



# the SIREN UPDATE

## The CDC Provides New Fact Sheet on Flu Vaccine for Health Care Workers

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has produced an informational web site, providing lists of facts and recommendations for health care workers including EMS concerning influenza and vaccinations.



According to *Influenza Vaccination Information for Health Care Workers*:

- CDC and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices recommend that all health care workers get an annual flu vaccine.
- Fewer than half of health care workers report getting an annual flu vaccine.
- As a health care worker, by getting vaccinated, you can help protect your family at home as well as your patients at work from getting sick.
- Getting a yearly flu vaccine can help ensure your time off is spent doing what you want to do, not staying at home sick.

The web site provides additional information about the anticipated flu season and the current vaccine. More information can be found at [www.flu.gov/professional/hospital/hcworkers\\_vaccine.html](http://www.flu.gov/professional/hospital/hcworkers_vaccine.html).

## Emergency Response Publication Addresses Identification of Homemade Explosives

The Government Printing Office announces the availability of multi-lingual guides to assist first responders in the identification of homemade explosive devices. The guide contains images and text describing the indicators and warnings pertaining to homemade explosives.

This booklet provides a quick reference to establish an awareness level so that responders can visually recognize the materials, chemicals, and equipment associated with the manufacture of homemade explosives.

The Homemade Explosives Recognition Guide will help all on-scene personnel visually assess the possibility that a situation involves the manufacture of homemade explosives. It is not for public use, but for military, federal, state, and local agencies as a reference for training and operations by emergency personnel in preparing for and responding to a terrorist incident. Information in this publication is general and may not reflect the most recent threats.

An online reference is not available. Information can be found at <http://bookstore.gpo.gov/actions/GetPublication.do?stocknumber=008-001-00201-7>.

## FEMA Releases Course on Planning for the Needs of Children in Disasters

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recently released a new independent study course through their Emergency Management Institute on Planning for the Needs of Children in Disasters. This course is targeted to local and state emergency managers and planners; however, other individuals or groups that are directly involved with meeting the needs of children may also benefit.

Upon completion of the course, students will receive a FEMA certificate in addition to .40 continuing education units. Go to <http://training.fema.gov/IS/> and look for course IS-366.

## Regional Informational Meetings to be held on S.B. 58 - Blood Draws by EMS for Evidence Collection

S.B. 58 became effective on September 17, 2010. The law permits, but does not require, the drawing of blood by an EMT-Intermediate or EMT-Paramedic for evidence collection.

The Division of EMS will be conducting eleven (11) regional meetings across the state to provide information on what the law allows and the parameters established in rules adopted by the State Board of EMS.



EMTs-Intermediate, EMTs-Paramedics, medical directors of EMS agencies and law enforcement personnel are invited to attend. The Division of EMS encourages all EMS and law enforcement agencies to send a representative to one of the regional meetings. These sessions will provide EMS and law enforcement personnel the opportunity to discuss concerns at the local level regarding the potential impact of this legislation.

To find out more information and to register for one of the following sessions go to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/3PWSZJR>

### Northwest Ohio

November 30, 2010 1pm – 3pm  
Owens Community College – Perrysburg

December 7, 2010 6pm – 8pm  
Apollo Career Center - Lima

### Northeast Ohio

December 1, 2010 6pm – 8pm  
Canton City Council Chambers - SW Canton

December 3, 2010 1pm – 3pm  
Cleveland Clinic Administrative Campus - Beachwood

### Central Ohio

December 9, 2010 1pm – 3pm  
Ohio Dept. of Transportation - Columbus

December 13, 2010 6pm – 8pm  
Ashland University - Ashland

### Southwest Ohio

December 10, 2010 6pm- 8pm  
Miami Valley Career Technology Center – Clayton

December 21, 2010 1pm – 3pm  
Bethesda North Hospital - Cincinnati

### Southeast Ohio

December 16, 2010 6pm – 8pm  
Belmont Technical College - St. Clairsville

December 17, 2010 1pm – 3pm  
Hocking College - Nelsonville

December 20, 2010 6pm – 8pm  
Collins Career Center - Chesapeake