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U.S. MILITARY

Medical cuts could cause irreversible damage

12 June- Change is a constant in the military. Military medicine has undergone numerous sea-changes over the past four decades, including the switch from a drafted force to an allvolunteer force, downsizing, the development of the TRICARE system, the implementation of TRICARE for Life, and now — more downsizing. Through to the present, the system has handled all these challenges successfully (some smoother than others). In these past evolutions, there was sufficient time and flexibility for the system to absorb the changes without damaging its foundations. However, veterans of these exercises, myself included, are concerned the magnitude and timeline of today's proposed changes are too great to absorb without fundamental damage to its infrastructure. DoD's FY 2020 budget is calling for the elimination of 18,000 medical billets, or about 20% of the force. While DoD has provided few specifics, the stated goals are to streamline the Military Health System (MHS), empower the Defense Health Agency to expand and execute its assigned mission, and move excess medical manpower resources to enhance warfighting "lethality" while improving the delivery of health care to MHS beneficiaries. These objectives seem sound and reasonable and deserve to be fully supported. The question is, will the plans — as outlined — accomplish those missions? Military Times

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No more smoking at VA hospitals

10 June- The Department of Veterans Affairs is outlawing smoking, vaping and other forms of tobacco use at its health care facilities across the country in an effort to better treat and protect patients, the agency announced Monday. "Although VA has historically permitted smoking in designated areas, there is growing evidence that smoking and exposure to secondhand and third hand smoke creates significant medical risks, and risks to safety and direct patient care that are inconsistent with medical requirements and limitations," the department said in a news release. The full ban will be implemented by October and includes cigarettes, cigars and pipes, as well as e-cigarettes. Military Times

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GLOBAL

A judge rules against one stem-cell clinic

10 June- In a long-sought victory for the F.D.A., a federal judge said officials have the authority to regulate stem-cell treatments made from patients' own fat. A judicial ruling this month that will stop questionable stem-cell treatments at a clinic in Florida is widely seen as a warning to a flourishing industry that has attracted huge numbers of patients, who pay thousands of dollars for unproven, risky procedures. But with little regulatory oversight for



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Residential Indoor Mold and Residential Mold Air Sample Results What Do They Mean?

The term "mold" is used to refer to fungi that are naturally occurring in the environment. Molds are found in virtually every environment and can be detected, both indoors and outdoors, year round. Mold growth is encouraged by warm and humid conditions.



the hundreds of clinics operating these lucrative businesses across the country, it's too soon to tell how far the impact might reach. The decision, by a federal court on June 3, empowered the Food and Drug Administration to stop U.S. Stem Cell, a private clinic in Sunrise, Fla., from injecting patients with an extract made from their own liposuctioned belly fat. The clinic had claimed that the extract contained stem cells with healing and regenerative powers that could treat a range of illness and injuries, from back problems to Parkinson's disease, arthritis, and heart and lung diseases. The New York Times

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Asia's longhorned tick makes its way to the US with first documented bite

10 June- For the first time in history, a human is recorded to have been bitten by the Asian longhorned tick in the United States. The Asian longhorned tick, also known as Haemaphysalis longicornis, didn't used to be found in the Western Hemisphere, but it appears that the tick has migrated to the United States in recent years as it has been spotted in multiple states. Now, health officials report the first ever bite by this particular type of tick in the United States. Tech Times

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Big data 'can stop malaria outbreaks before they start'

10 June- A ground-breaking study in Bangladesh has found that using data from mobile phone networks to track the movement of people across the country can help predict where outbreaks of diseases such as malaria are likely to occur, enabling health authorities to take preventative measures. Every year, malaria kills more than 400,000 people globally - most of them children. Menpaw Mro lifted his young daughter on to his shoulders and began the long journey to the nearest hospital, in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, first on foot, then by boat and finally in a small motorised rickshaw. Time was desperately short. For several days, he had assumed the fever afflicting six-year-old Rum Rao Mro was not serious and she would soon recover at home, in their village in this remote region of Bangladesh. Instead, the fever steadily worsened, putting her life in danger. "She could not sleep, she was crying all the time and had breathing difficulties," he says. They never reached the hospital. Rum Rao died on the last leg of the journey. She'd been suffering from severe malaria. BBC News

The Surgeon General Weekly Read Book

The Surgeon General Weekly Read Book is available with articles classified up to the **SECRET** level on the APHC SIPRNet site:

https://intelshare. intelink.sgov.gov/sites/ medcom-g2/SitePages/ Home.aspx

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

Chickenpox vaccine may protect against shingles years later

10 June- The chickenpox vaccine not only protects against chickenpox: A new study has found it also lowers the risk for shingles. Shingles, sometimes called herpes zoster, is a painful nerve infection and rash that can occur after recovery from a case of chickenpox or after immunization with the vaccine. It is more common in older people and can occur decades after recovery from chickenpox, but children can get it, too. The study, in Pediatrics, included 6.4 million children under 18, half of whom had the chickenpox vaccine. The researchers calculated rates of shingles from 2003 through 2014. They found that over all, the vaccinated children had a 78 percent lower rate of shingles than their unvaccinated peers. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends two doses of the vaccine, at age 1 year and then between 4 and 6. Among children who had both doses, rates of shingles were even lower. "There has been a significant decline in chickenpox over the time period in all children, vaccinated and not," said the lead author, Sheila Weinmann, an epidemiologist at the Kaiser Permanente Northwest Center for Health Research in Portland, Ore. "And I think that parents will find it interesting that the vaccine is effective not only in reducing the rate of chickenpox, but also the rate of shingles." The New York Times

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Ebola spreads to Uganda

12 June- The current and 10th Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) outbreak in the DRC began in August 2018 and there were fears of it crossing neighboring borders all along. This week, it finally happened as the Uganda Ministry of Health reported a case in a 5-year-old boy who traveled from DRC. In this news brief, I look at the available information on the situation to date. Outbreak News Today

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Experimental treatment could slow down type 1 diabetes in high-risk individuals

11 June- An experimental drug is found to effectively delay the onset of type 1 diabetes among high-risk individuals to two or more years. The study backed by the National Institute of Health is the first to show that immunotherapy can be used to slow down the progress of the inherited disease. "This is a huge milestone. We've had trials that have been going on for a couple of decades, but they have not been able to prevent diabetes," declared Kevan Herold, a professor of immunology and endocrinology at Yale University and the lead author of the study. "This is the first successful trial to show that you can delay and possibly prevent type 1 diabetes." Tech Times

FDA unveils new guidelines for e-cigarette makers

11 June- The U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Tuesday carved out new recommendations for makers of e-cigarettes, or vapes, including guidelines on how to address public health issues while designing their products. Currently, there are no authorized e-cigarettes on the U.S. market. The FDA, which has recently clamped down on e-cigarettes following a surge in their use among teenagers, said here the new guidelines cover issues like accidental nicotine exposure and battery safety. Reuters

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Health workers still are not alerting police about likely elder abuse, reports find

12 June- It can be hard to quantify the problem of elder abuse. Experts believe that many cases go unreported. And Wednesday morning, their belief was confirmed by two new government studies. The research, conducted and published by the Office of Inspector General of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, finds that in many cases of abuse or neglect severe enough to require medical attention, the incidents have not been reported to enforcement agencies, though that's required by law. One of the studies focuses solely on the possible abuse of nursing home residents who end up in emergency rooms. The report looks at claims sent to Medicare in 2016 for treatment of head injuries, body bruises, bed sores and other diagnoses that might indicate physical abuse, sexual abuse or severe neglect. NPR

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More wildfires bring focus on how all that smoke may harm firefighters

12 June- When Timothy Ingalsbee thinks back on his days in the 1980s and '90s fighting wildfires in the Pacific Northwest, he remembers the adventure of jumping out of a helicopter into the wilderness, and the camaraderie of being on a fire crew. "We just slept in a heap," he says, "on the ground under the stars, or smoke filled skies." But Ingalsbee, who went on to found the Eugene-based Firefighters United for Safety, Ethics and Ecology, doesn't like to remember all that smoke. Some seasons, he says, "I lost my sense of smell and taste for several months. It wasn't until maybe the next spring it started coming back." As wildfires have grown more frequent and intense in recent years, communities have complained about the health impact of all that smoke, and the economic hit to recreation and tourism. But residents can seek relief by staying indoors and using air filters or masks. These aren't options for the wildland firefighters fighting those blazes, or managing prescribed burns aimed at preventing them. They endure smoky conditions rarely experienced in residential communities, and it's an occupational hazard scientists and fire agencies are just beginning to understand. NPR

New WHO prevalence estimates of mental disorders in conflict settings: a systematic review and meta-analysis

11 June- Existing WHO estimates of the prevalence of mental disorders in emergency settings are more than a decade old and do not reflect modern methods to gather existing data and derive estimates. We sought to update WHO estimates for the prevalence of mental disorders in conflict-affected settings and calculate the burden per 1000 population. In this systematic review and meta-analysis, we updated a previous systematic review by searching MEDLINE (PubMed), PsycINFO, and Embase for studies published between Jan 1, 2000, and Aug 9, 2017, on the prevalence of depression, anxiety disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia. We also searched the grey literature, such as government reports, conference proceedings, and dissertations, to source additional data, and we searched datasets from existing literature reviews of the global prevalence of depression and anxiety and reference lists from the studies that were identified. We applied the Guidelines for Accurate and Transparent Health Estimates Reporting and used Bayesian meta-regression techniques that adjust for predictors of mental disorders to calculate new point prevalence estimates with 95% uncertainty intervals (UIs) in settings that had experienced conflict less than 10 years previously. We estimated that the prevalence of mental disorders (depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder, bipolar disorder, and schizophrenia) was 22·1% (95% UI 18·8-25·7) at any point in time in the conflict-affected populations assessed. The mean comorbidity-adjusted, agestandardised point prevalence was 13.0% (95% UI 10.3-16.2) for mild forms of depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder and 4.0% (95% UI 2.9–5.5) for moderate forms. The mean comorbidity-adjusted, age-standardised point prevalence for severe disorders (schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, severe depression, severe anxiety, and severe posttraumatic stress disorder) was 5.1% (95% UI 4.0-6.5). As only two studies provided epidemiological data for psychosis in conflict-affected populations, existing Global Burden of Disease Study estimates for schizophrenia and bipolar disorder were applied in these estimates for conflict-affected populations. The Lancet

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Prostate cancer screening scan hope

10 June- Hundreds of UK men are trying out a new screening test for prostate cancer to see if it should eventually be offered routinely on the NHS. The test is a non-invasive MRI scan that takes images of the inside of the body to check for any abnormal growths. Scientists running the trial say it will take a few years to know if MRI will be better than available blood tests and biopsies at spotting cancers. NHS England said it would review this "potentially exciting" development. BBC

USPSTF: Straight A's for HIV Prevention Meds

11 June- Primary care clinicians should offer pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) to patients at high risk of HIV infection, the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) said. There is "high certainty" of "substantial" benefit in offering PrEP (oral tenofovir disoproxil fumarate—based therapy) to reduce the risk of HIV infection in high-risk populations ("A" recommendation), reported USPSTF members Douglas Owens, MD, of Stanford University in California, and co-authors. Moreover, there was "convincing evidence" of the efficacy of PrEP when used correctly and consistently, with only "adequate evidence" of small harms, such as kidney and gastrointestinal adverse effects, the authors wrote in JAMA. The USPSTF continued to recommend HIV screening in adolescents and adults ages 15-65, as well as pregnant women (A recommendation), which was published on the Task Force website, as well as in JAMA. The recommendation for PrEP now means that insurers will be required to cover PrEP with no cost sharing to patients, HIV Medicine Association chair David Hardy, MD, noted in a statement shared with MedPage Today. Under the Affordable Care Act, private insurers must provide first-dollar coverage for all services with an "A" or "B" rating from USPSTF. Med Page Today

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INFLUENZA

CDC: Flu View - Weekly U.S. Influenza Surveillance Report

2018-2019 Influenza Season Week 22 ending June 1, 2019:

U.S. Virologic Surveillance: WHO and NREVSS collaborating laboratories, which include both public health and clinical laboratories located in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the District of Columbia, report to CDC the total number of respiratory specimens tested for influenza and the number positive for influenza by virus type. In addition, public health laboratories also report the influenza A subtype (H1 or H3) and influenza B lineage information of the viruses they test and the age or age group of the persons from whom the specimens were collected.

Pneumonia and Influenza (P&I) Mortality Surveillance: Based on National Center for Health Statistics (NCHS) mortality surveillance data available on June 6, 2019, 5.3% of the deaths occurring during the week ending May 25, 2019 (week 21) were due to P&I. This percentage is below the epidemic threshold of 6.4% for week 21.

Influenza-Associated Pediatric Mortality: One influenza-associated pediatric death was reported to CDC during week 22. This death was associated with an influenza A (H3) virus and occurred during week 8 (the week ending February 23, 2019). A total of 114 influenza-associated pediatric deaths occurring during the 2018-2019 season have been reported to CDC. CDC

VETERINARY/FOOD SAFETY

Three hospital patients dead due to pre-packed sandwiches contaminated with listeria

9 June- The UK government is conducting an investigation regarding a listeria outbreak that has so far caused the deaths of three hospital patients. So far, the likely culprit for the outbreak are pre-packed sandwiches. In London, three people have died while three others are still seriously ill due to a listeria outbreak in hospitals. According to authorities, the people who got infected with listeria were all seriously ill and were being treated in hospitals at the time when they were infected. Those who died were patients from two hospitals, one in Manchester and another in Liverpool. Investigations by multiple agencies and local authorities are already under way, and so far, the infections are being linked to pre-packed sandwiches that were contaminated with listeria. According to Collin Sullivan, the chief operating officer of the Food Standards Agency, investigations on how the outbreak occurred are still currently ongoing and that the agency is also looking at ways to protect vulnerable groups from the outbreak. Tech Times

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Tyson Foods recalls more than 190,000 pounds of chicken fritters shipped nationwide

10 June- Tyson Foods, Inc., has recalled more than 190,000 pounds of Tyson Fully Cooked, Whole Grain Golden Crispy Chicken Chunk Fritters that may be contaminated with hard plastic, the company said in a statement. The product is not sold in retail grocery stores, and the voluntary recall is limited to food service customers, including schools nationwide, the Pennsylvania-based company said. Tyson Foods got three complaints from schools about foreign material in the food product, reported the US Department of Agriculture, which said it had not gotten any confirmed reports of injury or illness linked to eating the fritters. The fritters are not part of the National School Lunch Program but were purchased separately by individual schools, the USDA said. Anyone concerned about an injury or illness should contact a health care provider, the agency said. The recalled product carries establishment number "P-1325" stamped inside the USDA mark of inspection, the company said. The fritters are sold in 32.81-pound cases (code 0599NHL02) that contain four 8.2-pound bags.

UPDATED: Kroger recalls ribeye's, ground beef in three states for unexplained E. coli risk

10 June- As of Monday, the USDA had not posted a beef recall the Kroger Co. issued Friday for an unspecified amount of meat from an unspecified supplier that is possibly contaminated with E. coli. In-store produced ground beef, boneless ribeye steaks and bone-in ribeye steaks are included in the recall. All packages of those meats with labeling matching those shown in the photo above are subject to the recall, according to an undated notice on the Kroger Co. website. The Kroger Co. did not include any information about how the potential E. coli contamination was discovered. It also did not reveal the supplier or suppliers of the recalled beef. The recall notice does not provide any information about the amount of beef that is involved. Kroger distributed the beef to grocery stores in some parts of Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana, according to a notice on the company's website. The recalled beef was available to consumers from April 23 through June 7. "The product may be contaminated with E. coli 0157:H7 and, if eaten, could result in severe illness to those individuals who may consume this product," according to the Kroger recall notice. Food Safety News

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UPDATED: Townsend Farms recalls some of Costco's Kirkland berries for hepatitis A risk

12 June- Frozen berries packaged under Costco's signature Kirkland brand are now part of a nationwide recall that began when government testing found hepatitis A contamination in frozen blackberries that are used in multiple products from Townsend Farms Inc. Costco sold the recalled frozen berries in stores in San Diego, Los Angles, and in Hawaii, according to the Townsend Farms recall notice posted by the Food and Drug Administration. The recall notice urges consumers to check their homes for the berries. "Members who have purchased the product should not consume it. Instead, photograph the product bag for your records, dispose of the product and contact your local Costco for a full refund," the recall notice states. Kroger Co. distributed similar products to stores nationwide. It has already recalled three frozen berry products that are packaged under its Private Selection brand. Kroger sent the berries to its banner stores and its stores operating under 26 other names. The FDA has not released any information about whether Townsend used the implicated blackberries in products for its other customers. Townsend's recall of Costco's Kirkland brand products only involves 4-pound bags of frozen berries labeled as "Three Berry Blend" and marked with best-by dates between Feb. 16, 2020, and May 4, 2020. Food Safety News

WELLNESS

Insomnia can kill you

10 June- How did you sleep last night? If you're over 65, I hope it was better than many others your age. In a study by the National Institute on Aging of over 9,000 Americans aged 65 and older, more than half said they had difficulty falling asleep or staying asleep. Many others who believe they spend an adequate number of hours asleep nonetheless complain of not feeling rested when they get up. Chronic insomnia, which affects 5 percent to 10 percent of older adults, is more than just exhausting. It's also linked to an increased risk of developing hypertension, Type 2 diabetes, heart attack, depression, anxiety and premature death. It may also be a risk factor for dementia, especially Alzheimer's disease. Studies based on more than 1,700 men and women followed over many years by researchers at Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine found that the risk of developing hypertension was five times greater among those who slept less than five hours a night and three and a half times greater for those who slept between five and six hours. But there was no increased risk among those who regularly slept six or more hours. Likewise, the risk of developing diabetes was three times greater for the shortest sleepers and twice as great for those who slept between five and six hours. The New York Times

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Sleeping with lights on and weight gain in women linked in new study

10 June- Keeping a lot of light on while you snooze -- such as from a television or bright nightlight -- has been linked with an increased risk of weight gain and obesity. Specifically, sleeping with a television or light on in the room was positively associated with gaining five kilograms, or 11 pounds, over a five-year period among women in a new study published in the medical journal JAMA Internal Medicine on Monday. "There was a 17% chance of gaining the five kilograms -- after we adjusted for confounding factors," said Dale Sandler, a senior investigator at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in North Carolina and senior author of the study. In addition, there was a 22% chance of becoming overweight and a 33% chance of becoming obese, she added. CNN

USAFRICOM

Comoros Islands reports measles outbreak

12 June- The Ministry of Health in Comoros Islands has confirmed a new measles outbreak, coming in the aftermath of the tropical cyclone that devastated the country in April 2019, according to a World Health Organization report. Through June 1, a total of 66 suspected measles cases have been reported, of which 16 were confirmed. There have been no associated deaths, although one severe case was hospitalized. The most affected of the four Comoros Islands is Grand Comoros (Ngazidja), particularly the District of Moroni.

Eighty percent of the reported cases are in the age range of six months to 14 years, with children between 6-8 months most affected. Most affected children have been in contact with unvaccinated adults, and most cases are pre-vaccination, unvaccinated or of unknown vaccination status. WHO says the last measles outbreak in the country, with more than 1 000 cases, was reported 13 years ago. However, there has been a consistent decline in measles vaccination coverage, estimated at 90% in 2017, which leads to an accumulation of susceptible individuals. Outbreak News Today

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Democratic Republic of the Congo: Measles up 700 percent, Ebola update

10 June- Health officials with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) report since the beginning of 2019, a total of 87,000 suspected measles cases (1.8 % CFR) through May 18. This represents an increase of more than 700 percent, compared to the epidemiological situation for the same period in 2018. For the whole of 2018, the country had notified 65,098 suspected cases of measles, of which 2,908 cases were investigated, of which 961 were confirmed with a lethality of 1.3 percent. Vaccination rates in DRC is bad with less than half of all children being fully immunized. The increases in measles prompted the Mashako Plan. The Mashako Plan is the emergency plan for the revival of routine immunization in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Validated in October 2018, the Mashako Plan covers nine priority provinces: Ituri, Kasai, Upper Katanga, Mongala, Kwilu, Tanganyika, Kinshasa, Tshuapa and Haut-Lomami. The Mashako Plan aims at the ambitious goal of increasing vaccination coverage by 15 points by vaccinating 200,000 additional children in 18 months (October 2018 – April 2020). Outbreak News Today

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Uganda: 2nd Ebola death recorded

13 June- In a follow-up on the Ebola cases in Uganda, the World Health Organization is reporting a second fatality. The 50-year-old grandmother of the initial case, the 5-year-old boy, has died from Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). There are currently 3 cumulative confirmed cases since the date of identification of the index case. The two fatalities and a 3-year-old

brother who is alive. A 23 year old male from Mukungu village, Katwe Town Council has been identified as a suspected case and isolated at Bwera Hospital isolation unit. He presented with symptoms of vomiting blood and bloody diarrhea. Outbreak News Today top of page...

USCENTCOM

Houthi missile strike on Saudi Arabia's Abha airport wounds 26

12 June- Yemen's Houthis have fired a missile at Saudi Arabia's Abha airport, wounding 26 civilians in the building's arrivals hall, according to the Saudi-UAE-led coalition fighting the rebels. In a statement on Wednesday, the coalition said a projectile hit the arrivals hall at Abha airport, causing material damage. Three women and two children were among the wounded, who were of Saudi, Yemeni and Indian nationalities, it said. Eight people were taken to hospital while most were treated on site. The attack could amount to a war crime and proved that the Houthis have acquired "advanced weapons from Iran", the coalition said, vowing to take "urgent and timely" measures in response. Al Jazeera

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USEUCOM

Ukraine: More than 110,000 cases and 39 deaths since mid-2017

10 June- Ukraine health officials reported an additional 1,133 measles cases in the past week, including 505 adults and 628 children. This brings the total cases this year to 53,112. In addition, 18 deaths have been reported. The Center for Public Health of the Ministry of Health of Ukraine says since the beginning of the outbreak in the summer of 2017, more than 110,000 cases were reported, including 39 deaths. Health officials remind the public for reliable protection from the illness, all children must receive both the first and second dose of measles vaccine in a timely manner. Recently the Supreme Court of Ukraine has confirmed the obligatory nature of all vaccinations for visiting children of educational institutions. Outbreak News Today

USINDOPACOM

Malaysia reports additional rabies death in Sarawak

13 June- Malaysia health officials are reporting an additional human rabies case in a 61-year-old woman from Pending, Kuching, Sarawak. The case has a history of a bite from a stray dog on April 29, 2019. It happened when she tried to drive the dog away who was always barking at her. She washed the wound for 5 minutes and continued to seek treatment at a community clinic near her home and was given an appointment for the next week. However, she did not seek the prescribed follow-up treatment arguing that the wound on her finger had been healed. On June 6, 2019, she began to experience pain and discomfort in the right arm. She was hospitalized at Sarawak General Hospital on 8 June 2019 and has been admitted to the Infectious Disease Ward and is given Rabies immunoglobulin (RIG). The next day, she complained of nausea, dizziness, difficulty swallowing, headaches, and difficulty in swallowing water (hydrophobia), uncomfortable in the arms of the right hand and weak in the lower part of the body. Outbreak News Today

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Philippines Health Secretary: May see some 240K dengue cases this year

11 June- From the beginning of the year through May, Philippines health officials are reporting some 77,000 dengue fever cases and more than 300 fatalities. And if nothing is done, this number will get much higher, according to a statement by Health Secretary Francisco Duque III (computer translated). Duque is projecting large numbers of cases of the mosquito-borne infection before the year ends "if nothing will be done" to curb the increase. "If you look at the number and you do some computations, you get around 240,000. Dengue is a personal and community concern, and we can still prevent this last year from happening if we all do our part," Duque said. Outbreak News Today

USNORTHCOM

Canada: Norovirus prompts recall of raspberries cakes in Quebec

12 June- The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAPAQ) in Quebec announced this week the recall of certain products due to possible norovirus contamination. The products that are the subject of this alert may have been prepared with lots of frozen raw raspberries from Chile that are being recalled by the Canadian Food Additives Agency Food Inspection .These foods were available for sale until June 7, 2019 inclusive. They were sold in a chilled or frozen state or at room temperature, with or without a label. Outbreak News Today

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U.S.: Illinois- E. coli foodborne illness cases in Winnebago County

11 June- The Winnebago County Health Department has identified three confirmed cases of Shiga toxin- producing E. Coli (STEC), a foodborne illness, in Winnebago County. The three confirmed cases experienced diarrhea beginning May 31. The exact cause of the illness has not yet been determined. Outbreak News Today

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U.S.: NYC measles outbreak up 23 cases

11 June- New York City health officials reported 23 additional measles cases this past week, bringing the outbreak to 588 since September. New confirmed cases were reported in Borough Park (11), Williamsburg (5), Sunset Park (3), Port Richmond (2), and one each from Bensonhurst and Crown Heights. In Rockland County, the total measles cases have reached 267 confirmed reported cases. Outbreak News Today

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USSOUTHCOM

Dominican Republic: Six U.S. tourist deaths, the shooting of David Ortiz and a new image problem

11 June- The grounds and orchid-filled interior of the Grand Bahia Principe Resort appear half-empty. Dozens of unoccupied tables surround the buffet restaurant; vacant chairs lie scattered near the serpentine pool. The hotel boasts more than 400 rooms. But on Tuesday, only a smattering of about 30 people relaxed — or tried to — on the private beach. Two of the six American tourists who have died mysteriously on this Caribbean island in the past

year died at the Grand Bahia Principe — a fact that has not gone unnoticed among prospective customers since the news broke last week. Yet that didn't deter some offseason guests — especially those who had paid in advance. "We were about to cancel our trip," said Noemy Morales, a 67-year-old retiree from Texas who booked her trip months before the deaths became news. She came to celebrate her 50th anniversary with her husband, joined by her sister and a friend. "But we wouldn't be refunded, so I insisted we come," she continued. "Our relatives back home told us to be careful, and that they would pray for us. As if they felt bad for us!" Morales's concerns underscored a painful plight for the Dominican Republic. This country of azure waters and white sand beaches, which attracts more American visitors than France, is suddenly facing a potentially devastating image problem. "Unfortunately, the unrelated incidents coincided in timing," said André Van Der Horst, tourism adviser to the Dominican Republic government. The Washington Post top of page...

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