

Dragon, Karen E. (CDC/NIOSH/EID)

From: Kirk Bantz [KIRKBANT@sarmc.org]
Sent: Friday, May 23, 2008 5:50 PM
To: NIOSH Docket Office (CDC)
Subject: 129 - NIOSH/NPPTL Draft Health Care Workers

Thank you for this effort; this article addresses many key points centered on HCW PPE in case of pandemic events.

In my experience some exposure often happens before PPE is deployed when there is an outbreak. This happens because the HCW is the first receiver of the first stricken by illness. Depending on the organism (and your research findings) their training may have been eclipsed by newer information. It is my hope that, rather than preemptive training of hundreds of thousands of HCW's with less than current information, the scope of this effort could include just-in-time training recommendations for HCW's PPE. Current and up-to-date training is key to appropriate use of PPE. If this were to be included as an integral part of the design process, the resulting use of PPE may be much more effective in protecting the HCW. Incorporation of the required training into the PPE design process (as with the other performance based criteria) would enhance HCW protection and help to set a standard for training in case of pandemic events.

Respectfully,
Kirk Bantz, RHSO