**Wednesday May 10**

**Environmental Health Officer Category Day**

Environmental Health **Environmental Health Welcome and Housekeeping**

5/10/2023 08:00 *LCDR Erin Kincaid, Public Health Consultant, National Park Service; LCDR* 5/10/2023 08:30 *Jona Johnson; LT Kelly Genskow, Geospatial Analyst, ASPR*

Environmental Health **State of the Category and the PAC**

5/10/2023 08:30 *CAPT Timothy Jiggens, Chief Professional Officer, Environmental Health* 5/10/2023 09:30 *Specialist, FDA; CDR Erin Evans, EHOPAC Chair; USPHS Congressional Fellow*

The goal of this session is to provide an update on the Environmental Health Officer (EHO) category and the Environmental Health Officer Professional Advisory Committee (EHOPAC). Participants will hear from the Chief Professional Officer (CPO) on matters impacting EHOs and the EHOPAC Chair on the framework, operations, and accomplishments of the EHOPAC.

At the end of this session attendees will be able to:

1. Recognize the current rank distribution of the category within the USPHS.

2. Identify how Environmental Health Officers can plan a successful career.

3. List the benefits of serving on the EHOPAC.

Environmental Health **Precarious Playgrounds – Focusing on an Underappreciated EH** 5/10/2023 09:30 **Competency**

5/10/2023 10:00 *LT Kathryn McNamara, Environmental Health Officer, Indian Health*

*Service; LT Braden Hickey, Environmental Health Officer, Indian Health Service*

This session will provide attendees with strategies and resources to effectively assess playgrounds, ensuring that children have access to a safe and healthy play environment within our communities. Improperly designed or maintained playgrounds can pose imminent health hazards to community members who may be unaware of the risks. The top causes of playground-related injuries can be attributed to inadequate fall surfacing and deficient play equipment, both of which can be prevented through proper playground maintenance. If trained properly, an EHO can identify these hazards and recommend corrective actions to prevent severe injuries and even death. Playgrounds may appear harmless but can result in serious injury if inappropriate materials and/or designs are used. The presenters will demonstrate a playground inspection kit used to survey tribal facilities. Participants will compare surfaces (sand, wood chips, dirt, grass, etc.) to determine if playground safety standards are met. Participants will then assess a “virtual” playground through a series of videos and make recommendations for corrective actions. Presenters will also provide resources for conducting playground surveys, including a playground inspection checklist, inspector reference guide, and a Playground Risk Management Packet for distribution to playground operators/managers.

At the end of this session attendees will be able to:

1. List the components of a Playground Risk Management Plan.

2. Recognize playground high priority hazards.

3. Describe how to Determine if playground safety standards are met in a proposed design.

Environmental Health **Safety During Hurricane Ian**

5/10/2023 10:00 *LT Nikia Jones-Shaw, PHERST Officer, Environmental Health Officer, REHS,* 5/10/2023 10:30 *OASH/CCHQ*

This session will provide attendees with an overall knowledge of what to expect during a hurricane disaster deployment. We will review pictures of BoOs that Safety should be familiar with and common problems associated with Hurricane response. The session will be split into two sessions: staging and response. For the staging portion, the ICS organizational chart will be reviewed for understanding. Roles/responsibilities will be discussed, complete with what documents should be turned into leadership. For the next portion, the response, attendees will review overlooked safety issues and some details of the mission. Some uncommon and common safety issues in an obscure environment will be discussed as well.

At the end of this session attendees will be able to:

1. Identify roles/responsibilities of Safety officer in Staging vs. Response.

2. Explain the importance of Safety on-site.

3. Identify 2-3 common and uncommon safety issues during a deployment to a hurricane response.

Environmental Health **Developing a job exposure matrix to estimate the risks of** 5/10/2023 10:30 **exposure to SARS-CoV-2**

5/10/2023 11:00 LCDR Catherine Beaucham, Research Industrial Hygienist, CDC/NIOSH;

*LT Lance Pittman, Team Lead for Promotions and COER, HHS*

This session will provide attendees with a novel way to estimate the risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2 in a healthcare setting. Healthcare personnel are at an elevated risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2 because of their interaction with patients suffering from COVID-19. Knowing which type of healthcare personnel are at the highest risk of exposure remains integral in better protecting the healthcare workforce. This job exposure matrix is a developing methodology that can be used to help healthcare systems evaluate and protect their workforce. Our method is rolled out in three phases based on self-reported questionnaire data. The method uses job titles, occupational codes, job tasks, task frequency, and exposure duration to examine exposure risk groups across the spectrum of healthcare personnel. We also present a case study to demonstrate the process of creating the JEM in a real-world setting. The JEM demonstrated a continuum of exposure risks across the healthcare provider job titles, with clear examples of occupations with a higher cumulative exposure risk to COVID-19 due to exposure duration and type and frequency of various occupational tasks. This JEM-4-HCP methodology helped to better estimate risk levels of exposures for healthcare personnel by examining higher cumulative risk exposure groups verses the lower cumulative risk groups, which allows hospital systems to prioritize exposure controls for the higher cumulative risk groups. The interactive portion will be a group exercise to calculate cumulative risk scores for fictitious health care workers.

At the end of this session attendees will be able to:

1. List the steps required to design a job exposure matrix.

2. Describe how to calculate an estimated risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2 using the developed job exposure matrix

3. Identify additional applications for the job exposure matrix beyond the COVID-19 Pandemic

Exhibits **Break in Exhibit Hall**

5/10/2023 11:00

5/10/2023 13:00

Please join us in the exhibit hall to meet our sponsor and exhibitors. You can view who is attending and where to find them in the Sponsor, Exhibitor, and Map sections of the app.

Environmental Health **Environmental Health Luncheon and Awards Presentation**

5/10/2023 13:00

5/10/2023 14:30

Environmental Health **U.S. Coast Guard’s Ship Sanitation Certificate Program: EHOs** 5/10/2023 14:30 **Protecting Coasties on the High Seas**

5/10/2023 15:00 *LCDR Christine Lloyd, EHO, USCG; LTJG Kiwanda Mclemore,*

*Environmental Health Officer, U.S. Coast Guard*

This session will provide an overview of the USCG SSCP and how Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) detailed to the USCG manage and evaluate hazards and prevent international spread of disease on the high seas for various types of cutters. The USCG is responsible for performing SSCP safety inspections on USCG vessels that visit foreign ports, ensuring compliance with international health regulations related to integrated pest management, habitability, galley/food safety, sewage, solid/medical waste and potable drinking water. A synopsis of the environmental health program at the USCG and how EHOs detailed to the USCG support the mission will also be discussed. This session will provide attendees with knowledge about best practices during environmental health inspections, useful on deployments or at their duty stations. The session will highlight case study/examples from potable water quality, integrated pest management and food safety, via slides with pictures and questions to the audience. A Q/A session will be provided at the end.

At the end of this session attendees will be able to:

1. Explain the background and overview of the USCG Environmental Health program.

2. Identify any 2 of the 6 key safety and environmental health inspection topics assessed during ship sanitation inspections.

3. List the top 3 deficiencies identified during the USCG SSCP inspections

Environmental Health **Legionnaires’ Disease Outbreaks Aboard Vessels**

5/10/2023 15:00 *LCDR Amanda Schaupp, CSO/Policy Lead, Interstate Travel Program, FDA*

5/10/2023 15:30

Legionnaires’ Disease Outbreaks Aboard Vessels, Toolkit to Develop Outbreak Questionnaire and Choose Sample Locations This session will provide attendees with the skills to develop an environmental assessment questionnaire and select sampling locations during a travel-associated outbreak aboard a vessel for Legionnaires’ disease. The COVID pandemic brought dramatic changes to the world and with those changes came unintended consequences. For the conveyance industry (airplanes, vessels, trains, buses) this meant decreased usage or halted operations for extended periods of time. Vessels can have extremely complex potable water systems and when utilization of water is decreased or halted this can cause an increased risk for Legionella growth in the potable water system unless a robust Water Management Program has been developed and implemented. FDA’s Interstate Travel Program regulates airplanes, vessels, trains, and buses for the United States and responds to outbreaks of communicable disease aboard these conveyances.

At the end of this session attendees will be able to:

1. Describe what FDA’s Interstate Travel Program is

2. List the 12 areas to focus on when developing an environmental assessment questionnaire during a travel-associated outbreak aboard a vessel for Legionnaires’ disease

3. Describe how to select common sampling locations for potable water and biofilms during a travel-associated outbreak aboard a vessel for Legionnaires’ disease

Environmental Health **Environmental Health Break**

5/10/2023 15:30

5/10/2023 15:45

Environmental Health **Interesting Duty Stations**

5/10/2023 15:45 *CDR Katie Bante, MPH, REHS/RS, DAAS, HHS Senior Advisor/Liaison to* 5/10/2023 16:45 *Office of the Secretary of Defense, Office of the Under Secretary of*

*Defense (OUSD) for Policy; LCDR Tyler White, Industrial Hygiene Program Manager, Department of Interior - Indian Affairs; LCDR Kevin Dunn, Senior Industrial Hygienist , CDC/NIOSH; LT Amber VanDusen, CDC; LT Kelly Genskow, Geospatial Analyst, ASPR; LCDR Sandra Carpio, Regional Emergency Coordinator, HHS ASPR; LT Claire Tipton, Consumer Safety Officer, U.S. Food & Drug Administration*

The purpose of this session is to hear from fellow EHOs and learn more about the interesting and unique duty stations where they work, which may not otherwise be well known. It will consist of multiple short presentations given back-to-back by individual officers.

At the end of this session attendees will be able to:

1. Identify a new-to-you EHO duty station

2. Name the primary goals of the DARPA Fellows program

Environmental Health **Professional Development Updates for Environmental Health** 5/10/2023 16:45 **Officers**

5/10/2023 17:15 *CDR Candis Hunter*

This session will cover pertinent Professional Development updates for Environmental Health Officers. Members of the Professional Development Committee will provide updates on PHS benchmarks, the promotion process, the 2022/23 CV format for all officers, and other topics relevant to EHOs.

At the end of this session attendees will be able to:

1. List one update regarding the next promotion cycle

2. Describe one change for EHOs using the new universal CV format

3. List one thing that changed in the 2022/23 benchmarks that impacts EHOs

Environmental Health **Closing Remarks and Eval**

5/10/2023 17:15 *LCDR Erin Kincaid, Public Health Consultant, National Park Service; LCDR* 5/10/2023 17:30 *Jona Johnson; LT Kelly Genskow, Geospatial Analyst, ASPR*