

# TACHC



The Heartbeat of Texas Community Health Centers

Weekly Wrap-up - August 7, 2009



*Pharmacist at  
CentroMed, San Antonio*

## Upcoming events

### [Pandemic and Seasonal Influenza: Preparedness Issues and Situation Update](#)

8/19/2009 12:00 – 1:30pm CST, Webcast

On Wednesday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, from 12:00 – 1:30pm, TACHC and the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) will host a webcast on “Pandemic and Seasonal Influenza: Preparedness Issues and Situation Update.” During this webcast, the presenters will discuss the current situation in regards to the H1N1 influenza virus, current recommended treatment and prevention protocols for H1N1, and how and when to use Personal Protective Equipment.

Additionally, information on preparing for surge capacity and communicating flu and health information to patients will be presented. Registration is free and available online at:

[http://www.tachc.org/About/Events/Event.asp?E\\_GUID={E3F9E544-66F8-4D4D-972C-D1C6E01DAB91}](http://www.tachc.org/About/Events/Event.asp?E_GUID={E3F9E544-66F8-4D4D-972C-D1C6E01DAB91})

All upcoming events hosted by TACHC are here:

<http://www.tachc.org/About/Events.asp>

## Governance and Finance

**Register for the TACHC Annual Conference:** The TACHC 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference will be held on November 1<sup>st</sup> through 4<sup>th</sup> in Dallas, Texas. We are planning a comprehensive agenda to include our regular sessions, such as the Legislative Update and the CFO Network meeting, and also new topics that you, our members, have requested to be covered. For a discount, register early! For more information on that and hotel reservations go to: [http://www.tachc.org/About/Events/Event.asp?E\\_GUID={F9A6D768-A4C7-41BA-ACC6-3190BF0E08A8}](http://www.tachc.org/About/Events/Event.asp?E_GUID={F9A6D768-A4C7-41BA-ACC6-3190BF0E08A8}).

**2009 Leadership Training, Session 2:** The second session of the 9<sup>th</sup> round of TACHC Leadership Training is happening in Houston in September. If you are a center registered with this initiative, please contact TACHC Deputy Director, Jana Blasi, or TACHC Meeting Planner, TaSheena Mitchell, at 512/329-5959 for details.

## Clinical

**DSHS H1N1 Regional Conferences:** Attached to this email is an invitation from the Texas Department of State Health Services (DSHS) for a regional conference regarding H1N1 Pandemic Influenza preparedness and response. DSHS is sponsoring 13 regional meetings during August and September, and it is critical that your health center be involved in these meetings so that you will be included in the flu response efforts this fall. Please contact Lori Hooks ([lhooks@tachc.org](mailto:lhooks@tachc.org)) or Whitney Monge ([wmonge@tachc.org](mailto:wmonge@tachc.org)) at TACHC with any questions.

**August OC<sup>3</sup> Manuals Training:** This webcast will be held Friday, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 9am-12pm. August's training will be the third in a series of three monthly trainings that target the clinical staff as well as the administrative staff of the health center. *Conducting Peer Review* is the topic for August, and Norma Parra, MD, Chief Medical Officer of El Centro del Barrio; John Holcomb, MD, healthcare consultant; and Lolly Lockhart, PhD, RN, healthcare consultant will give us their perspectives and expert opinions on the process and the importance of conducting regular peer review. Registration is open and available at [http://www.tachc.org/About/Events/Event.asp?E\\_GUID={3D738AEA-8819-487B-BABF-B8B58A54C1CF}](http://www.tachc.org/About/Events/Event.asp?E_GUID={3D738AEA-8819-487B-BABF-B8B58A54C1CF}).

**Texas Diabetes Council:** On August 6<sup>th</sup>, TACHC gave a program update to the Texas Diabetes Council regarding Data Collection with EHRs, Clinical Outcome Measures, and demonstrating meaningful use with EHRs and data. Clinical outcome data was shared with the council. The Council provides support for entities working on the prevention and management of diabetes and partners with TACHC to increase access to such prevention and management services. See [www.dshs.state.tx.us/diabetes/](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/diabetes/) for more about the Council.

**TACHC's New Director of Clinical Affairs:** Effective July 1, 2009 Ms. Whitney Monge was promoted to become TACHC's Director of Clinical Affairs. Congratulations Whitney! For more information about TACHC staff, go to <http://www.tachc.org/About/Welcome/Staff.asp>.

## Recruitment and Retention

**Update your Job Listings:** TACHC R&R staff will be heading to Florida on next week to the National Health Service Corps (NHSC) Scholar Conference to market Texas health center positions to NHSC scholars, so please make certain all job vacancies are posted with TACHC and on the NHSC job list! Please contact Anita Mitchell ([amitchell@tachc.org](mailto:amitchell@tachc.org)), TACHC Provider Services Specialist, with any questions you may have. To post opportunities on the NHSC website, contact Sandra Selha: [sselha@nhscrtsc.net](mailto:sselha@nhscrtsc.net) or 1-877-313-1823.

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If you would like to be removed from this mailing, please send a message to [ccarson@tachc.org](mailto:ccarson@tachc.org), and we will remove your name from our list as soon as possible.



July 27, 2009

Dear State Partner:

Since April 2009, the State of Texas has been responding to an outbreak of the novel H1N1 virus. Over the last several months, the Texas Department of State Health Services has been working with stakeholders to identify response activities that worked well and to identify opportunities to improve future planning and response activities. To share this information with our partners, DSHS and the Governor’s Division of Emergency Management are co-hosting a series of 13 regional conferences statewide in August and September.

Chaired by the DSHS Regional Medical Director for that location, these conferences will convene regional and local partners in public health, healthcare, emergency management, education, and other related fields to:

1. Review plans to respond to a future novel influenza virus outbreak, and
2. Engage in a rehearsal of concept exercise to validate improved response procedures.

These conferences will be valuable opportunities to learn how all stakeholders can work together to ensure an effective and coordinated response to future novel influenza virus outbreaks.

We invite you to attend one of the regional conferences at the location of your choosing. Below is a list of each city with an associated registration code. Conference times are from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. To register online and to obtain other important information, please go to [www.2009FluConference.com](http://www.2009FluConference.com) and enter the code number associated with that city. Space is limited, so we encourage you to register as soon as possible. The deadline for registration is noted in the table below.

City	Date	Code	Deadline
Abilene	Sept 11	13	Aug 31
Arlington	Sept 10	12	Aug 31
Beaumont	Aug 21	05	Aug 6
Corpus Christi	Aug 17	02	Aug 6
El Paso	Sept 3	10	Aug 20
Harlingen	Aug 18	03	Aug 6
Houston (Cypress)	Aug 26	07	Aug 13
Laredo	Aug 19	04	Aug 6
Lubbock	Aug 31	08	Aug 20
Midland/Odessa	Sept 1	09	Aug 20
San Antonio	Aug 14	01	Aug 5
Temple	Aug 24	06	Aug 13
Tyler	Sept 9	11	Aug 31

We look forward to your participation at this event. If you have any questions, please contact our help desk at (877) 835-7750 between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. CDT Monday through Friday, or by e-mail at [TexasFluResponse@dshs.state.tx.us](mailto:TexasFluResponse@dshs.state.tx.us).

Sincerely,

David L. Lakey, M.D.  
Commissioner  
Texas Department of State Health Services

Jack Colley  
Chief  
Governor's Division of Emergency Management