



RC/PIO News & Notes

October 2, 2026

A Weekly Update from **Eric Jens, Risk Communicator** – Georgia Department of Public Health. Contents may be FYUO – For Your Use Only

News & Notes

Highlights this week include another DPH Media / CERC training, an Atlanta Urban Area Security Initiative exercise, and the latest update on measles cases in Georgia.

Measles

DPH continues to respond to additional measles cases in Georgia. A state DPH [News Release](#) this week captures the latest 2026 case numbers and continues to promote preventative actions. Such actions are also being promoted through marketing campaigns in targeted areas of the state. With five additional cases this week, Georgia has 21 confirmed measles cases so far in 2026. Georgia had 10 confirmed measles cases in 2025.

UASI Exercise

A functional exercise hosted by the Atlanta Urban Area Security Initiative brought multiple agencies together on Thursday at the Atlanta Public Safety Training Center. Interoperable and redundant communications were key measures tested throughout the exercise. The exercise scenario was that of a Category 5 hurricane making landfall in Georgia and continuing an inland track at hurricane strength that severely damaged infrastructure and communication capabilities.



CERC Training

Medical professionals from the Georgia Poison Center were the most recent participants in the DPH Media / Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication (CERC) class held on Wednesday at Grady Hospital. This specialized group allowed for great discussions and provided some new considerations for future classes. Thanks to everyone involved in setting up the event and to those who made it an educational and engaging day. We greatly appreciate Dr. Brent Morgan and Dr. Ziad Kazzi who helped make this possible and look forward to future collaboration.



Next Week Preview

Various Communications and Emergency Preparedness-related events will be held throughout the week ahead. On Wednesday there will be a disaster response symposium in Rome.

About "News & Notes"

"News & Notes" is a weekly communication for risk communicators and public information officers across Georgia's 18 public health districts. The goal of this communication is to enhance preparedness by exchanging information on significant events, training, and other planned activities. Some information herein may be considered FYUO (For Your Use Only). Please be judicious when forwarding. For questions, comments, or to submit information for inclusion, contact Eric Jens at Eric.Jens@dph.ga.gov.

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