



County of San Luis Obispo Public Health Department Disaster Healthcare Coalition (DHCC) Meeting October 3, 2024

In attendance: Maya Craig-Lauer, Alyssa Vardas, Ricard Young, Bette Jenkins, Gayle Robinson, Tim Nurge, Kristine Greene, Lauren Duarte, Phillip Koziel, Mary Partin, Todd Tuggle, Chris Anderson, Megan Harrinton, Megan Dubicka, Ken Dalebout, Evan Millard, Eric Anderson, Jessie Burmester, Joni Anderson, Julia Armanino, Kristin Edler, Emma Wilcox, Ryan Rosander, Scott Jalbert, Javier de la Cerda, Stan Vinet

Corrections to: phep@co.slo.ca.us

TOPIC	DISCUSSION
INTRODUCTIONS	DHCC meetings begin at 10:34 am.
AGENCY-PROGRAM REPORTS MAYA CRAIG-LAUER PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS (PHEP)	- On September 15th, I became the new PHEP program manager. - This is our first year of a five-year grant cycle. The new grant cycle for our PHEP and HPP grants is the 5th year of the 5-year cycle for the PHEP and HPP grants, so our focus is on general emergency preparedness activities including plans and SOP revisions and exercise requirements. - We are waiting for our HPP grant application. It has been delayed, but it will be released next Friday, October 11th. - We are working on repairing and improving our programmatic systems and schedules that COVID disrupted. - We just went from three full-time staff to two full-time staff, and Sara Schwall is going to be serving as our Hospital Preparedness Program Coordinator. - We just finalized our health hazard risk assessment and sent it out to the participants and our hospital preparedness group. - We will be having a mobile vaccine clinic exercise next Wednesday, October 9th. It will be at Lillian Larsen Elementary. - We are creating a mobile vaccine clinic SOP kind of in addition to our family of mass-dispensing SOPs
KRISTIN EDLER PUBLIC HEALTH COMMUNICABLE	This year, all individuals six months and older are recommended to receive an updated flu and COVID-19 vaccine. The composition of the flu vaccine has been changed for 2020. It is going to be a

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DISEASE NURSE

trivalent 24 vaccine rather than a quadrivalent vaccine.

- The three antigens that will be in this flu vaccine are H1N1, H3N2, and B Victoria. And the COVID-19 vaccine has been updated, it's a monovalent vaccine again this year, and it's formulated to protect against JN.1. And it's expected to provide protection against COVID-19 currently circulating strains and variants.

DR. GLEN MILLER

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

- Our laboratory was alerted through the Association of Public Health Laboratories that there have been several white powder events nationwide in connection with upcoming elections. Our team stands in readiness to perform ricin testing if such an event occurs in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, or Ventura counties.
- Our laboratory team is conducting laboratory response Biologic, which is LRNB, exercises for bioterrorism agents this week, from September 30th through October 4th.
- The laboratory has continued influenza surveillance during the summer months due to concerns of avian influenza, or H5N1. Although H5N1 has been detected in numerous dairy herds across the state, there have been no human cases in California today. (As of 10/10/2024 there have been three confirmed and two probable cases of H5N1 in dairy workers.)
- The official influenza season started on October 1st.

JESSIE BURMESTER

PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIOLOGIST

- Respiratory disease season has started. October 1st was the start of that.
- We have a public-facing dashboard that includes wastewater detections in about five, or six sites in our county, as well as vaccine numbers that are specific to respiratory disease season. We also show test positivity, which is extremely flawed based on the amount of people getting tested. But we couple that with our existing wastewater data.
- Vaccine numbers are going to change this year, if at all, being that healthcare providers are no longer required to get the COVID or flu vaccine. So, we publicly display that data. But internally, we're curious how that's going to impact respiratory disease outbreaks.
- General coccidioidomycosis or valley fever has been trending upward. We have surpassed what we saw

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last year, which is not really of any surprise. There's new research in the state of California that has found that periods of drought followed by heavy wet winters lead to a prolific kind of growth in the fungus that causes valley fever. And so, the trends that we've seen locally are mirroring what they've seen statewide as far as an elevated rise in cases.

- We are coming into our period of diagnosis. So, while people are exposed in the summer months, it can take weeks to develop symptoms and then weeks to get tested and diagnosed. So as healthcare providers, please be aware that we are coming into our peak season of diagnosis, which is going to continue until about February.
- We're coming into our local season of Legionnaires' disease, which impacts a very small number of our community members. However, we do ask hospitals to incorporate urine antigen testing and pneumonia panels for Legionella into their differential diagnoses. If they can get a positive sputum, they send the residual sputum to a slow health lab for culturing.

SCOTTY JALBERT
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
(OES)

- We are working on the process of our five-year update to our local hazard mitigation plan that will involve multiple jurisdictions and agencies and will be conducting some public outreach. That probably won't happen until mid-25.
- On December 25, we're going to be, we're in the process of planning for a county-wide EOC exercise. It will be a large-scale type of exercise that we'll do, and we're going to be hiring three new emergency services coordinators in our office. So that's a large chunk of our personnel, so you'll be seeing some new faces after the first year

RYAN ROSANDER
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

- We are hiring two different full-time EMS coordinators.

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PARTNER REPORTS

- Todd Tuggle, SLO City Fire - We'll be hosting a flu pod or flu pod clinic first responder point of distribution on the 30th. It will be from 1 to 4 October 30th at Fire Station 1 on the corner of Santa Barbara and Broad Street.
- Emma Wilcox, Adventist Health - Twin Cities and Sierra Vista will be doing something for the Great ShakeOut and it will be through the Adventist Health System.
- Tim Nurge, CCHD - We've been training with Diablo Canyon and Cal OES and working with them on training for possible radiation exposure at the power plant. It's given us a good opportunity to look at our SOP and suggest updates and move forward with it.
- Kristine Greene, Kallos Surgery - Planning an active shooter drill working with the Sheriff's Office up here in Templeton.
- Ricardo Young, Cal Poly - We have our own emergency preparedness team for campus health and well-being. We have about 100 employees. We're in an older building, so that committee is really focused on educating our staff on active assailant training. We've got a target of completing that by January.

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, January 2nd, 2025 at 10:30 AM
2995 McMillan Ave. Ste #178, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401