



Capsule

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What's new? What's hot? What's timely? If you don't have time to search the Internet for the latest developments that might impact your work environment, you just might find some of this information in the "Capsule" column. Please e-mail any comments or suggestions to ekrisiunas@aol.com or to Co-Editor Barbara Johnson at barbara_johnson@verizon.net or Co-Editor Karen B. Byers at karen_byers@dfci.harvard.edu.

OSHA News Release

2006–11/14/2006—U.S. Department of Labor's OSHA Unveils New Guidance for Protecting Employees against Avian Flu

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has unveiled new safety and health guidance that alerts employees and employers about the hazards of occupational exposure to avian influenza from infected birds, or "avian flu," and provides practical recommendations on ways to avoid infection.

OSHA Guidance Update on Protecting Employees from Avian Flu Viruses, as well as other important resource information on the topic, is available in English and Spanish by visiting the "In Focus" section on the home page of OSHA's web site at www.osha.gov.

www.osha.gov/OshDoc/data_AvianFlu/avian_flu_guidance_english.pdf

Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule—United States, October 2006–September 2007

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) annually reviews the recommended Adult Immunization Schedule to ensure that the schedule reflects current recommendations for the licensed vaccines. In June 2006, ACIP approved the Adult Immunization Schedule for October 2006–September 2007. This schedule has also been approved by the American Academy of Family Physicians and the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Recommended Adult Immunization Schedule—United States, October 2006–September 2007. (2006). *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, 55(40), Q1-Q4. Available at: www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5540-Immunizational1.htm

National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL)

A good source of information on respiratory protective equipment is the National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory (NPPTL). In 1999, at the request of Congress, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) established the NPPTL as one of two major research laboratories in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

NPPTL focuses expertise from many scientific disciplines to advance federal research on respirators and other personal protective technologies for workers. NPPTL's efforts are essential for applying state-of-the-art science to meet the increasingly complex occupational safety and health challenges of the 21st Century. Information can be found at the following link:

www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/default.html

Wildlife, Exotic Pets, and Emerging Zoonoses (In "Emerging Infectious Diseases—January 2007")

Many factors play a roll in the emergence or reemergence of zoonotic diseases. Chomel and colleagues review these issues in the January 2007 issue of *Emerging Infectious Diseases*.

Chomel, B. B., Belotto, A., & Meslin, F. X. (2007). Wildlife, exotic pets, and emerging zoonoses. *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, 13(1), 6-11. Available from: www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/13/1/6.htm