



# Kentucky Hospital Research & Education Foundation Emergency Preparedness Update for September 4, 2020

## September is **National Insider Threat Awareness Month (NIATM)**

(DHS/ASPR) In addition to being National Preparedness Month, September is also National Insider Threat Awareness Month (NIATM). NIATM is a collaborative effort between the National Counterintelligence and Security Center (NCSC), National Insider Threat Task Force (NITTF), Office of the Under Secretary of Defense Intelligence and Security (USD(I&S)), Department of Homeland Security (DHS), and Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency (DCSA) to emphasize the importance of detecting, deterring, and reporting insider threats. NITAM 2020 will focus on "Resilience" by promoting personal and organizational resilience to mitigate risks posed by insider threats. The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) encourages organizations to read [NCSC's NITAM 2020 endorsement](#) and explore the following resources to learn how to protect against insider threats:

- [Insider Threat Mitigation](#)
- [CISA Webinar: A Holistic Approach to Mitigating Insider Threats](#)
- [NITTF Resource Library](#)
- [Center for Development of Security Excellence: Insider Threat Awareness and Training](#)

**CISA Vulnerability Summary:** The [CISA Vulnerability Bulletin](#) provides a summary of new vulnerabilities that have been recorded by the [National Institute of Standards and Technology \(NIST\) National Vulnerability Database \(NVD\)](#) in the past week. NVD is sponsored by CISA. In some cases, the vulnerabilities in the bulletin may not yet have assigned CVSS scores. Please visit NVD for updated vulnerability entries, which include CVSS scores once they are available.

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### **Correction from September 3rd Update**

New cases today: 906; Total ~~509,885~~ Should be 50,885  
Check the latest here: [KY Public Health's Daily Summary](#)

>>> Given the holiday weekend the next LIVE reports from Governor Beshear will be Tuesday at 4 PM. <<<

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### **Beshear Casts Doubt On Plans To Distribute Vaccine Ahead Of Election**

(WFPL) Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear told residents Thursday they should not anticipate a COVID-19 vaccine until early next year despite an announcement from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The CDC has informed public health officials across the country, including those in Louisville, to make plans to distribute a vaccine to high priority groups ahead of the U.S. election on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Kentucky Public Health Commissioner Steven Stack and Beshear threw cold water on the announcement Thursday, saying they will not put Kentuckians in jeopardy by rushing out a vaccine that has not undergone rigorous testing.

There are no shortcuts, Stack said. Any vaccine that Kentucky makes available will undergo sufficient testing to ensure that it's not going to harm the person who receives it.

Learn more: <https://wfpl.org/beshear-casts-doubt-on-cdc-plans-to-distribute-vaccine-ahead-of-election/>

### **Related-1 - CEO says Pfizer won't cut corners in COVID vaccine race**

(CIDRAP) The head of US drug maker Pfizer said today that his company would not submit a COVID-19 vaccine for approval or emergency use authorization (EUA) if its scientists don't have data from large phase 3 trials showing safety and efficacy.

"We will never submit for authorization or approval any vaccine before we feel that it is safe and effective," Albert Bourla, DVM, PhD, chairman and CEO of Pfizer, said in a press briefing organized by the International Federation of Pharmaceutical Manufacturers and Associations. "We will not cut corners."

The comments come amid growing concerns that the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) could issue an EUA for a vaccine prior to the Nov 3 presidential election without enough data from phase 3 trials.

Read more: <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/09/ceo-says-pfizer-wont-cut-corners-covid-vaccine-race>

### **Related-2 - Phase 3 Clinical Testing in the US of AstraZeneca COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate Begins**

(NIH) A multi-site, Phase 3 clinical trial evaluating an investigational COVID-19 vaccine known as AZD1222 has begun. The trial will enroll approximately 30,000 adult volunteers at 80 sites in the United States to evaluate if

the candidate vaccine can prevent symptomatic coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). The United Kingdom-based global biopharmaceutical company AstraZeneca is leading the trial as regulatory sponsor. The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health, and the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA), part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, are providing funding support for the trial.

The Phase 3 trial is being implemented as part of [Operation Warp Speed\(link is external\)](#), a multi-agency collaboration led by HHS that aims to accelerate the development, manufacturing and distribution of medical countermeasures for COVID-19. The [Accelerating COVID-19 Therapeutic Interventions and Vaccines \(ACTIV\)](#) public-private partnership also guided the development of the trial protocol to ensure a coordinated approach across multiple vaccine efficacy trials. [NIH experts have emphasized the importance of a harmonized process](#) to generate data for multiple investigational vaccines in parallel to assess the relative effectiveness of each. Read more: <https://www.nih.gov/news-events/news-releases/phase-3-clinical-testing-us-astrazeneca-covid-19-vaccine-candidate-begins>

**Related-3 - Fauci says coronavirus vaccine trials could be stopped early if they produce good results**

Dr. Anthony Fauci, the nation's leading infectious disease expert, said clinical trials on a coronavirus vaccine could be stopped early if they provide positive results that show it is safe and effective.

In an [interview](#) with Kaiser Health News published Tuesday, Fauci, the head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said a [Data and Safety Monitoring Board](#), which is composed of research experts that review data from clinical trials, has the power to end the trials early.

The independent board, Fauci said, could decide "the data is so good right now that you can say it's safe and effective." If the clinical trials were to produce results that are overwhelmingly positive, scientists would have a "moral obligation" to stop the trial early and make the vaccine available to all participants in the study, speeding up the process to make it more widely available.

Full story: <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/coronavirus-vaccine-fauci-trials-results/>

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**College Football, Myocarditis, and COVID-19  
The Skeptical Cardiologist weighs in on the risk**

MedPage Today: <https://www.medpagetoday.com/blogs/skeptical-cardiologist/88446>

**Related: Conference Finds Athletes Have an Issue After Recovery**  
<http://newser.com/s295773>

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**[Improved Testing and Design of Intubation Boxes During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)**

*(Annals of Emergency Medicine)* Throughout the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic, many emergency departments have been using passive protective enclosures ("intubation boxes") during intubation. Researchers tested a commercially available passive protective enclosure representing the most common design and compared this with a modified enclosure that incorporated a vacuum system for active air filtration during simulated intubations and negative-pressure isolation. Passive enclosures for intubation failed to contain aerosols, but the addition of a vacuum and active air filtration reduced aerosol spread during simulated intubation and patient isolation.

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**[Association of Vitamin D Status and Other Clinical Characteristics With COVID-19 Test Results](#)**

*(JAMA)* In this cohort study of 489 patients who had a vitamin D level measured in the year before COVID-19 testing, the relative risk of testing positive for COVID-19 was 1.77 times greater for patients with likely deficient vitamin D status compared with patients with likely sufficient vitamin D status, a difference that was statistically significant. These findings appear to support a role of vitamin D status in COVID-19 risk; randomized clinical trials are needed to determine whether broad population interventions and interventions among groups at increased risk of vitamin D deficiency and COVID-19 could reduce COVID-19 incidence.

**[White House says it does not expect U.S. government shutdown at month's end](#)**

The White House on Thursday said it expects Congress to approve the legislation needed to avoid a government shutdown at the end of the month, when current spending bills expire.

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**Cities, States Begin To Ban Rubber Bullet Use By Police**

*(IACP News)* [USA Today](#) (9/3, McCoy, Slack, Hancock) reports, "After nationwide protests against police brutality in which law enforcement officers wounded or blinded protesters, state and local lawmakers...are trying to restrict the use of 'less lethal' weapons that caused the injuries." USA Today adds, "At least seven major U.S. cities and a few states have enacted or proposed limits or bans on the use of rubber bullets and other projectiles." The article notes that the International Association of Chiefs of Police held a July webinar "on

lessons for law enforcement from this year's protests and other recent demonstrations" with 800 participants, according to IACP deputy executive director Terrence Cunningham. He stated, "It raised more questions than we had answers to," noting, "for some of these practices, the policies that we have are pretty old, to be honest with you, and this is a great opportunity to rethink it." USA Today notes that IACP's "guidelines for sponge and bean bag rounds and other impact projectiles haven't been revised since 2002. Meanwhile, the technology and tactics of less-lethal weapons have substantially changed. The police association's review eventually could lead to a congress of police executives and union leaders that produced a consensus policy on the use of force three years ago, Cunningham said."

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**US Charges 12 in Probe of West Virginia Drug Network**

([IACP News](#)) The [Fayette \(WV\) Tribune](#) (9/3) reports, "United States Attorney Mike Stuart on Aug. 26 announced the takedown of a drug trafficking organization responsible for distributing meth, heroin and marijuana in Kanawha and Fayette counties. The arrests were the result of a long-term investigation, dubbed 'Second Wave,' led by the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and the Central West Virginia Drug Task Force (CWVDTF). A federal grand jury returned two indictments charging 12 individuals in connection with their roles in the drug organization. 'The group of people arrested today have been a menace in our communities for too long,' said FBI Pittsburgh Special Agent in Charge Michael Christman."

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**National Registry makes recertification easier during pandemic**

([EMR InfoGram](#)) As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians recognizes the unique needs and concerns of EMS professionals requiring recertification. One of those concerns is the uncertainty and limited availability of classroom education.

To address the change in training delivery needs, the National Registry's Board of Directors responded by announcing the decision to waive the Distributive Education (DE) limits in the National Continued Competency Program (NCCP) Model for the 2021 recertification season. This will help EMS professionals maintain their national certification while assuring continued competency.

These changes allow all continuing education to be accomplished online through properly accredited programs or education sites. In-person continuing education will also be accepted. See the National Registry's website for details on dates and deadlines.

More info: <https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/covid-19>

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**FAST training teaches high schoolers to stop the bleed**

More than 250 high school teachers across the nation are now provisional instructors of the [First Aid for Severe Trauma](#) (FAST) certification training from the Department of Homeland Security's Science and Technology Directorate (S&T).

The FAST program has the potential to save many lives by training high school students on how to stop major bleeding and treat injuries before first responders arrive at the scene.

The final step of instructor certification will be bridge training, to be developed online by the American Red Cross by 2021. The American Red Cross will host the finalized course, once available, on its learning management system. The FAST program is designed for a typical high school class of about 25 students. [The American Red Cross will offer a training package.](#)

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**Operation Warp Speed (OWS) Counterintelligence and Security Webinar**

Please join the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency (DCSA) on **September 10, 2020 at 1:00 - 5:00 pm ET** for an UNCLASSIFIED webinar on "**Threats facing the U.S. Pharmaceutical and Biotechnology Sectors,**" [click here to register](#). The deadline to register is September 9 at 11:59 p.m. (EDT). When registering please add N/A into the CAGE Code field if you are a government agency or a company without a CAGE code. For the DCSA Field Office field choose the closest field office site to your location.

Please see this [letter from Dr. Robert P. Kadlec](#), MD, Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response, with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Dr. Kadlec wanted to share a brief message about the webinar and invite interagency and industry partners to attend.

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](mailto: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.