



Briefs

AllHealth Appoints Operations VP, Further Develops Its Security Lines

AllHealth Security, HASC's hospital security company, continues to develop new services reflecting the needs of hospitals post-Sept. 11.

The most important change: the appointment of Roland Hartwell, new vice president of operations. Most recently the director of security for Long Beach Memorial Hospital and a recognized leader in security and law enforcement in Southern California, Hartwell joined AllHealth on Nov. 26. Along with Aviva Truesdell, senior vice president, Hartwell will develop AllHealth Security's field staff and management to meet the challenges of the current security environment.

Priorities will include additional training in bioterrorism and management

of bioterror incidents; stronger ties with law enforcement officials on a local and regional basis; and developing assessment tools for hospitals to evaluate their current security and safety programs. Hartwell also will become a staff resource for the HASC Safety and Security Committee, comprised of a cross section of hospital safety and security directors from the six-county HASC area.

"I am excited to be joining AllHealth Security at this point in the evolution of hospital security programs," Hartwell said. "Hospitals are facing many challenges in responding to the changes in their individual communities as well as national events. Having worked

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New HASC Business Partners Focus on Medicaid Recovery, HIPAA Consulting

HASC welcomes Great Lakes Billing Services, Inc. (GLBS) and McLure-Moynihan, Inc. (MMI) as preferred businesses that will expedite action and save time for participants.

Medicaid Recovery (GLBS)

Headquartered in Chicago and led by James Knepper, Esq., GLBS offers reimbursement recovery for out-of-state Medicaid. GLBS has specialized in this business for 15 years and helps hospitals of all sizes and locations recoup Medicaid dollars. GLBS focuses on hospitals performing major medical procedures for non-residents, and hospitals near major tourist attractions, vacation spots and state borders.

GLBS seeks to eliminate the time-consuming process and extensive paperwork involved in securing out-of-state Medicaid payments from 49 separate Medicaid agencies and gives your staff time to concentrate on other reimbursement recovery. Any hospital can use GLBS services for an unlimited number of referrals.

To sign up, call GLBS at (800) 544-3458. Then notify GLBS by fax or e-mail when you have a patient who has declared healthcare coverage as out-of-state Medicaid. GLBS screens the patient, researches Medicaid eligibility and pursues reimbursement. You pay only for GLBS services upon receipt of your Medicaid payment.

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Assembly Committee Holds Orange County Hearing on Terrorism Preparedness Dec. 7

The Speakers' Task Force on the Impact of Terrorism in California and the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions held a hearing Dec. 7 in Santa Ana on terrorism security, readiness and awareness. Committee on Business and Professions Chair

Assemblymember Lou Correa (D-Santa Ana) presided over the hearing.

Orange County Supervisor Cythia Coad led the opening panel, commenting on local efforts of county agencies and coordination taking place with other state and federal agencies. Supervisor Coad was joined by Sheriff's Department and California Highway Patrol representatives. It was quickly pointed out

The more law enforcement agencies, hospitals, firefighters and other public service agencies are expected to be better trained and prepared to respond to acts of terrorism, the greater the demand will be for domestic preparedness funding.

how vital it is to have collaboration among law enforcement, health care and fire agencies.

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Terrorism Response Training Offered to Inland Hospitals

The U.S. Department of Justice will conduct two terrorism response courses on "Hospital Emergency Management: Concepts and Implications of Weapons of Mass Destruction" this January in San Bernardino.

Jan. 14-15 / 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
St. Bernardine Medical Center

The training is being offered through the city of San Bernardino as part of the federal Domestic Preparedness Program, which was established to assist large metropolitan areas to improve their homeland security capabilities.

The city has extended an invitation to all hospitals in San Bernardino County to attend one of the courses. Only 40 slots are available per session; reservations will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

The eight-hour courses will be conducted on Monday, Jan. 14 and Tuesday, Jan. 15, 2002, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at St. Bernardine Medical Center's main conference center.

Through this program, the city of San Bernardino will receive training, exercises and equipment to improve local emergency responders' capabilities to prepare for and respond to terrorist incidents involving weapons of mass destruction of nuclear, biological and chemical natures.

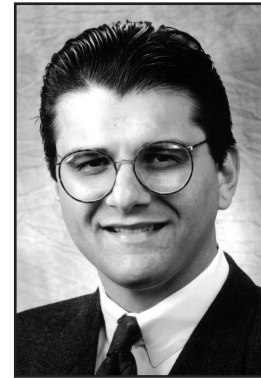
Hospitals interested in attending can contact Miguel Ascarrunz, disaster management coordinator, City of San Bernardino, at (909) 384-5115.

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OC Supervisors Appoint Bastone to Emergency Medical Care Committee

Peter Bastone, president/CEO, Mission Hospital Regional Medical Center, becomes the newest member of the Orange County Emergency Medical Care Committee (EMCC) following his appointment by the Board of Supervisors. In addition to the 12 EMCC members appointed to represent specific constituencies participating in the emergency medical system, each county supervisor may appoint one member, bringing total committee membership to 17. Supervisor Tom Wilson, District 5, recommended Bastone's appointment to the EMCC.

The Board of Supervisors is required by law to appoint an EMCC, which is to advise the Board of Supervisors and the Orange County Emergency Medical Services Agency on all matters relating to emergency medical care. The EMCC also oversees Orange County's trauma center and receiving center system; pre-hospital care; emergency medical transportation; and



Peter Bastone

education and training.

Bastone brings considerable experience in trauma center and receiving center operation to the committee as a current member, and

former chair, of the CHA Trauma and Emergency Services Committee. He will join colleague Dan Brothman, CEO, Western Medical Center/Santa Ana, on the EMCC. Brothman is the current designated hospital representative and EMCC chairman.

Bastone's term of office runs through June 30, 2003.

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Bridges Provides Venue for Launch of Parents Kit

Bridges staff at Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian hosted a media event on Dec. 4 to present the new Parents Kit for newborns and their families.

Produced by the state of California and referred to as the "Baby Kit", these instructional tools have been anticipated by the 12 participating Bridges hospitals for the past year. The kits are now available in English and Spanish and soon will be available in Vietnamese.

The Baby Kit is a colorful box full of instructional materials and videos on

subjects ranging from child safety to nutrition and literacy.

Objective of Bridges:

- To increase the proportion of insured newborns with a healthcare home.

The state selected the Bridges for Newborns program as a vehicle to distribute the Baby Kits because the kits fit with the objective of Bridges: to increase the proportion of insured newborns with a healthcare home.

The 12 participating Bridges hospitals will help to distribute the kits, which hospitals and individuals may order.

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Upcoming HASC Educational Events for 2002

Mark Your Calendar for These HASC Programs

HASC educational events cover a range of healthcare topics. For more information about any of the following events, please visit www.hasc.org, then go to Membership, Education. Registration for these events also is available online at www.hasc.org, Event Registration.

Wednesday, January 16

An Overview of Infection Control During Construction: Audio/Web Conference

AudioNet Conference (1 - 2:30 p.m.)

A Guide to Prevention & JCAHO Compliance

Contact: Jeannette Johnson (213) 538-0729 jjohnson@hasc.org

This program is intended to assist professionals who maintain and modify healthcare organizations to better understand and prepare for the new requirements of state and national organizations.

Presented by Wayne Hansen, director of engineering for Mintie Corporation, the program is based on a book of the same title.

The audio portion of the program works like any other telephone conference but includes access to the presenter's visual materials simultaneously through the Internet. Questions can be asked either over the phone or via e-mail. An audionet conference room requires a telephone connection with a speakerphone, a computer with Internet access, an LCD projector (to connect to the computer) and a group leader to monitor the room.

The HASC member fee for the program, which is sponsored by California Healthcare Association, Hospital Council of Northern and Central California, and Healthcare Association of San Diego and Imperial Counties, is \$279 for one telephone/Internet connection; the non-member fee is \$379. Registration is required by Jan. 12.

Monday, January 28

Infectious Material Containment During Construction-Related Activities

Hoag Memorial Hospital, Newport Beach (7:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.)

A HASC Educational Program

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Awareness of the impact of construction and renovation projects on nosocomial infections—particularly Aspergillosis, TB and Legionellosis—recently has increased. With the growing population of severely immunocompromised patients and the healthcare industry's continued demands to install modern equipment and renovate and construct new buildings, it is imperative that healthcare facilities implement the environment of care standards being set by regulatory agencies. Environmental disturbances associated with construction projects pose airborne and waterborne risks for a large population of susceptible patients, increasing the risk of nosocomial infections, morbidity and mortality.

This program is intended to assist professionals who maintain and modify healthcare environments to better understand and prepare for the new requirements of national and state organizations.

Program fee, which includes breakfast, lunch and handouts, is \$150 for HASC members, \$225 for non-member organizations.

Tuesday, February 5

Hazmat Conference: Pitfalls & Pearls for Hospital & EMS Responders

Kellogg West Conference Center, Pomona (7:15 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.)

Contact: Jeannette Johnson (213) 538-0729 jjohnson@hasc.org

Wednesday, February 6

Hazmat Conference: Pitfalls & Pearls for Hospital & EMS Responders

Hilton Glendale, Glendale (7:15 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.)

Contact: Jeannette Johnson (213) 538-0729 jjohnson@hasc.org

At the conclusion of this one-day interactive training session, participants will be able to:

- Develop a HAZMAT plan for their organization
- Organize a HAZMAT operation
- Identify and define medical references
- Don and doff PPE (from an interactive demonstration)
- Decon an ambulatory and non-ambulatory patient (from an interactive demonstration)
- Identify and discuss the importance of bio-planning for hospital preparedness

The program will be taught by Craig DeAtley, PA-C, Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at The George Washington University. DeAtley has more than 25 years of experience related to EMS and hospital operation in the areas of hazardous materials, disaster medicine and weapons of mass destruction. He serves as a consultant to CDC, OEP, AHRQ, DOJ and IOM. DeAtley also will share firsthand experience from being in World Trade Center Building 7 when the disaster occurred on Sept. 11 and will shed light on lessons learned from the anthrax response in the Washington Metro Area.

Program fee, which includes breakfast, lunch, handouts and self-parking, is \$150 for HASC members, \$225 for non-member organizations.

New*Continued from page 3***HIPAA Consulting (MMI)**

Early next year, MMI launches its HIPAA consulting network to supplement HIPAA implementation. Designed to answer questions at all stages of the implementation plan process, MMI offers resources and project management advice via phone, fax, e-mail and through a listserv. User workshops, self-

assessment, GAP analysis, vendor evaluation, project management and training are a few of the services offered. Based in Agoura Hills and led by Marcia McLure, Ph.D., and James Moynihan, MMI staff has been involved in HIPAA since its inception.

The listserv connects members to each other to exchange ideas and information. MMI tracks all of the information requests from their interactions with

members and from the listserv, and keeps HASC alerted to members' issues as they unfold. Working with CHA, HASC can stay in front on "in-the-trenches" HIPAA implementation problems and solutions. HASC members access this service for a flat annual fee. Look for more information on MMI after the holidays.

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OC Health Care By the Numbers

The *Orange County Business Journal* published an updated list of the 50 largest area employers. Hospitals/healthcare organizations are well represented in the list.

Number	Organization	Employees in O.C.
2	University of California, Irvine (includes UCI Medical Center)	14,981
5	St. Joseph Health System	9,435
6	Tenet Healthcare Corp.	8,389
13	PacifiCare Health Systems	4,387
15	Memorial Health Services	3,718
19	Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian	3,350
20	Kaiser Permanente	3,319

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A second panel commented on preparedness issues related to public health and local hospitals. The panel included Hildy Meyers, MD, Orange County Health Care Agency; Jon Gilwee, vice president, HASC; Connie Stalcup, RN, trauma program director, Mission Hospital; and Lisa Reiser, RN, associate director, UCI Medical Center. Gilwee commented on the numerous challenges already facing Orange County's hospitals, including seismic compliance and the

nursing shortage. He described Orange County hospitals' stellar response in the recent Statewide Medical Disaster Drill. "The more law enforcement agencies, hospitals, firefighters and other public service agencies are expected to be better trained and prepared to respond to acts of terrorism, the greater the demand will be for domestic preparedness funding," Gilwee said.

Stalcup and Reiser commented on the activities their hospitals are undertaking to increase preparedness and the challenges presented. Dr. Meyers

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with AllHealth as a security contractor gave me unique insight into the many talents and strengths the organization brings to hospitals."

Hartwell's 13 years of experience in Southern California healthcare security management and 20 years in law enforcement will help hospitals and staff to raise their security programs to new heights while maintaining the guest relations and service roles hospital security traditionally provides.

AllHealth Security also is developing new arrangements for 2002 that will provide security equipment such as monitoring, access control and other devices to hospitals to manage and control facility access and safety.

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discussed communication and surveillance activities from a public health perspective.

Other panels covered preparedness issues with local law enforcement and fire agency representatives, and the impacts related to terrorism being experienced on the local economy and tourism.

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