



# KCER Watch

**Safety and Health Topics: Emergency Preparedness Bulletin**

**February 2018**

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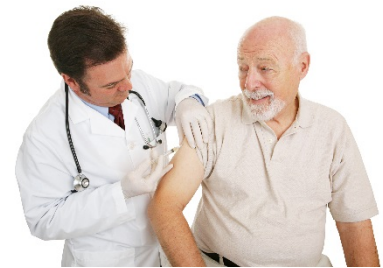
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## Hot Topics

### PrepTalks: The Next Pandemic – Lessons from History

Learning from past flu seasons is crucial to fighting the next one. In the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s (FEMA) PrepTalk series, author John Barry offers lessons learned from the 1918 and 2009 influenza pandemics. He provides guidance on what emergency managers can do to work with public health and elected officials to implement measures that can save lives.



**Read More:** <https://goo.gl/Uz2cxU>

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### How to Prepare Your Community for a Disaster



Your community can be affected by disaster at any time. Hazards like floods, earthquakes, and landslides can happen without any warning, but this doesn't mean that you should panic. What it does mean is that your community should have a disaster plan that accounts for everyone’s needs in the event of a disaster. Everyone can contribute something to this plan.

**Read More:** <https://goo.gl/cZ5RdY>

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## Tips for Survivors of a Disaster and Other Traumatic Events

The impact of a disaster or traumatic event can go far beyond immediate, physical devastation and may include personal stress and its effects. Just as it takes time to reconstruct damaged buildings, it takes time to grieve and rebuild lives. Life may not return to normal for months, or even years, following a disaster or traumatic event. There are tips that may help you and your family cope.

**Read More:** <https://goo.gl/JscpGS>

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## Education/Communication

### Emergency Plan Mobile App



Many phone owners keep contacts that are important to them ONLY in their smartphone. But during an emergency, when cell service and Internet service may be unavailable, you cannot always rely on your phone. Now there's an app that can put the numbers you you'll need during an emergency into a printable plan. The app is easy to use and can help you and your family create a basic emergency plan in a few quick steps.

**Read More:** <https://goo.gl/ZhqDXs>

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### Inside the Texas Catastrophic Medical Operations Center: An Interview with Lori Upton

Hurricane Harvey was a horrific storm. It caused 39 deaths, destroyed 50,000 homes in the southeastern part of Texas, and damage estimates are in the billions of dollars. Throughout the storm, the Southeastern Texas Regional Advisory Council (SETRAC), which operates the Catastrophic Medical Operation Center (CMOC), served as the lead for hospital responses. CMOC acted as the go-between for assistance and supplies, and coordinated patient movement. Lori Upton, CMOC's Director of Preparedness, talks about CMOC's structure and day-to-day functions.

**Read More:** <https://goo.gl/GfxuUn>

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### Wildfire Community Awareness Day

Wildfire Community Awareness Day is May 5, 2018. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is encouraging communities, organizations, and individuals to come together to prevent wildfires in their communities. You can apply for a grant from the NFPA to help your community prepare for wildfire season.

**Read More:** <https://goo.gl/u447jz>



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[www.kcercoalition.com/kcerwatch](http://www.kcercoalition.com/kcerwatch)

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We want your feedback! Please click here to complete a short survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/18FebKCER>



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