



**CALIFORNIA
HEALTHCARE
ASSOCIATION**

*Providing Leadership in
Health Policy and Advocacy*

URGENT COMMUNICATION FROM CDC AND CMS

October 26, 2001

Route to: Chiefs of Medicine
Emergency Room Personnel
Family Practice Physicians
Pharmacists
Directors of Nursing/
Nursing Supervisors
Infection Control/
Epidemiologists
Medical Residents

TO: CHA Members

FROM: Dorel Harms, Vice President of Professional Services

SUBJECT: ***Update: Investigation of Bioterrorism-Related Anthrax and Interim Guidelines for Exposure Management and Antimicrobial Therapy***

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is assisting the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in disseminating urgent public health information to frontline clinicians. Health officials at CDC and CMS have asked California Medical Review Inc. (CMRI) for assistance. CMRI has ask CHA to assist in disseminating the information to clinicians in hospitals who may encounter situations related to intentional exposure of an infectious disease.

This week's newly released document, *Update: Investigation of Bioterrorism-Related Anthrax and Interim Guidelines for Exposure Management and Antimicrobial Therapy*, may be accessed at <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5042a1.htm>.

If you do not have Internet access, contact the CHA Communications Department at (916) 552-7510 and we will fax you the document.

Questions related to the content of the update should be directed to the contact person listed in the document. Questions related to CMS' initiative to assist CDC should be directed to Annette Lang at (410) 786-6783 or Alang@cms.hhs.gov. Questions related to CHA's involvement in the process should be directed to me at (916) 552-7574 or dharms@calhealth.org.

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