



## **Welcome to the CLU-IN Internet Seminar**

OSC Readiness Presents...Increasing the Use of Poison Centers for Public Health Surveillance and Response: A CDC and ATSDR Perspective

*Sponsored by:* EPA Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation

Delivered: August 23, 2012, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM, EDT (17:00-19:00 GMT)

*Instructors:*

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*Patrick Young, Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry (ATSDR) (young.patrick@epa.gov)*

*Moderator:*

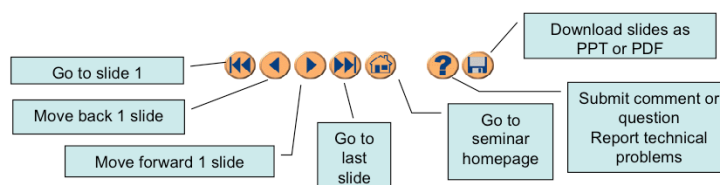
*Jean Balent, U.S. EPA, Technology Innovation and Field Services Division (balent.jean@epa.gov)*

*Visit the Clean Up Information Network online at [www.cluin.org](http://www.cluin.org)*

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# Housekeeping

- Please mute your phone lines, Do NOT put this call on hold
- Q&A
- Turn off any pop-up blockers
- Move through slides using # links on left or buttons



- This event is being recorded
- Archives accessed for free <http://clu.in.org/live/archive/>

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Although I'm sure that some of you have these rules memorized from previous CLU-IN events, let's run through them quickly for our new participants.

Please mute your phone lines during the seminar to minimize disruption and background noise. If you do not have a mute button, press \*6 to mute #6 to unmute your lines at anytime. Also, please do NOT put this call on hold as this may bring delightful, but unwanted background music over the lines and interrupt the seminar.

You should note that throughout the seminar, we will ask for your feedback. You do not need to wait for Q&A breaks to ask questions or provide comments. To submit comments/questions and report technical problems, please use the ? Icon at the top of your screen. You can move forward/backward in the slides by using the single arrow buttons (left moves back 1 slide, right moves advances 1 slide). The double arrowed buttons will take you to 1<sup>st</sup> and last slides respectively. You may also advance to any slide using the numbered links that appear on the left side of your screen. The button with a house icon will take you back to main seminar page which displays our agenda, speaker information, links to the slides and additional resources. Lastly, the button with a computer disc can be used to download and save today's presentation materials.

With that, please move to slide 3.

## Increasing the use of Poison Centers by the Federal and State Regional Response Team (RRT) in Region 6 (OK, AR, LA, TX, NM and the U.S./Mexico Border Region

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CAPT Patrick Young, M.S, RS  
US Public Health Service  
ATSDR Region 6  
Dallas, TX  
August 23, 2012 – EPA Webinar



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# Office of Regional Operations

## *Vision*

Effective delivery of ATSDR's public health services

## *Mission*

- Establish effective working relationships
- Provide technical support and consultation
  - Coordinate field activities

## Disclaimers

- CDR Patrick Young is an employee of the Agency for Toxic Substances Disease Registry (ATSDR) working with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) in Region 6. This presentation has not been formally disseminated by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy. The information provided herein is the opinion of the author and does not represent the opinions or policy of the ATSDR or U.S. EPA.



## Federal Health Agency

Department of Health and Human Services  
(DHHS)



Centers for Disease Control (CDC)



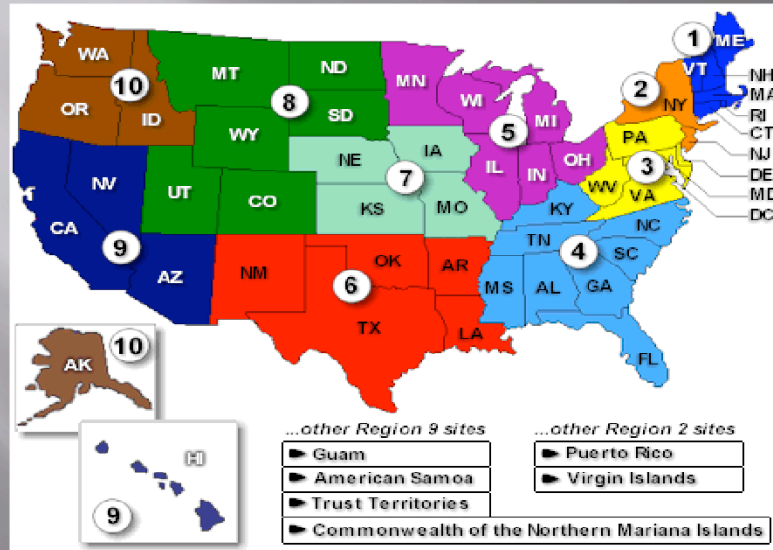
National Center for Environmental Health  
(NCEH)/ **Agency for Toxic Substances and  
Disease Registry (ATSDR) 1980**

## Technical Support Role [www.atsdr.cdc.gov](http://www.atsdr.cdc.gov)

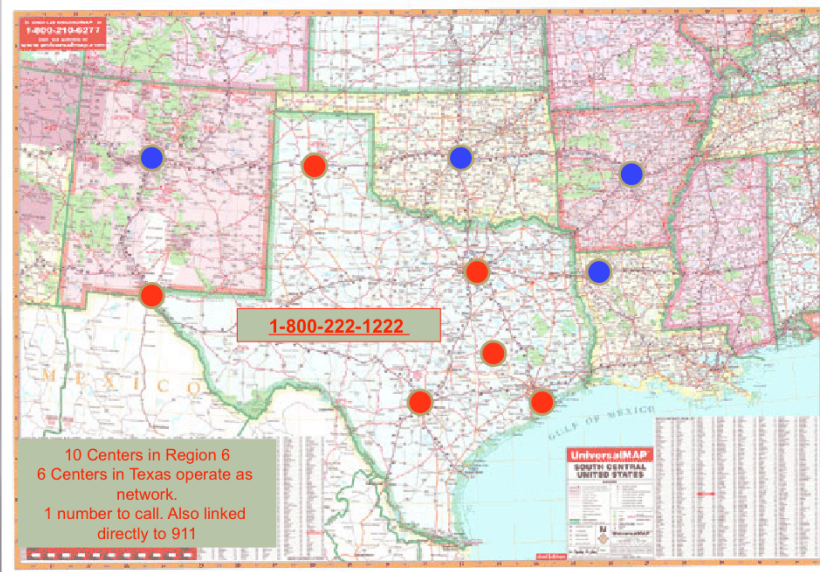
- ▣ Assist in site specific investigations and follow up actions (EPA Superfund Sites, ATSDR Health Consultation & Petitioned Public Health Assessment)
- ▣ Consult on environmental health issues
- ▣ Triage agency health response
- ▣ Enhance state and local health capacity



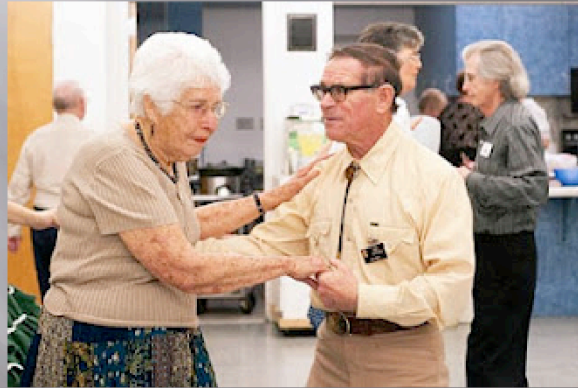
# ATSDR Regional Offices



## PCCs in Region 6



What is it all about?



Inclusion-  
Being invited to the dance!

Electronic Code of Federal Regulations

*e-CFR*  
TM

## Establishes the RRT/JRT

e-CFR Data is current as of June 7, 2012

**TITLE 40--Protection of Environment**

**CHAPTER I--ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY**

**SUBCHAPTER J--SUPERFUND, EMERGENCY PLANNING, AND COMMUNITY  
RIGHT-TO-KNOW PROGRAMS**

**PART 300--NATIONAL OIL AND HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES POLLUTION  
CONTINGENCY PLAN**

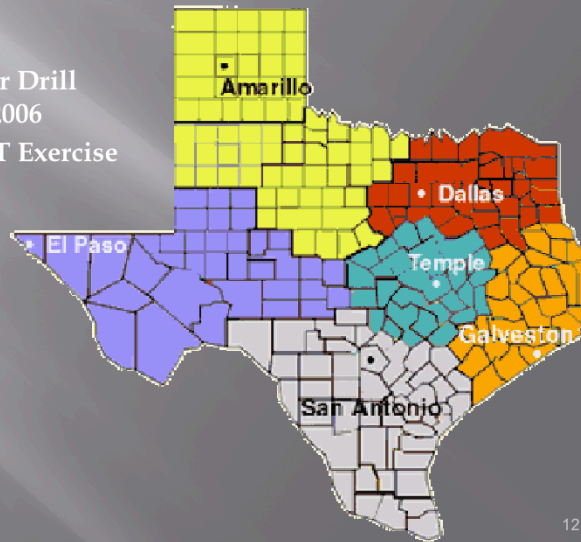
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# FIRST CALL CENTER EXERCISE WITH THE TEXAS POISON CENTER NETWORK

Eagle Pass Disaster Drill  
September 21, 2006  
Bi-National HAZMAT Exercise



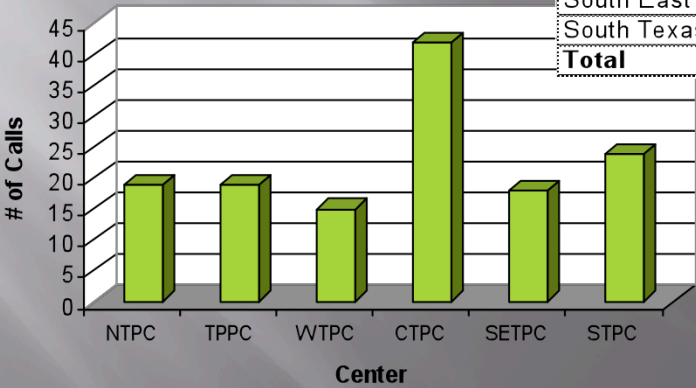
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# Call Distribution

- All calls originated from Eagle Pass, TX
- English and Spanish Callers

**Call Distribution by Center**

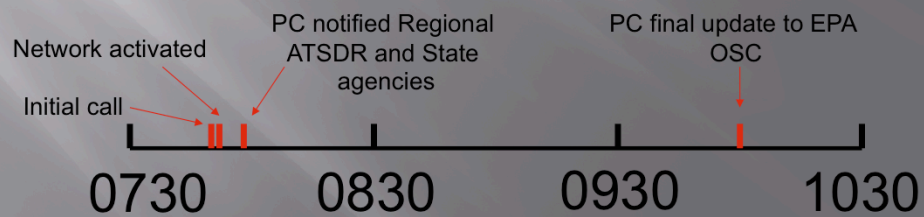


**Call Distribution by Center**

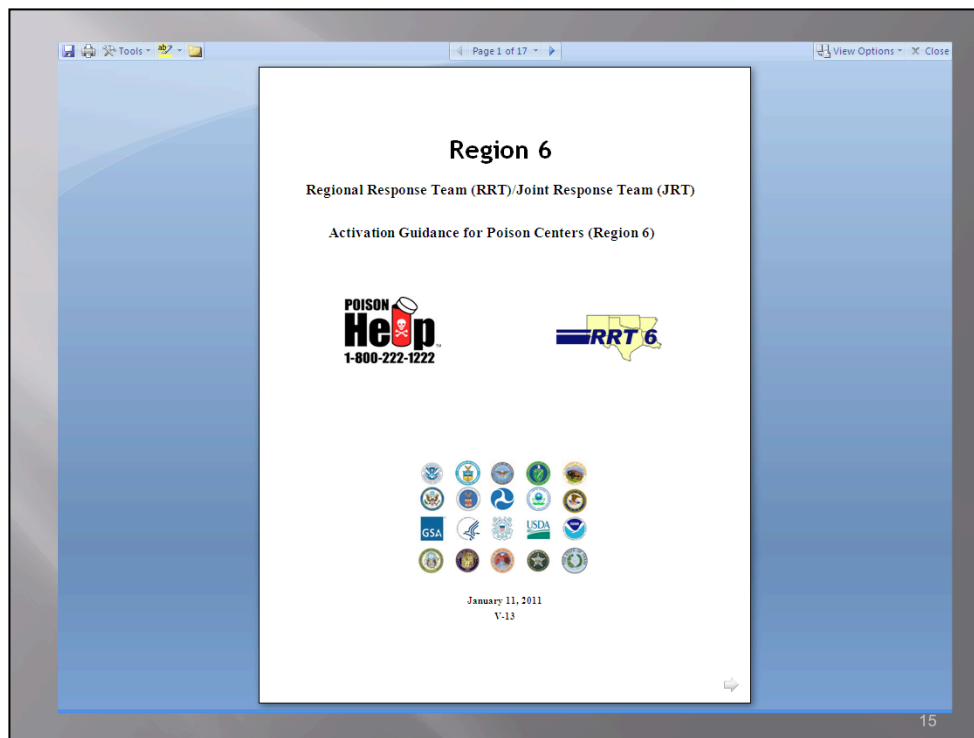
North Texas PC	19
Texas Panhandle PC	19
West Texas PC	15
Central Texas PC	42
South East TPC	18
South Texas PC	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>137</b>

## Eagle Pass Exercise Disaster Drill Components

1. Local responder/resident initial call to Poison Center: 7:50 A.M.
2. Poison Center notification to activate network: 7:52
3. Poison Center report to State and ATSDR: 8:00
4. Continue local calls to Poison Center Network: 8:00 – 9:00
5. Network communications: 9:00 – 10:00
6. Poison Center call to update EPA OSC: 10:00

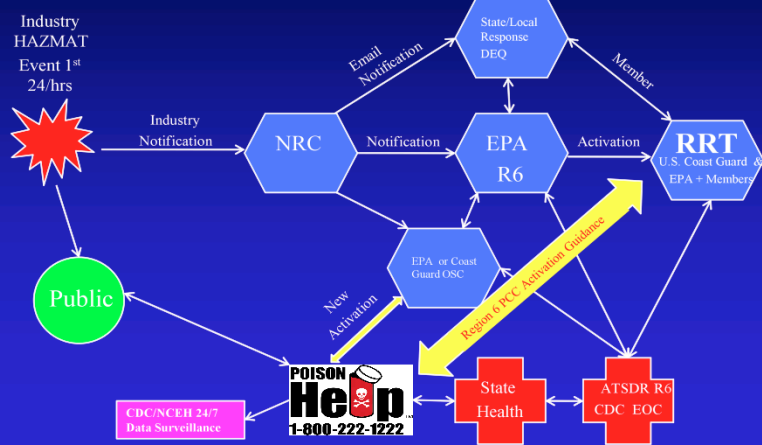


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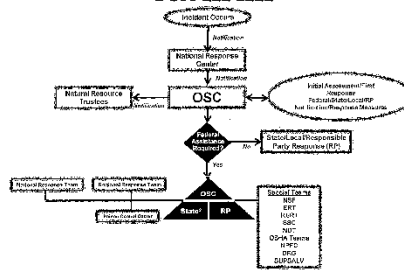


# *PCC -Activation Protocol Region 6 Example*

ATSDR – Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry  
NCEH – National Center for Environmental Health  
CDC – Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
NRC – National Response Center – EPA/U.S. Coast Guard Hdqtrs  
FOSC – Federal On-Scene Coordinator  
RRT – Regional Response Team  
DEQ – Department of Environmental Quality  
R6 – Region 6  
New Response Relationships



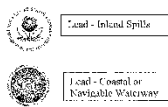
### Poison Control Center Notification Process 1-800-222-1222



### Regional Response Team Members



### On-Scene Coordinator (OSC)





(SITUATION REPORT Example)

Louisiana Poison Center



Tuesday May 11, 2010  
Deep Water Horizon Incident

(EXAMPLE) Daily Situation Report (SIT REP) # 5  
Reporting Period: Friday May 7 – Monday May 10, 2010

Current Situation:

- Data collected by poison centers from spill related exposure calls includes but is not limited to caller name and contact number, patient's name, age, weight, contact information, medical history, current medications, allergies, history of exposure (location, circumstances), time of exposure, site of exposure (workplace, residence, public area, other), route of exposure (dermal, inhalation, ingestion), reason for exposure (occupational, unintentional, intentional, unknown), symptoms, treatment recommendations, management status, outcome (no effect, minor effect, major effect, death), and duration of effect (2 hours, 8 hours 24 hours, 3 days, 1 week, 1 month, anticipated permanent). Poison Centers are considered health care providers under the HIPAA Privacy Standards and all information provided is considered confidential.
- The LPOC received 1 spill related exposure call over the weekend. Dermal exposure of the walking or beach. Caller was from Alabama. Exposure site was in Alabama.
- The Louisiana Poison Center (LPC) is conducting an Advanced Hazardous Materials Life Support (AHLIS) Course in Louisiana on emergency preparedness from May 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> 2010. This course is offered to a variety of responders and healthcare providers. Included in the lecture series are those devoted to hydrocarbon, biological, chemical, biological and infectious agents.
- The LPC is providing all spill related data to the Louisiana Department of Epidemiology for statistical purposes and follow up where indicated.

Calls Received to Date	LA	MS	AL
General Information Calls	31	5	9
Hazardous Exposure Calls			
Occupational	6	0	0
Non-Occupational	1 (Dermal)	5 (vapor)	1 (vapor)
Animal Exposure Calls	0	0	0
Media Requests	7	0	0

Louisiana Poison Center 1455 W. Benson Street - Shreveport, Louisiana 71103  
Office: (504) 386-3300 Fax: (504) 386-3301 Poison Hotline: 800-705-2222

Region 6 Poison Center Representatives at RRT  
Meeting 2009



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### **Outcome Measurements:**

- Very first exercise involving the Texas Poison Center Network along US/Mexico Border. Involved all 6 Centers in Texas working together.
- New connectivity between Environmental Regulatory Agencies (State DEQs and US EPA) and Poison Control Centers.
- Increased communication between EPA Federal On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) to enhance sharing environmental sampling data in disasters.
- Request by RRT6 to develop interim guidance on activating PCC's to support the RRT (16 Federal Agencies)
- Creation of the RRT6 Activation Guidance Document for Poison Control

### **Health Impacts:**

- Access to free healthcare 24/7 through the 1-800-222-1222.
- Improved public health response through sharing of critical environmental data so PCC can faster assist technical medical response activities.
- HAZMAT incident - reduces hospital surge by treating patient at home if environmental data is available.
- Increased consultation with ATSDR Regional Office.
- Increased ability to address and treat occupational exposures.
- Improved data quality with state and national surveillance.



## Contact information:

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# Use of the National Poison Data System (NPDS) for National Public Health Chemical Exposure and Illness Surveillance

Royal Law, MPH

Health Studies Branch  
Division of Environmental Hazards and Health Effects  
National Center for Environmental Health  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)



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## Poison Centers (PCs)

- National toll-free number available 24/7
- Specialists in poison information (SPIs) include trained toxicologists, nurses and pharmacists
  - Give information to public and clinicians
  - Provide exposure/case management
  - Collect and code call data using standard protocols
    - Data entered into regional PC server as caller provides it

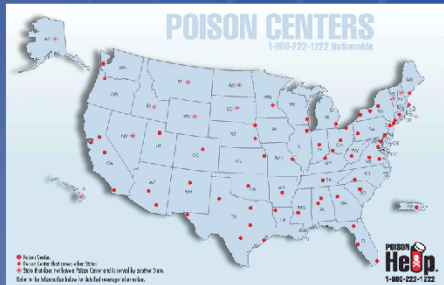


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## National Poison Data System (NPDS)



- Web-based surveillance system for calls to 57 Poison Centers
- Near real-time system, with calls uploaded every 24 minutes\*
- Owned and operated by the American Association of Poison Control Centers
- CDC funds maintenance, system upgrades, and toxicosurveillance staff



Bronstein A.C., Spyker D.A., Cantilena L.R., Green J.L., Rumack B.H., Giffin S.L. 2008 Annual Report of the American Association of Poison Control Centers' National Poison Data System (NPDS): 26th Annual Report. Clinical Toxicology 2009; 47:911-1084.

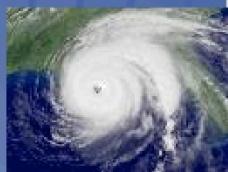
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## NPDS Surveillance Goals

- Improve public health surveillance for chemical, poison and other hazardous exposures and associated illness
- Identify and characterize hazardous exposure events to enable a rapid and appropriate public health response
- Track potential cases and provide situational awareness



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## NPDS Data Elements

- Caller zip code, state
- Species
- Age
- Sex
- Call date/time
- PC managing call
- Call type (exposure, information)
- Reason for call
- Caller site
- Exposure substance and quantity
- Exposure route
- Exposure site
- Clinical effects
- Management
- Treatment
- Decontamination
- Medical outcome

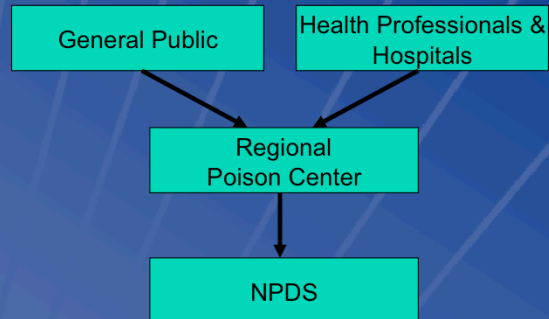


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## NPDS Data Flow



**Key:**

Data Source

NPDS User

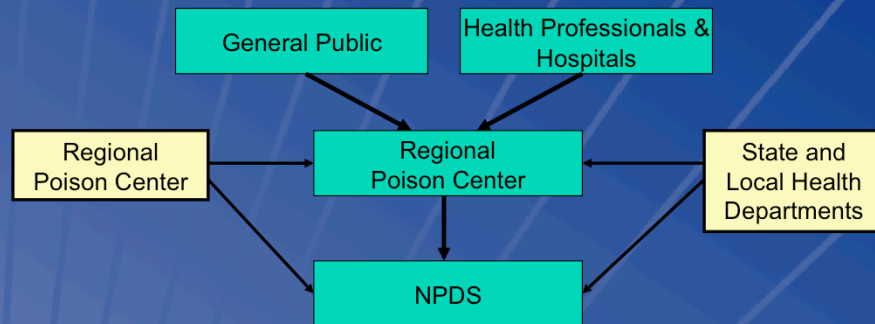


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## NPDS Data Flow



**Key:**

Data Source

NPDS User



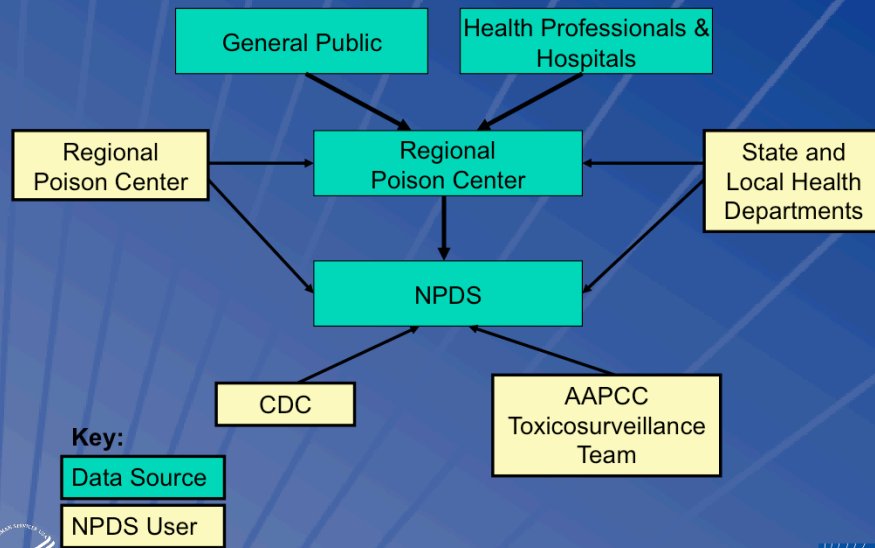
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## NPDS Data Flow



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## NPDS Functionality

- Automated surveillance definitions
  - Anomalies in call volume
  - Anomalies in number of symptoms reported
  - Case definitions
- Email alerts



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## Anomaly Characterization

- AAPCC and CDC staff evaluate anomalies for public health significance (PHS)
- Regional PCs contacted as required for additional information
- Confirmed public health issues communicated to state departments of health



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## Use of NPDS for Public Health Emergencies

- Engage individual PCs
  - Assist with surge capacity and triage calls
  - Code calls appropriately
- Conduct national surveillance
  - Identify potential cases
  - Track temporal and spatial distribution
  - Characterize illness symptoms and severity
  - Report potential cases to state HD



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## Example Emergency Response: Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill



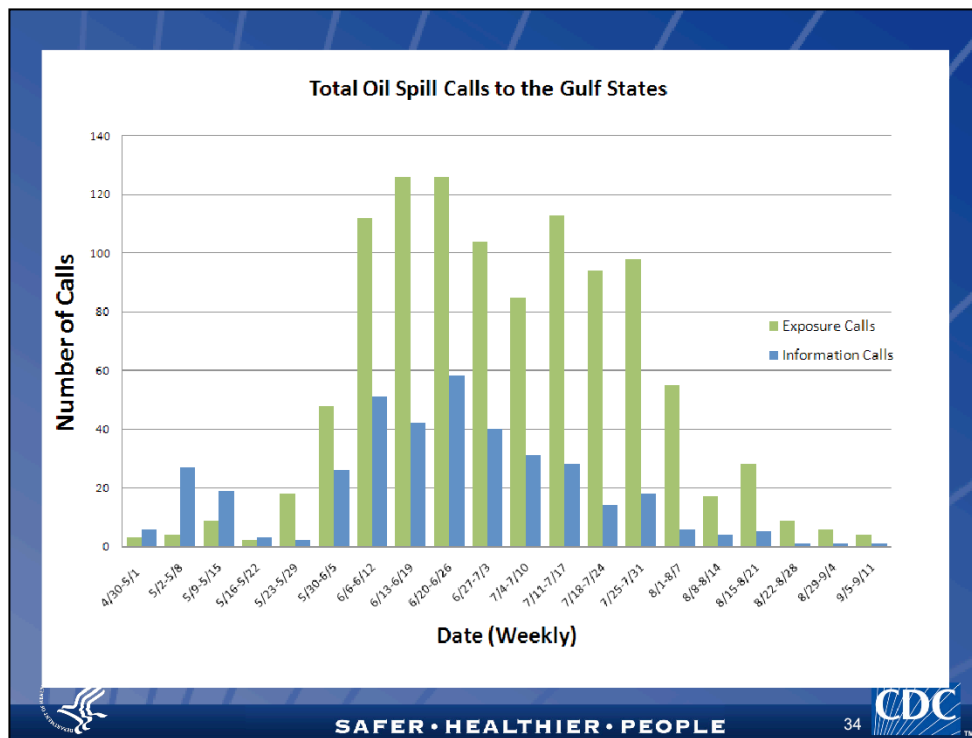
- 4/20/10 explosion occurred on Deepwater Horizon
- CDC used NPDS to track reported exposures
  - Track oil spill related calls
  - Track exposure to dispersants, seafood contamination
- Provided daily reports to CDC Emergency Operations Center
- State-specific data sent to the states daily



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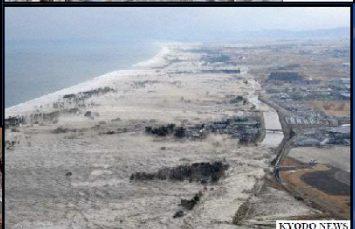
4/30/10 to 9/11/10, 1838 total oil spill calls from 40 states

1160 (63%) exposure calls

1525 (83%) calls from the Gulf States

92 calls regarding oil spill dispersants

60 calls regarding seafood contaminations



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## CDC Response

- Tracking reported ingestions of countermeasures and perceived risk from radiation
- Identifying health communication needs
  - Potassium Iodide (KI)
  - Other iodide-containing products
  - Radiation

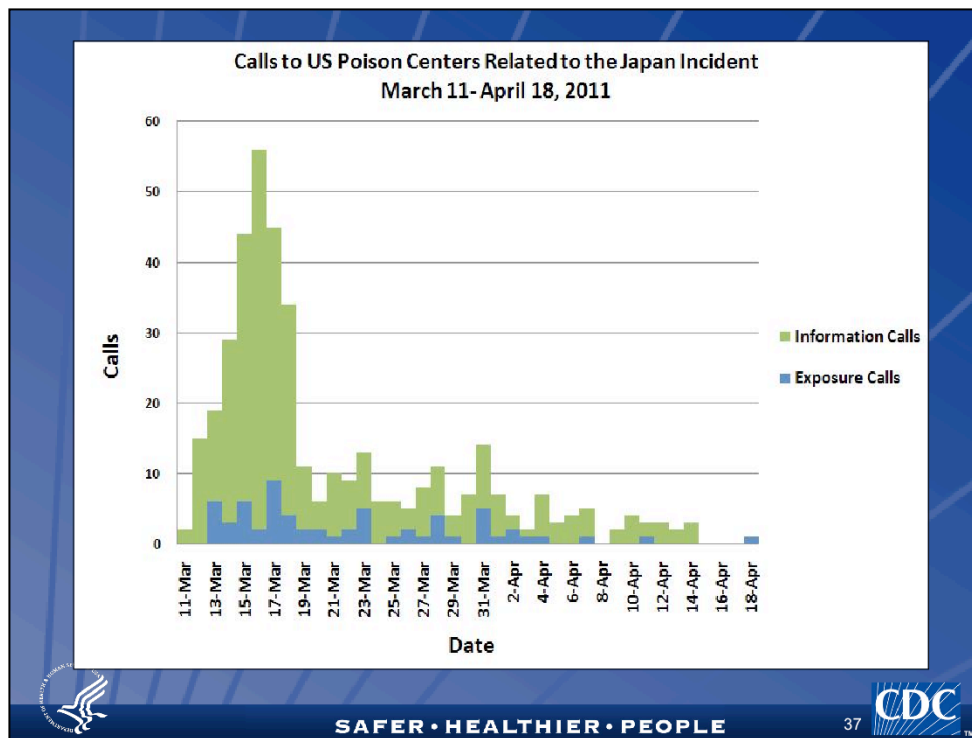


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March 11 to April 18, 404 total incident-related calls  
 340 (84%) information requests  
 64 (16%) reported exposures

## Characteristics of Confirmed Exposures

- Potassium Iodide – 24 exposures
  - No overdoses
  - Little to no adverse drug reactions
- Other Iodide products – 10 exposures
  - Kelp
  - Iodine-containing salt
  - 'Rabano Yodado'



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## Community of Practice: Poison Center and Public Health Collaborations for Surveillance

- The need for increased collaboration between local, state and federal public officials and regional poison centers
  - Objective: bolster collaboration through sharing best practices, information exchanging and networking across jurisdictions
  - Webinars, in-person meetings and web-based forum
  - Over 200 members



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## phConnect.org

- A web-based Community of Practice forum enables posting of documents and exchange of information across jurisdictions
- Over 80 members are enrolled



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Thank you!

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U.S. EPA Technology Innovation Program  
U.S. EPA Technical Support Project Engineering Forum  
Green Power America: Opening the Door to Field Use Research (Green Power America: Opening the Door to Field Use Research)  
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