: September is National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month activities can be found at the Ready.gov websites, specified below. These websites were created by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and provide many ideas and tools to better prepare for emergencies. It is arranged in four sections: Ready America, Ready Business, Ready Kids and En Español.

Ready America: <http://www.ready.gov/america/index.html>

Offers planning tools for Military Families, Older Americans, People with Disabilities and Pet Owners and features an online toolkit.

Ready Business: <http://www.ready.gov/business/index.html>

Offers online tools and guidance that will help your business prepare including templates to create a business continuity plan.

Ready Kids: <http://www.ready.gov/kids/index.html>

Offers a colorful and fun way to introduce children to planning for emergencies. Coloring pages, fun and educational games and templates are available here.

En Español: <http://www.listo.gov/america/index.html>

Offers tools and guidance with the Spanish versions of Ready America, Ready Business and Ready Kids.

~~~~~  
Another great resource for business planning is Flu.gov at: <http://www.flu.gov/professional/business/index.html>. This features numerous resources including information on Occupational Safety and Federal Employment Laws.

## Emergency System for Advanced Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP)

<https://healthnet.isdh.in.gov/VolunteerRegistry/default.aspx>

ESAR-VHP (Emergency System for the Advanced Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals) is an electronic database of health care personnel who volunteer to provide aid in an emergency.

Each state was authorized to develop an ESAR-VHP system and the Indiana State Department of Health hosts the system on the link referenced above.


Registration to be an emergency health care volunteer is open to the following health care professionals with an active Indiana license on file: Physician, Physician Assistant, Registered Nurse (RN), Certified Nurse Midwife, Clinical Nurse Specialist, Nurse Practitioner, Licensed Professional Nurse (LPN), Respiratory Care Practitioner, Radiologic Technologist/Technician, Pharmacist, Pharmacy Technician, Psychologist, Mental Health Counselor, Social Worker, Clinical Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist, Dentist, Dental Hygienist and Environmental Health Specialist.

The secure database allows the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) to apply emergency credentialing and allow for emergency verification of a volunteer's identity, credentials, and qualifications of registered volunteers.

For more information and additional volunteer opportunities, please reference the ISDH brochure on IPHCA's website at: [http://www.indianapca.org/programs/pubhlthprep\\_links.html](http://www.indianapca.org/programs/pubhlthprep_links.html).

"What we have done for ourselves  
alone dies with us; what we have  
done for others and the world  
remains and is immortal."

~Albert Pike



Thanks for all  
the "immortal"  
things you do!

## Patient Tracking: The Next Step in the Development of the Bed Tracking System

Last year, the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) purchased bed tracking software through EWA Phoenix to meet the HAVBED requirements. This year ISDH purchased the Patient Tracking feature from EWA Phoenix to allow for greater flexibility of the system in registering and tracking patients through the health care encounter. The following four modules are available for the Indiana hospitals to choose (hospital must purchase the hardware):

- **Rapid Registration:** allows the scanning of the patient's drivers license to automatically begin the registration process
- **ER Waiting List:** allows hospital staff to circulate throughout the waiting room and use a handheld device to register, initially triage and provide the status of those in the waiting room.
- **EMT:** allows the EMT to scan the drivers license and maintain the information regarding actions taken from the time of call to hospital drop off; also allows download to hospital, if the hospital has the software.
- **Triage:** allows for use of an external triage center where triage can be performed and tracked outside the hospital environment; also tracks if patient was sent to a hospital for treatment.

Although not currently available to the community health centers, this software could be worth pursuing in the future. If a health center is designated as an alternate care site, the Triage module could be especially useful in a surge event to ensure the patient's information is accessible from initial contact to discharge.



1006 East Washington Street  
Suite 200  
Indianapolis, IN 46202  
Phone: 317-630-0845  
Fax: 317-630-0849  
E-mail: [info@indianapca.org](mailto:info@indianapca.org)

IPHCA Emergency Management  
Communicator

---

For questions or comments, or to schedule a site visit for help in implementing emergency preparedness activities, please contact Jenifer Nelson.

Jenifer Nelson  
Emergency Management  
Program Director  
Tel: 317-630-0845 Ext. 119  
Email: [jnelson@indianapca.org](mailto:jnelson@indianapca.org)

---

## H1N1 News

- To view the summary from the H1N1 Public Engagement Dialogue held on August 31st access the following link: <http://www.webdialogues.net/cs/h1n1aug31-aug31-home/view/di/198?x-t=home.view> and then select “agenda” and “summary”.
- Be sure to contact your Local Health Department to determine whether they are hosting an H1N1 Summit on Friday, September 18th. A listing of the Local Health Departments can be found here: <http://www.in.gov/isdh/23926.htm>
- “Massachusetts Enacts Measure Requiring H1N1 Vaccination for Health Workers, Gives Other Clinicians Approval to Administer Vaccines” found at: <http://www.rwjf.org/publichealth/digest.jsp?id=21366>
- The Red Cross offers guidance for home care for pandemic flu available at: [http://www.redcross.org/www-files/Documents/pdf/domestic%20programs/pandemic\\_flu\\_home\\_care\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.redcross.org/www-files/Documents/pdf/domestic%20programs/pandemic_flu_home_care_brochure.pdf)

## NACHC Emergency Management F2F

The National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) recently hosted an Emergency Management face-to-face meeting for the Primary Care Association (PCA) staff responsible for those duties. Some tips and resources from the other states include the following:

- Many health centers suffered from message fatigue during the initial H1N1 outbreak. The recommendation was to try to have one person monitor the messages and news and provide a daily digest of the latest information and guidance.
- CDC SNAPS <http://www.bt.cdc.gov/snaps/> provides local level community profile information based on the 2000 and 2003 U.S. Census data.
- For Business Continuity planning purposes: fire is the most common business hazard; little disasters such as power outages, server downtime due to flooding or a computer virus can have a big impact on the ability to conduct normal business.
- Communicate with fellow health centers to see whether several health centers could pool resources to purchase a generator.
- Translated materials for H1N1 in a variety of languages is available at: <http://www.aapcho.org/site/aapcho/section.php?id=11357>
- A community health center in Chicago effectively lobbied for antivirals from the strategic national stockpile supply by providing data showing definitive need to treat health center patients.