

9 August 2013

# Army Public Health Weekly Update

The Army Public Health Update is a collection of articles taken verbatim from public sources to offer awareness of current health issues and the media coverage given to them. The articles do not necessarily represent US Army Medical Department opinions, views, policy, or guidance, and should not be construed or interpreted as being endorsed by the US Army Medical Department.

U.S. Army Public Health Command



U.S. Military | Global | Influenza | Veterinary/Food Safety | Wellness | Contact Us

USAFRICOM | USCENTCOM | USEUCOM | USNORTHCOM | USPACOM | USSOUTHCOM

Approved for public release, distribution unlimited.

## Contents

### U.S. MILITARY

---

- Agent Orange's reach beyond the Vietnam war
- Deployment factors are not related to rise in military suicides, study finds
- Four jurors seated in court-martial of Army Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Sinclair
- New MRE lineup introduced
- Study: DMAA didn't kill soldiers, but still poses risk
- Summary of mental disorder hospitalizations, active and reserve components, U.S. Armed Forces, 2000-2012
- Telehealth program for veterans expands

### GLOBAL

---

- Artificial human ear grown in lab
- Disabled children in developing world often severely punished
- GSK plugs into bioelectronics with \$50 million venture fund
- Living near benzene release sites increases cancer risk
- Mobile health market to reach \$26b by 2017
- Peripheral artery disease skyrocketing worldwide
- Pneumonia shots made affordable for kids in poor countries
- Stray prenatal gene network suspected in schizophrenia
- What makes good bacteria go bad? It's not them, it's you
- Whooping cough linked to shorter life expectancy

### INFLUENZA

---

- CDC: Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report
- European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control: Weekly Influenza Surveillance Overview
- Google.org: Flu Trends
- H3N2 flu outbreak reported at Arkansas cancer facility
- Naval Health Research Center: Febrile Respiratory Illness Surveillance Update
- PAHO seeks better efforts to protect older Latin Americans from flu
- Quadrivalent flu vaccines coming; companies cite good demand
- PANDEMIC AND AVIAN INFLUENZA
- Scientists to make mutant forms of new bird flu to assess risk
- Study reports person-to-person spread of H7N9 in family

## Furlough Schedule

The Army Public Health Weekly Update will resume weekly publication with the next issue on 23 August.

## Subscription or Comments

If you wish to be added to the APH Weekly Update mailing list, removed from the mailing list, or if you have comments or questions about the update, please **contact us**. We welcome your comments. Please feel free to share this update with others who may be interested.



Follow us!



Facebook



Twitter



YouTube

### FUDD Poster

A new poster promoting the use of the female urinary diversion device is now available on the **Health Information Products eCatalog**. A **FUDD video** can be found on **USAPHC's YouTube** channel.



## VETERINARY/FOOD SAFETY

---

- First taste of test-tube burger declared 'close to meat'
- New Zealand company's contaminated milk scare hits China hard
- U.S.: FDA issues new rules on gluten labeling
- U.S.: FDA says importers must audit food safety
- U.S.: Industry influence found in food additive reports
- U.S.: Investigation of an outbreak of cyclosporiasis
- U.S.: Stomach bug outbreak source in two states traced to Mexican farm

## WELLNESS

---

- Acetaminophen linked to fatal skin reactions
- Americans exercising less in 2013
- A patch designed to make you invisible to mosquitoes
- Breast cancer risk may rise with blood pressure medicines
- Harsh in hard times? A gene may influence mom's behavior
- Having a purpose in life is healthier than happiness
- How exercise changes fat and muscle cells
- How sleep loss adds to weight gain
- Many teens have permanent ringing in the ears
- Poor children show a decline in obesity rate
- Pregnancy length 'varies naturally by up to five weeks'
- Smoking is back, without the stigma

## USAFRICOM

---

- Africa: Response to polio outbreaks shows global eradication plan is working
- Africa: Road deaths, cancer and diabetes becoming Africa's hidden epidemics
- South Africa: A new home-based HPV test is launched
- Uganda: Malnutrition costs Uganda sh2 trillion

## USCENTCOM

---

- Afghanistan, Pakistan: Dozens dead, stranded after flash floods
- Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) - update

## USEUCOM

---

- Ireland: First report of IMI-1-producing colistin-resistant Enterobacter clinical isolate, March 2013
- Israel to launch limited active polio virus campaign in south
- The Netherlands: Measles cases near 1,000, 21 children hospitalised
- United Kingdom: More UK births than any year since 1972, says ONS

## USNORTHCOM

---

- U.S. FDA warns one brand of vitamin B supplement contains dangerous steroids
- U.S.: Firearm homicides and suicides in major metropolitan areas — United States, 2006–2007 and 2009–2010
- U.S.: Obesity-prevention efforts fall short, report
- U.S.: New federal guidelines for managing occupational exposures to HIV
- U.S.: Norovirus disease in the United States
- U.S.: Three injured, hundreds evacuated as Southern California wildfire rages
- U.S.: West Nile virus - Preliminary Maps & Data for 2013

## USPACOM

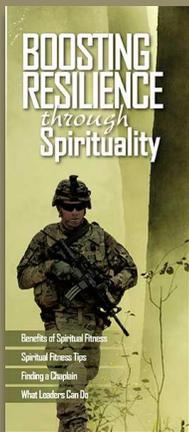
---

- Asia: Toxic waste's health impact similar to malaria's
- China: Disease burden in China

## Boosting Resilience through Spirituality

Spirituality can help you feel connected to something bigger than yourself and build resilience at the same time.

A new brochure that discusses spiritual fitness and the use of spirituality to increase your resilience is available from the [Health Information Products eCatalog](#).



- [China's inadequate care of the mentally ill](#)
- [Japan nuclear body says radioactive water at Fukushima an 'emergency'](#)
- [Japan: Rubella rash](#)
- [Philippines: Chikungunya](#)

### USSOUTHCOM

---

- [Brazil: New law guarantees protocol for rape victims](#)
- [Colombia lauded as first country to eliminate river blindness](#)
- [Honduras: Dengue fever outbreak kills 16, sickens 12,000](#)

### U.S. MILITARY

---

## Agent Orange's reach beyond the Vietnam war

3 August - Nearly three dozen rugged C-123 transport planes formed the backbone of the U.S. military's campaign to spray Agent Orange over jungles hiding enemy soldiers during the Vietnam War. And many of the troops who served in the conflict have been compensated for diseases associated with their exposure to the toxic defoliant. But after the war, some of the planes were used on cargo missions in the United States. Now a bitter fight has sprung up over whether those in the military who worked, ate and slept in the planes after the war should also be compensated. Two U.S. senators are now questioning the Department of Veterans Affairs' assertions that any postwar contamination on the planes was not high enough to be linked to disease. [Washington Post](#)

## Deployment factors are not related to rise in military suicides, study finds

6 August - In the largest study of its kind, military medical researchers have concluded that deployments to war zones and exposure to combat were not major factors behind a significant increase in suicides among military personnel from 2001 to 2008, according to a paper published on Tuesday. The study, published online by The Journal of the American Medical Association, corroborates what many military medical experts have been saying for years: that the forces underlying the spike in military suicides are similar to those in the civilian world. They include mental illness, substance abuse, and financial and relationship problems... But even as it points to nondeployment factors as paramount, the study underscores the complex interplay of war and the mental health of troops, even those who never left the United States. It suggests that the stresses of 12 years of war may have worn on all service members, creating work and travel demands far outstripping those borne by peacetime troops. [New York Times](#)

## Four jurors seated in court-martial of Army Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Sinclair

7 August - A total of four jurors have been seated in the sexual assault court-martial of Army Brig. Gen. Jeffrey Sinclair after a day of interviews and deliberations. At least one more juror needs to be added to the panel for the trial to start Sept. 30, as scheduled... As of

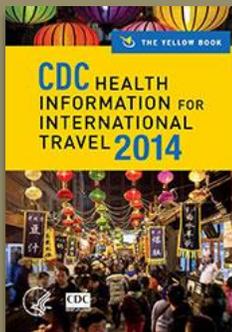
### CDC Releases 2014 Edition of "Yellow Book"

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released the online version of the 2014 edition of *CDC Health Information for International Travel*.

The most recent version includes special guidance for people who will be living long-term in areas with malaria.

The 2014 edition also expanded its chapter on select destinations, providing insiders' knowledge and specific health risks about popular tourist destinations.

For travelers who want to easily take the Yellow Book with them on the road, a new mobile app with the complete 2014 edition will be available for iOS and Android tablets and phones.



today, the jurors are: Maj. Gen. M. Ted Wong, commanding general of the Northern Regional Medical Command; Maj. Gen. Dean G. Sienko, the commanding general of Army Public Health Command; Maj. Gen. Paul E. Crandall, a deputy chief of staff for United States Forces Korea; and Maj. Gen. John Wharton, commanding general of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command in Rock Island, Ill. [Fayetteville Observer](#)

## New MRE lineup introduced



2 August - Sorry to those who preferred the vegetarian lasagna, refried beans, potato cheddar soup and chicken fajitas when digging through the Meals, Ready-to-Eat (MRE) piles. Barbecue shredded beef, vegetarian taco pasta, and seasoned black beans will replace them starting in 2014. The Combat

Feeding Directorate went out and collected feedback from troops, and it turned out vegetarian lasagna didn't have many fans... Right now the military uses the retort process to sterilize food. The food is heated up to 240 degrees in their pouches in order to kill the microbes that causes bacteria and food spoilage. Natick Soldier Research is testing non-thermal, low-thermal, and advanced thermal processes in order to sterilize food, Kennedy said. She predicted in an Army release that the next generation of food could be processed with "microwave sterilization, high pressure processing, super critical carbon dioxide preservation, or osmotic dehydration." [KitUp! Military.com](#)

## Study: DMAA didn't kill soldiers, but still poses risk

6 August - A two-year Defense Department review of body-building supplements containing 1,3-dimethylamylamine, or DMAA, has concluded that there is insufficient evidence to prove the ingredient caused the deaths of three soldiers in 2011 and 2012. But the Pentagon safety panel study also found that DMAA poses enough of a health risk that it should remain banished from military store shelves — a conclusion made moot in April when the FDA ordered manufacturers to stop selling products containing DMAA in the U.S. [Army Times](#)

## Summary of mental disorder hospitalizations, active and reserve components, U.S. Armed Forces, 2000-2012

July 2013 - Mental disorders are the leading cause of hospital bed days and the second leading cause of medical encounters for active component service members in the U.S. military. Mental disorder-related hospitalizations among military members have increased in both number and duration since 2006; mental disorders are the only illness/injury category for which hospitalization rates have markedly increased during the first 11 years of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars... The overall increase since 2006 was largely due to sharp increases in hospitalizations for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, alcohol abuse and dependence, and adjustment disorder. [Medical Surveillance Monthly Report](#)

## Classified Version of the Weekly Update

An Army Public Health Weekly Update is available with articles classified up to the **SECRET** level from the USAPHC SIPRNet site:

<http://phc.army.smil.mil>

Look under Hot Topics & Current Issues.

To access this version, you will need a **SECRET** clearance and a SIPRNet account.

### Links

[A-Z Index](#)

[About USAPHC](#)

[Army Public Health and Health Information Weekly Update Archives](#)

[Medical Surveillance Monthly Report](#)

[Medical Threat Briefings \(AKO\)](#)

[Request USAPHC Services](#)

[USAPHC Library](#)

[USAPHC Homepage](#)

[USAPHC Training](#)

[Contact USAPHC](#)

## Telehealth program for veterans expands

2 August - The decade-old telehealth program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is expanding rapidly, far outpacing similar efforts in the private sector. The number of veterans receiving care via the VA's telehealth services is growing 29% annually, said Adam Darkins, MD, the VA's chief consultant for telehealth services and leader of its coordinated care/telehealth program, in an exclusive interview with InformationWeek Healthcare. In fiscal year 2012, including remote consultations, home monitoring, and store-and-forward services, nearly half a million veterans received care remotely from 150 VA medical centers and 750 outpatient clinics in 1.429 million episodes of care, Dawkins said. Nearly half of these patients lived in rural areas and may have otherwise had limited access to VA healthcare. [Information Week](#)

[top of page...](#)

### GLOBAL

---

## Artificial human ear grown in lab

31 July - US scientists say they have moved a step closer to being able to grow a complete human ear from a patient's cells. In a new development in tissue engineering, they have grown a human-like ear from animal tissue. The ear has the flexibility of a real ear, say researchers at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. The technique may one day be used to help people with missing or deformed outer ears, they believe. [BBC News](#)

## Disabled children in developing world often severely punished



2 August - Children with disabilities in the developing world are frequently subjected to severe emotional and physical punishment, according to an analysis of data compiled by UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund. An estimated 93 million children around the world have disabilities, including emotional, developmental and physical impairments. Eighty percent of them live in middle- and low-income countries, and, according to experts, are subject to harsh discipline. [VOA](#)

## GSK plugs into bioelectronics with \$50 million venture fund

8 August - GlaxoSmithKline raised its bet on using electrical signals in the body to target diseases on Thursday with the launch of a \$50 million strategic venture capital fund. Britain's biggest drugmaker hopes to have the first medicine that effectively speaks the electrical

"language" of the body ready for approval by the end of this decade... These initiatives represent a long-term gamble on the promise of a novel kind of medicine that uses electrical impulses rather than the chemicals or biological molecules found in today's drugs... By tapping into electrical signals that form the language of the body's nervous system, scientists hope to address a range of diseases from high blood pressure to breathing problems and, eventually, brain disorders. [Reuters](#)

## Living near benzene release sites increases cancer risk

29 July - Living near a benzene release site – such as a refinery or plant that releases the chemical into the air or water supply – puts people at a higher risk for contracting non-Hodgkin lymphoma, according to a new study. Risk factors for non-Hodgkin lymphoma are not well known, though the disease is more common in older individuals. Nearly 70,000 new cases appear in the United States each year, leading to nearly 20,000 deaths annually – and incidences of non-Hodgkin lymphoma are only expected to increase as the U.S. population ages. "For many more common cancers like breast, lung or colon we have well-known associations and can describe risk factors," study author Dr. Christopher Flowers, associate professor of hematology and medical oncology at the Emory University School of Medicine, told FoxNews.com. "But for lymphomas, those have not been nearly as well described, and it is becoming important to identify those risk factors as the population ages." [Fox News](#)

## Mobile health market to reach \$26b by 2017

30 July - The market for mobile health applications and associated devices will grow at a compound annual growth rate of 61% to reach \$26 billion in revenue by 2017, according to a [new report](#) from Research and Markets. Most of that revenue will come not from software downloads, but from mobile health device sales and services, the report says. Based partly on a survey of 324 "opinion leaders," the report also estimates that about 50% of mobile phone and tablet users will have downloaded mobile health -- mHealth -- apps within five years. In contrast, 11% of cell phone users and 19% of smartphone users had mHealth apps on their devices in 2012, according to a [Pew Internet survey](#). [Information Week](#)

## Peripheral artery disease skyrocketing worldwide

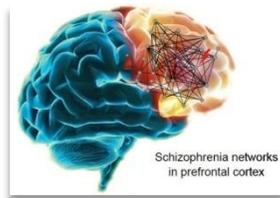
5 August - The number of people worldwide with peripheral artery disease is estimated to be 202 million, according to new global estimates. These people are at high risk of having a heart attack or stroke. Peripheral artery disease occurs when fatty deposits accumulate in the peripheral arteries, restricting blood flow and oxygen to the legs and feet. [SciTech Today](#)

## Pneumonia shots made affordable for kids in poor countries

29 July - Drugmaker Pfizer Inc. has agreed to provide hundreds of millions of doses of its lucrative vaccine against pneumonia and meningitis at a fraction of the usual price for young children in poor countries. The deal to provide 260 million shots of its Prevnar 13 vaccine for a few dollars each is Pfizer's third agreement under an innovative program

through which pharmaceutical companies, governments, health groups and charities collaborate to bring poor countries a long-term supply of affordable vaccines against deadly diseases. [CBC News](#)

## Stray prenatal gene network suspected in schizophrenia



1 August - Researchers have reverse-engineered the outlines of a disrupted prenatal gene network in [schizophrenia](#) by tracing spontaneous mutations to where and when they likely cause damage in the brain. Some people with the brain disorder may suffer from impaired birth of new neurons, or neurogenesis, in the front of their brain during prenatal development, suggests the study... Unlike most other genes, expression levels of many of the 50 mutation-containing genes that form the suspected network were highest early in fetal development, tapered off by childhood, but conspicuously increased again in early adulthood - just when schizophrenia symptoms typically first develop. [NIH](#)

## What makes good bacteria go bad? It's not them, it's you

8 August - [M] microbiologists in Buffalo, N.Y., have now worked out for why colonies of *Streptococcus pneumoniae* bacteria (aka [pneumococcus](#)) can camp out happily and harmlessly for months at a time in the nose and throats of humans, then abruptly turn on their hosts. The germs sometimes trigger painful earaches or even meningitis in kids, and often pneumonia in the elderly and others with weak immune systems. It's no small problem. The World Health Organization calls diseases triggered by the microbe "a major global public health problem."... Increasing the colony's temperature (mimicking the fever of flu), for example, or adding the stress-linked hormone norepinephrine prompted some of the microbes to abruptly break off from the community. And as they dispersed, the bacteria switched on a set of genes that made each one far more virulent when the scientists squirted them into mice. [NPR](#)

## Whooping cough linked to shorter life expectancy

5 August - People who are born during whooping cough epidemics and survive them are more likely to die prematurely later in life, according to [a new study](#) analyzing 158 years of Swedish population data. Lung infections in infancy may do subtle, permanent damage that make adult infections more life-threatening, the authors suggested. [New York Times](#)

[top of page...](#)

### INFLUENZA

---

## CDC: Weekly Influenza Surveillance Report

- During week 30, ending July 27, 2013, 5.9% of all deaths reported through the 122-Cities Mortality Reporting System were due to pneumonia and influenza. This percentage was below the epidemic threshold of 6.2% for week 30. [FluView](#)

## European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control: Weekly Influenza Surveillance Overview

For weeks 29-30/2013:

- All 17 reporting countries reported low-intensity transmission with stable or declining trends.
- Five countries tested 18 sentinel specimens, none of which was positive for influenza virus.
- No laboratory-confirmed severe influenza cases were reported. However, since week 21/2013, five hospitalised confirmed cases have been reported by two countries.

Since week 21/2013, influenza activity has been low in Europe. [Weekly Influenza Surveillance Overview](#)

## Google.org: Flu Trends

7 August – Estimates of flu activity based on certain Internet search queries indicate that the level of flu activity in the northern hemisphere ranges is minimal. In the southern hemisphere the level of flu activity ranges from minimal in northern South America to moderate in Chile, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand. [Google.org Flu Trends](#)

## H3N2 flu outbreak reported at Arkansas cancer facility

7 August – A summer influenza outbreak at a cancer facility in Little Rock, Ark., sparked concern about the possibility of an unusual strain such as swine-origin variant H3N2 (H3N2v), but the virus turned out to be a seasonal strain of H3N2, according to a state health official. Thirty-three cases have been reported in the outbreak at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences Multiple Myeloma Institute, Dirk Haselow, MD, PhD, the Arkansas state epidemiologist, told CIDRAP News. [CIDRAP](#)

## Naval Health Research Center: Febrile Respiratory Illness Surveillance Update

For the week ending 3 August 2013:

- Influenza: Two cases of NHRC laboratory-confirmed influenza (A/H3) among US military basic trainees 9: one A/Untyp and one A/H1N1.
- FRI surveillance at all eight U.S. military basic training centers indicated FRI rates were at or below expected values. [NHRC Febrile Respiratory Illness Surveillance Update](#)

## PAHO seeks better efforts to protect older Latin Americans from flu

7 August - A special report in the Pan American Health Organization's (PAHO's) journal calls for better influenza surveillance and continued vaccination of elderly people in Latin America to reduce the disproportionate burden of flu in this age-group, PAHO announced

this week... PAHO noted that 90% of seasonal flu deaths are in those 65 and older. The report calls for better surveillance to help authorities measure the impact of the illness and to identify areas for improvement. It concludes that influenza vaccination is critical to preventing complications in older adults and should continue, despite evidence that the elderly have a decreased immunologic response to vaccination. [CIDRAP News Scan](#)

## Quadrivalent flu vaccines coming; companies cite good demand

5 August - Quadrivalent (four-strain) influenza vaccines will make their US market debut during the upcoming vaccination season, and vaccine makers are reporting good demand for them, spurred in part by a large order from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)... For decades, seasonal flu vaccines have targeted three flu strains—two type A (H1N1 and H3N2) and one type B. In contrast, quadrivalent vaccines include two different B strains, in an effort to ensure that vaccinees will have reasonable protection regardless of which type B lineage turns out to be most common... Also new in the US flu vaccine marketplace this year are two cell-based flu vaccines, made by Novartis and Protein Sciences Corp. [CIDRAP](#)

## PANDEMIC AND AVIAN INFLUENZA

### Scientists to make mutant forms of new bird flu to assess risk

7 August - Scientists are to create mutant forms of the H7N9 bird flu virus that has emerged in China so they can gauge the risk of it becoming a lethal human pandemic. The genetic modification work will result in highly transmissible and deadly forms of H7N9 being made in several high security laboratories around the world, but it is vital to prepare for the threat, the scientists say. The new bird flu virus, which was unknown in humans until February, has already infected at least 133 people in China and Taiwan, killing 43 of them, according to the latest World Health Organization (WHO) data. [Reuters](#)

### Study reports person-to-person spread of H7N9 in family



6 August - A young Chinese woman most likely caught the H7N9 avian influenza virus from her father after caring for him in the hospital, marking the first probable case of human-to-human transmission, according to a report released today in *BMJ*. The daughter got sick only after prolonged, close contact with her father, and no cases were found in other family members or in healthcare workers. The authors therefore conclude that the virus has not gained the capability for efficient, sustained transmission. [CIDRAP](#)

[top of page...](#)

## First taste of test-tube burger declared 'close to meat'

5 August - The world's first laboratory-grown beef burger was flipped out of a petri dish and into a frying pan on Monday, with food tasters declaring it tasted "close to meat". Grown in-vitro from cattle stem cells at a cost of 250,000 euros (\$332,000), the burger was cooked and eaten in front of television cameras to gain the greatest media coverage for the culmination of a five-year science experiment. Resembling a standard circular-shaped red meat patty, it was created by knitting together 20,000 strands of laboratory-grown protein, combined with other ingredients normally used in burgers, such as salt, breadcrumbs and egg powder. Red beet juice and saffron were added to give it colour. [Reuters](#)

## New Zealand company's contaminated milk scare hits China hard



5 August - New Zealand dairy giant Fonterra is apologizing after milk powder used in products exported to China and other countries in Asia was found to contain bacteria that could cause botulism. The head of the milk powder exporter, chief executive Theo Spierings made the apology Monday after China suspended imports of its products after the possible contamination was revealed. Fonterra, the world's largest dairy exporter, found bacteria in some of its products that may lead to botulism, a serious paralytic illness that can be fatal. The company has issued a recall across Asia. Almost 90 percent of China's \$1.9 billion in milk powder imports came from New Zealand in 2012. Chinese consumers already purchase much of their infant formula from foreign manufacturers because of fears of contamination in domestically produced milk. [VOA](#)

## U.S.: FDA issues new rules on gluten labeling

2 August - After years of waiting, the Food and Drug Administration released new rules Friday defining exactly what "gluten-free" on a food label means. The standardized definition will help the 3 million Americans who have celiac disease, along with millions more who follow a gluten-free diet for other reasons. Under the federal definition, which FDA has been working on since 2007, food that carries a "gluten-free" label must contain fewer than 20 parts per million of gluten. [USA Today](#)

## U.S.: FDA says importers must audit food safety

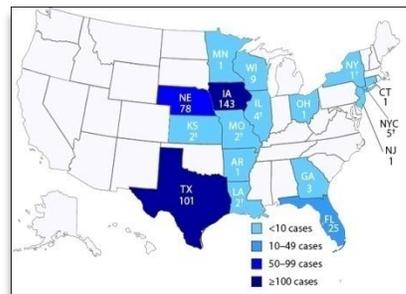
26 July - More than two years after Congress passed a landmark law meant to prevent the importation of contaminated food that sickens Americans, the Food and Drug Administration proposed rules on Friday that for the first time put the main onus on companies to police the food they import. Major food importers and consumer advocates generally praised [the new rules](#), but the advocates also said they worried the rules might give the companies too much discretion about whether to conduct on-site inspections of

the places where the food is grown and processed. They said such inspections must be mandated. The law itself was grappling, in part, with problems that have grown out of an increasingly globalized food supply. About 15 percent of food that Americans eat comes from abroad, more than double the amount just 10 years ago, including nearly two-thirds of fresh fruits and vegetables. And the safety of the food supply — foreign and domestic — is a critical public health issue. One in every six Americans becomes ill from eating contaminated food each year, Dr. Margaret A. Hamburg, F.D.A. commissioner, estimated. About 130,000 are hospitalized and 3,000 die. [New York Times](#)

## U.S.: Industry influence found in food additive reports

7 August - All of the notices U.S. regulators received to vouch for the safety of common food additives between 1997 and 2012 were submitted by people who had a vested interest in the outcome of those assessments, according to a study published in JAMA Internal Medicine on Wednesday. The analysis found that all of the 451 notifications voluntarily submitted to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) during that time were made by people who had relationships with manufacturers of food additives, which include salt, trans fats and artificial flavors and sweeteners. [Reuters](#)

## U.S.: Investigation of an outbreak of cyclosporiasis



1 August - As of July 31, 2013 (5pm EDT), CDC has been notified of 397 cases of Cyclospora infection from the following 17 health departments: Iowa, Texas, Nebraska, Florida, Wisconsin, Illinois, New York City, Georgia, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, Arkansas, Connecticut, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, and Ohio. Most of the illness onset dates have ranged from mid-June through early July. At least 22

persons reportedly have been hospitalized in five states. Nebraska and Iowa have performed investigations within their states and have shared the results of those investigations with CDC. Based on their analysis, Cyclospora infections in their states are linked to a salad mix. CDC will continue to work with federal, state, and local partners in the investigation to determine whether this conclusion applies to the increase in cases of cyclosporiasis in other states. It is not yet clear whether the cases from all of the states are part of the same outbreak. [CDC](#)

## U.S.: Stomach bug outbreak source in two states traced to Mexican farm

5 August - The source of a widespread stomach bug outbreak has been traced in at least two states to a Mexican farm that supplied salad mix to Olive Garden and Red Lobster restaurants, U.S. health officials report. At least 400 cases of infection with the foodborne cyclospora parasite have been reported so far in 16 states and New York City since the outbreak began in June, according to the latest statistics from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. On Sunday, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced on

its website that illnesses in Nebraska and Iowa have now been traced to Taylor Farms de Mexico, the Mexican branch of Taylor Farms in Salinas, Calif. The FDA said that it was trying to determine whether the prepackaged salad mix was the source of infections in the other states. [My Fox Phoenix](#)

[top of page...](#)

## WELLNESS

---

### Acetaminophen linked to fatal skin reactions

2 August - Acetaminophen is one of the most widely used medicines for fever and pain, commonly found in drugs like in Tylenol. On Thursday, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced that acetaminophen is causing rare, but dangerous skin reactions in some people. The popular pain-killing medication is linked to three skin diseases with symptoms that range from rash and blisters to more extensive damage to tissues under the skin. The two most serious skin conditions are Stevens-Johnson Syndrome (SJS) and toxic epidermal necrolysis (TEN), which will typically require hospitalization and can be fatal. The less dangerous skin disease is acute generalized exanthematous pustulosis (AGEP), which usually resolves itself within two weeks once acetaminophen is stopped. [Time](#)

### Americans exercising less in 2013

29 July - After a strong year for frequent exercise in the U.S., Americans' workout habits have backslid so far in 2013. The percentage of Americans exercising frequently declined each month in 2009, amid the recession, and then recovered slightly in 2010 and 2011. In most months of 2012, more Americans than ever before reported exercising frequently. This uptick in frequent exercise last year coincided with warmer than usual temperatures, setting numerous weather records. Temperatures seem to have settled back down in most months in 2013, though, and Americans have been less likely to exercise frequently in every month so far this year when compared with 2012. Gallup and Healthways started monitoring U.S. adults' exercise habits daily in January 2008 and have found that exercise is seasonal -- with frequency picking up in the spring and summer and declining in the fall and winter. [Gallup](#)

### A patch designed to make you invisible to mosquitoes



7 August - A small, square patch that's not yet available in the U.S. is promising to work as a force field against pesky mosquitoes. It's called the Kite Patch, and it's a sticker that emits chemical compounds that essentially make you invisible to the bloodsuckers — they block a mosquito's ability to sense humans. If this is as effective as promised, the Kite Patch could be a game changer in preventing mosquito-borne illnesses like malaria and West Nile virus... The scientists behind the patch are [raising money on Indiegogo](#) to do rapid field testing in parts of the world that are more affected by

mosquito-borne illnesses. The campaign has already blown way past its original goal, but for \$10, you can provide a five-pack of Kite patches to a family in Uganda. [NPR](#)

## Breast cancer risk may rise with blood pressure medicines

6 August - Using a type of blood pressure drug for more than a decade may raise breast-cancer risk, a study found, the first potential link between long-term use of the popular medicines and the most common malignancy among women. Women who took blood pressure drugs called calcium-channel blockers, like Pfizer Inc. (PFE)'s Norvasc, for 10 years or more had a 2.5 times higher risk of developing breast cancer than those who never took the medicine or who used other blood pressure treatments, according to research published in *JAMA Internal Medicine*. [Bloomberg](#)

## Harsh in hard times? A gene may influence mom's behavior

5 August - A gene that affects the brain's dopamine system appears to have influenced mothers' behavior during a recent economic downturn, researchers say. At the beginning of the recession that began in 2007, mothers with the "sensitive" version of a gene called DRD2 became more likely to strike or scream at their children, the researchers say. Mothers with the other "insensitive" version of the gene didn't change their behavior. But once it appeared that the recession would not become a full-fledged depression, the "sensitive" mothers became less likely than "insensitive" mothers to engage in harsh parenting. [NPR](#)

## Having a purpose in life is healthier than happiness



2 August - ...After evaluating a large group of participants for over a month, the researchers concluded that when happiness was associated with selfish behaviors, it did not lead to a healthier body. Taking things from others, regardless of whether or not the other person was a friend or a stranger, can lead to a happy mental state.

However, this state is one that does not promote health. The researchers noted that happiness when it was associated with the desire to be selfless by giving back was completely different. People who gave back were happy because they added meaning to their lives, which resulted in an overall healthier state. [Counsel & Heal](#)

## How exercise changes fat and muscle cells

31 July - ...[R]esearchers affiliated with the Lund University Diabetes Centre in Sweden and [published last month in PLoS One](#), began by recruiting several dozen sedentary but generally healthy adult Swedish men... Then they asked the men to start working out. Under the guidance of a trainer, the volunteers began attending hourlong spinning or aerobics classes approximately twice a week for six months. By the end of that time, the men had shed fat and inches around their waists, increased their endurance and improved their

blood pressure and cholesterol profiles. Less obviously, but perhaps even more consequentially, they also had altered the methylation pattern of many of the genes in their fat cells. In fact, more than 17,900 individual locations on 7,663 separate genes in the fat cells now displayed changed methylation patterns. [New York Times](#)

## How sleep loss adds to weight gain

6 August - Losing sleep tends to make people eat more and gain weight, and now a new study suggests that one reason may be the impact that sleep deprivation has on the brain. The research showed that depriving people of sleep for one night created pronounced changes in the way their brains responded to high-calorie junk foods. On days when the subjects had not had proper sleep, fattening foods like potato chips and sweets stimulated stronger responses in a part of the brain that helps govern the motivation to eat... The findings suggested that one unfortunate result of sleep loss is this "double hit" in brain activity, said Matthew P. Walker, an author of the study and a professor of psychology and neuroscience at the University of California, Berkeley. A sleepy brain appears to not only respond more strongly to junk food, but also has less ability to rein that impulse in.

[New York Times](#)

## Many teens have permanent ringing in the ears

1 August - One in five high schoolers has permanent ringing in the ears, and few take measures to protect their ears from loud music, according to a new study. Those numbers are surprisingly similar to results of a study of college-aged adults, said lead author Annick Gilles, a clinical audiologist at Antwerp University Hospital in Edegem, Belgium. She and her coauthors had expected the numbers to be higher for college-aged people, who "go out a lot," she told Reuters Health. Tinnitus, or ringing in the ears, caused by loud noise exposure is clearly linked to hearing damage, she said. People with permanent ringing in the ears may be able to hear the same volumes of sound as before the damage, but often have trouble separating speech sounds out of a mix of noises. [Reuters](#)

## Poor children show a decline in obesity rate



6 August - After years of growing concern about obesity among children, federal researchers have found the clearest evidence yet that the epidemic may be turning a corner in young children from low-income families. The obesity rate among preschool-age children from poor families fell in 19 states and United States territories between 2008 and 2011, federal health officials said Tuesday — the first time a major government report has shown a consistent pattern of decline for low-income children after decades of rising rates. [New York Times](#)

## Pregnancy length 'varies naturally by up to five weeks'

6 August- The length of pregnancy can vary naturally by as much as five weeks, research suggests. The study of 125 women is the first to calculate gestation by pinpointing the exact time of conception. It found age, time to implantation and their own weight as babies were also linked to pregnancy length. [BBC News](#)

## Smoking is back, without the stigma

7 August - ...Ten years after Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg banned smoking in public places, it is returning to the city's bars, restaurants and workplaces, thanks to the growing popularity of e-cigarettes. They can be spotted wherever traditional cigarettes had been outlawed. Tattooed Web designers and writers chain-smoke at their desks at the Vice offices in Williamsburg. Models inhale at No. 8, a Chelsea lounge, as they order Champagne. Leonardo DiCaprio has been spotted smoking an e-cigarette at several clubs and while riding a Citi Bike in SoHo. [New York Times](#)

[top of page...](#)

### USAFRICOM

---

## Africa: Response to polio outbreaks shows global eradication plan is working

5 August - Just as we were seeing record-low cases of polio worldwide and coming closer than ever to eradication, 105 new cases of wild polio have been identified in Kenya and Somalia, raising new concerns about low coverage and inaccessible populations in that area. While the outbreaks are undoubtedly a setback, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative (GPEI) had anticipated that sporadic cases would occur in vulnerable settings during the final push for polio eradication, and it's noteworthy that the situation has been met with one of the quickest and most effective emergency responses to date. Although polio has been cornered in a handful of countries, the last vestiges of the disease will be the most difficult to stop. [allAfrica](#)

## Africa: Road deaths, cancer and diabetes becoming Africa's hidden epidemics

5 August - Road traffic deaths in sub-Saharan Africa are predicted to rise by 80% by 2020, [according to a World Bank report](#), which found the region to have the highest number of accidents, but the fewest vehicles on the road... Younger and poorer people are disproportionately vulnerable: accidents on the road are expected to become the biggest killer of children between five and 15 by 2015, outstripping malaria and Aids... The report considers road safety alongside rising rates of non-communicable diseases (NCDs), such as diabetes and cancer. The authors maintain that both represent largely hidden epidemics in Africa... The shift towards urbanisation is a case in point. City residents typically take less exercise, triggering diabetes and cardiovascular problems. Rising incomes are driving demand for processed foods that are higher in sugar, fat and salt. The same factors result in increased car use and ownership, and more traffic accidents. [Guardian](#)

## South Africa: A new home-based HPV test is launched

6 August - A new cervical cancer screening test looks set to revolutionise the way in which women are tested for this disease. UDoTest has recently released a new self-collection test for HPV, the virus which causes cervical cancer, which has received widespread acceptance from the medical industry, and is claimed to provide greater accuracy than conventional tests. It also provides the added appeal of enabling women to test themselves at home.

[Sowetan Live](#)

## Uganda: Malnutrition costs Uganda sh2 trillion

6 August - About sh1.8 trillion (\$899), which represents 5% the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), is the total economic loss Uganda incurs for every child that is malnourished. One of every three children under five years is stunted as a result of under-nourishment. Also, 54% of adults get stunted during their infancy. This is according to the Cost of Hunger in Uganda study, a first-of-a-kind study carried out to establish the costs of child under-nourishment to the country's development and prosperity agenda... The economic costs of poor child nutrition were found to generally come in three major guises. These include increased medical costs to treat diseases caused by poor nutrition, impact on education and training as well as productivity at the workplace. [allAfrica](#)

[top of page...](#)

### USCENTCOM

---

## Afghanistan, Pakistan: Dozens dead, stranded after flash floods



5 August - Flash floods caused by unusually heavy rain across Afghanistan and Pakistan killed more than 160 people and stranded villagers in remote areas without shelter, food or power in one of South Asia's worst natural disasters this year, officials said on Monday. Mountainous Afghanistan was the worst hit, with 61 people killed and about 500 traditional mud-brick homes washed away in more than a dozen villages in Sarobi, a rural district less than an hour from the national capital, Kabul, officials said. [Reuters](#)

## Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) - update

1 August - WHO has been informed of an additional three laboratory-confirmed cases of Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus (MERS-CoV) infection in Saudi Arabia. The first patient is a 67-year-old woman from Riyadh with underlying medical conditions. She

became ill on 25 July 2013. She has no known exposure to animals or to a case confirmed with MERS-CoV infection. She is currently hospitalized. The other two patients are health care workers, both women, from Assir and Riyadh regions . Both of them have mild symptoms and were exposed to patients who were laboratory-confirmed cases. Globally, from September 2012 to date, WHO has been informed of a total of 94 laboratory-confirmed cases of infection with MERS-CoV, including 46 deaths. [WHO](#)

[top of page...](#)

## USEUCOM

---

### Ireland: First report of IMI-1-producing colistin-resistant *Enterobacter* clinical isolate, March 2013

1 August - We report the first case in Ireland of an IMI-1 carbapenemase-producing *Enterobacter asburiae*, which was resistant to both colistin and fosfomycin. The circumstances under which this isolate was acquired were unclear. Several reports of IMI-producing *Enterobacter* spp. have emerged in recent years, and colistin resistance in *Enterobacteriaceae* is also increasingly reported. Laboratories should be aware of the unusual antibiograms of IMI-producing isolates. [Eurosurveillance](#)

### Israel to launch limited active polio virus campaign in south

4 August - Israel said on Sunday it was launching a campaign to administer the active polio vaccine to children in its southern region after tests detected at least 1,000 carriers of the virus in that area, though none were found to be ill with the disease. The Health Ministry said it was recommending that children born after January 2004, but not younger than two months, report to publicly-funded clinics to be administered oral drops of a weakened active virus vaccine beginning on Monday. [Reuters](#)

### The Netherlands: Measles cases near 1,000, 21 children hospitalised

8 August - The number of confirmed cases of measles in the Dutch Bible belt outbreak has reached 921, the public health institute RIVM said on Thursday. This is an increase of 141 on a week ago. In addition, a further 21 children have been hospitalised, the RIVM said. However, the total is a 'major underestimate' of the real number of cases because most people do not report their illness to family doctors, the organisation said in its latest update. Most of those infected are children aged four to 12 who come from families which refuse vaccinations on religious grounds. [DutchNews.nl](#)

## United Kingdom: More UK births than any year since 1972, says ONS



8 August - More babies were born in the UK in 2011-12 than any year since 1972, the Office for National Statistics says. In all, 813,200 UK births were recorded in the year, **said the ONS**, contributing to population growth that was, in absolute terms, the highest in the EU. UK population grew by 419,900 to 63.7 million between June 2011 and June 2012, according to ONS estimates. There were 254,400 more births than deaths and 165,600 more people coming to the UK than leaving. The UK remains the third-most populous EU member state, behind Germany and France. France's population grew by 319,100 to 65,480,500 over the same period while Germany's went up by 166,200 to 80,399,300, says the ONS. **BBC**

[top of page...](#)

### USNORTHCOM

---

## U.S. FDA warns one brand of vitamin B supplement contains dangerous steroids

27 July - Federal regulators warned consumers to avoid one brand of vitamin B dietary supplement because it contains potentially harmful anabolic steroids. Preliminary lab tests showed the product, Healthy Life Chemistry By Purity First B-50, contains methasterone, a controlled substance, and dimethazine, the Food and Drug Administration said. "Products marketed as a vitamin but which contain undisclosed steroids pose a real danger to consumers and are illegal," said Howard Sklamberg, director of the FDA's compliance office. Regulators received 29 complaints associated with the product, including fatigue, muscle pain and cramps, and liver and thyroid problems, **the FDA said. CNN**

## U.S.: Firearm homicides and suicides in major metropolitan areas — United States, 2006–2007 and 2009–2010

2 August - Firearm homicides and suicides are a continuing public health concern in the United States. During 2009–2010, a total of 22,571 firearm homicides and 38,126 firearm suicides occurred among U.S. residents (1). This includes 3,397 firearm homicides and 1,548 firearm suicides among persons aged 10–19 years... Although the firearm homicide rate for large metropolitan statistical areas (MSAs) collectively remained above the national rate during 2009–2010, more than 75% of these MSAs showed a decreased rate from 2006–2007, largely accounting for a national decrease. The firearm homicide rate for persons aged 10–19 years exceeded the all-ages rate in many of these MSAs during 2009–2010, similar to the earlier reporting period. **Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report**

## U.S.: Obesity-prevention efforts fall short, report



2 August - As the obesity epidemic continues among young and old alike, a new report finds the United States lagging behind other countries in evaluating and selecting the best programs and policies to curb the problem. Investment in the issue "is too sporadic, presenting serious barriers to understanding the impact of interventions and the need for future investments," according to a news release from the Institute of Medicine, which advises the federal government on health issues. The report also said current national monitoring of these programs and policies lack adequate leadership, coordination, infrastructure, guidance, accountability and capacity. [Medline Plus](#)

## U.S.: New federal guidelines for managing occupational exposures to HIV

6 August - New guidelines from the United States Public Health Service update the recommendations for the management of healthcare personnel (HCP) with occupational exposure to HIV and use of postexposure prophylaxis (PEP). The guidelines, published online today in *Infection Control and Hospital Epidemiology*, the journal of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America (SHEA), emphasize the immediate use of a PEP regimen containing three or more antiretroviral drugs after any occupational exposure to HIV. The PEP regimens recommended in the guidelines encourage the consistent use of a combination of three or more drugs, that are better tolerated than those recommended in the previously published guidelines from 2005, for all occupational exposures to HIV. The guidance eliminates the previous recommendation to assess the level of risk associated with individual exposures to help determine the appropriate number of drugs recommended for PEP. [EurekaAlert!](#)

## U.S.: Norovirus disease in the United States

August 2013 - Although recognized as the leading cause of epidemic acute gastroenteritis across all age groups, norovirus has remained poorly characterized with respect to its endemic disease incidence. Use of different methods... has considerably improved norovirus disease incidence estimates for the United States. Norovirus causes an average of 570–800 deaths, 56,000–71,000 hospitalizations, 400,000 emergency department visits, 1.7–1.9 million outpatient visits, and 19–21 million total illnesses per year. Persons >65 years of age are at greatest risk for norovirus-associated death, and children <5 years of age have the highest rates of norovirus-associated medical care visits. Endemic norovirus disease occurs year round but exhibits a pronounced winter peak and increases by  $\leq 50\%$  during years in which pandemic strains emerge. [Emerging Infectious Diseases](#)

## U.S.: Southern California wildfire pushes east, forces evacuations

8 August - A wind-whipped California wildfire that doubled in size overnight torched 15 buildings east of Los Angeles, injured at least five people and forced the evacuation of 500 homes in about half a dozen small communities, authorities said on Thursday. The fire broke

out on Wednesday near a back-country road in Riverside County, and by early Thursday had blackened more than 10,000 acres, the Riverside County Fire Department said on its website. Four firefighters and one civilian have been hurt in the blaze, which is raging through tinder-dry brush and is just ten percent contained. The extent of their injuries was not immediately known. [Reuters](#)

## U.S.: West Nile virus - Preliminary Maps & Data for 2013

6 August – Thirty-eight states and the District of Columbia have reported West Nile virus infections in people, birds, or mosquitoes. A total of 99 cases of West Nile virus disease in people, including four deaths, have been reported to CDC. Of these, 45 (45%) were classified as neuroinvasive disease (such as meningitis or encephalitis) and 54 (55%) were classified as non-neuroinvasive disease. [CDC](#)

[top of page...](#)

### USPACOM

---

## Asia: Toxic waste's health impact similar to malaria's

7 August - Toxic waste is an under-recognised major global health burden comparable to outdoor air pollution and malaria, according to a study. The paper says that people's exposure to industrial pollutants such as lead, asbestos and chromium from toxic waste sites in India, Indonesia, and the Philippines in 2010 resulted in the loss of 829,000 years of good health due to serious diseases or early death. Such a health burden, the researchers say, is comparable to that caused by outdoor air pollution and malaria — both serious problems in developing countries in Asia. The WHO estimates that people living in India, Indonesia and the Philippines lose a total 1.45 million healthy years per year because of outdoor air pollution and 725,000 healthy years due to malaria. [Thompson Reuters Foundation](#)

## China: Disease burden in China

3 August – ...Changes in the disease burden in China between 1990 and 2010 are extremely illuminating in considering how rising income, urbanization, and living to an older age impact health. An [article](#) published in *The Lancet* (in an [issue](#) focused entirely on China) this past June charts this change, and makes for a gripping look at the leading causes of death and diminishment of productive years of life in this country... The report begins by noting the strides made since the 1970s, with an increase in life expectancy and a plummeting rate of under-five mortality... What is killing people: According to GBD 2010, the leading causes of death in China in 2010 were stroke, ischaemic heart disease, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. Among children, neonatal problems, infectious disease and injury were responsible for far fewer YLLs in 2010 as they were in 1990. What is disabling people: The leading causes of DALYs in 2010 were cardiovascular diseases, cancers, low back pain, and

depression. These conditions were the result of high blood pressure, poor diet, and tobacco exposure, with ambient and household air pollution rounding out the top five causes. [PLOS Blogs](#)

## China's inadequate care of the mentally ill



29 July - On July 5, 42 psychiatric patients escaped from the No. 3 People's Hospital in Teng county, Guangxi province, in southern China. The escaped patients were later found and recaptured several miles away. It wasn't long before another incident occurred. 12 days after the thwarted escape, two people, a foreigner included, were killed by a knife-wielder, later confirmed to have a mental illness, during rush hour in a popular shopping mall in Beijing. This may just be the tip of the iceberg, showcasing how serious mental health problems have become in today's China.

[Atlantic](#)

## Japan nuclear body says radioactive water at Fukushima an 'emergency'



5 August - Highly radioactive water seeping into the ocean from Japan's crippled Fukushima nuclear plant is creating an "emergency" that the operator is struggling to contain, an official from the country's nuclear watchdog said on Monday. This contaminated groundwater has breached an underground barrier, is rising toward the surface and is exceeding legal limits of radioactive discharge, Shinji Kinjo, head of a Nuclear Regulatory Authority (NRA) task force, told Reuters. Countermeasures planned by Tokyo Electric Power Co are only a temporary solution, he said. [Reuters](#)

## Japan: Rubella rash



8 August - ...The number of rubella cases in Japan, especially in Tokyo, has been increasing in the past year. Approximately 70% of reported cases of rubella involve middle-aged men, partly because boys were not vaccinated against rubella by the national immunization program until 1995. To prevent the congenital rubella syndrome, the vaccination of women of childbearing age and their partners is currently a priority. [New England Journal of Medicine](#)

## Philippines: Chikungunya

28 July – Local officials in San Nicolas, Ilocos Norte [province] on Thursday [25 Jul 2013] declared a state of calamity in this town after the number of suspected chikungunya cases surged to more than 200, affecting at least 4 neighboring villages. Vice Mayor Alfredo Valdez, a doctor, said the mosquitoborne disease might not be as deadly as dengue fever,

but many local farmers who have contracted the disease could not go to the fields and work. In a special session on Thursday [25 Jul 2013], the town council declared a state of calamity in San Nicolas so it could use its calamity funds for preventive measures against the spread of chikungunya [virus]. [ProMED mail](#)

[top of page...](#)

**USSOUTHCOM**

---

## **Brazil: New law guarantees protocol for rape victims**

2 August - Brazilian President Dilma Rousseff signed a law guaranteeing treatment – including emergency contraception – for rape victims in public hospitals, in spite of strong opposition from religious conservatives who believe it will lead to the decriminalisation of abortion. "In future when a victim of abuse goes to a hospital, the staff must follow the protocol," said Health Minister Alexandre Padilha, announcing the president's ratification of the law Thursday, which will enter into force in 90 days. The new Law 3/2013 only introduces regulations for authorised procedures for multi-disciplinary care in the public health system for female victims of sexual violence, without actually modifying the country's law on abortion. [Inter Press Service](#)

## **Colombia lauded as first country to eliminate river blindness**

30 July - After 16 years of efforts, Colombia has become the first country in the world to eliminate the parasitic disease onchocerciasis, or river blindness, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) announced yesterday. PAHO Director Carissa F. Etienne, MBBS, called Colombia's achievement "an example of commitment, persistence, and integrated work" and said the Americas Region has shown leadership in fighting river blindness and other neglected infectious diseases, according to a PAHO press release. She called for "redoubling efforts to eliminate the disease" in five other countries in the Americas: Brazil, Ecuador, Guatemala, Mexico, and Venezuela. [CIDRAP](#)

## **Honduras: Dengue fever outbreak kills 16, sickens 12,000**

31 July - Honduras' government has declared a state of emergency due to a dengue fever outbreak that has killed 16 people and sickened 12,000. Health Minister Salvador Pineda says more than half of Honduras' municipalities have registered dengue fever cases. Dengue causes high fever, joint pains and nausea. In severe cases, it can lead to internal bleeding, liver enlargement, circulatory shutdown and death. [Vancouver Sun](#)

[top of page...](#)

[U.S. Military](#) | [Global](#) | [Influenza](#) | [Veterinary/Food Safety](#) | [Wellness](#) | [Contact Us](#)

[USAFRICOM](#) | [USCENTCOM](#) | [USEUCOM](#) | [USNORTHCOM](#) | [USPACOM](#) | [USSOUTHCOM](#)

The *Army Public Health Weekly Update* does not analyze the information as to its strategic or tactical impact on the US Army and is not a medical intelligence product. Medical intelligence is available from the [National Center for Medical Intelligence](#).

External Links: The appearance of external hyperlinks does not constitute endorsement by the U.S. Army of this Web site or the information, products, or services contained therein. For other than authorized activities such as military exchanges and MWR sites, the U.S. Army does not exercise any editorial control over the information you may find at these locations. Such links are provided consistent with the stated purpose of this product.

Although Health Information Operations avoids links to sites that may be blocked, all sites may not be accessible from all locations. While we verify the links at the time of publication, we cannot guarantee that they will be active in the future.

Articles appearing in the Update do not necessarily represent US Army Medical Department opinions/views, policy, or guidance, and should not be construed or interpreted as being endorsed by the US Army Medical Department.

The *Army Public Health Weekly Update* is published by the Health Information Operations Program, Deputy Chief of Staff for Communication, United States Army Public Health Command.

