pants were stratified by their relative risk of cyanide exposure of fire prevalence, cyanide-related industries, and transportation systems using data acquired by Geographic Information Systems.

Results: More than 800 ALS providers were identified for inclusion in this study. The results of this study will be reported during the presentation.

Conclusion: The results of this study suggest the need for additional research and possible modifications in the practices and procedures for treating cyanide exposure due to smoke inhalation in the prehospital setting.

Keywords: advanced life support; attitudes; cyanide; cyanide exposure; knowledge; practices; prehospital

Establishment of a Pharmacist Consulting Team for Statewide Bioterrorism Preparedness

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Introduction: Mass medication dispensing is an essential part of the emergency response to bioterrorism-related events.

Objective: This presentation describes the establishment of a pharmacist consulting team for statewide bioterrorism preparedness in Rhode Island.

Methods: The Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH) recognized the importance of involving pharmacists in planning for bioterrorist events, and recruited five pharmacy consultants through an application process. Those hired included a community pharmacist, three faculty members from the University of Rhode Island with specialties in community pharmacy, infectious disease, pharmacoepidemiology, and a pharmacist with expertise in pharmacoinformatics. They received training from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention–recognized Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Training in Anniston, Alabama. Their time was paid through federal and state grants.

Results: The pharmacist consulting team and the RIDOH together have developed an emergency plan for mass antibiotic distribution, including drug selection algorithms, drug and disease information for patients, and patient assessment tools. This plan was exercised statewide in August 2003, including the receipt and breakdown of an SNS Training Education and Demonstration package. One outcome of this exercise was the development of an inventory management tool, which several states have adopted. The RIDOH has helped improve the level of bioterrorism preparedness in Rhode Island.

Conclusion: Collaboration between a pharmacist consulting team and the RIDOH has helped improve the level of bioterrorism preparedness in Rhode Island.

Keywords: bioterrorism; pharmacists; pharmacist consulting team; preparedness; Rhode Island