

## **2011 Report of the Emergency Services Coalition on Medical Preparedness**

The Emergency Services Coalition on Medical Preparedness (Coalition) had a highly successful 2011. During the year national associations representing first responders and emergency services providers recognized the Coalition as a formal organization dedicated to representing their interests. The Coalition was widely consulted in policy circles and by leading health and homeland security legislators and their staffs.

### **Highlights of 2011**

- **Congressional Testimony:** Lawrence E. Tan (Chief of Emergency Medical Services, New Castle County, DE) testified (May 12, 2011) before the Emergency Preparedness, Response, and Communications Subcommittee of the House Homeland Security.
- **Congressional Hearing:** Coalition letter (Sept. 2011) to Chairman King of the House Committee Homeland Security prompts scheduling of a hearing on emergency services protection for spring 2012.
- **Meetings:** In August in conjunction with the Fire Rescue International meeting the Coalition engaged the federal agencies including the National Guard Bureau, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Strategic National Stockpile, the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Agency, and the Office of Health Affairs in the Department of Homeland Security.
- **Briefings:**
  - 15 Members of the US Congress, 6 Members of the US Senate, including all Committees of relevant jurisdiction.
  - Senior BARDA staff (Robinson, Hatchett, Yesky) on proposed development path for a medkit for emergency services providers (10/23/2011).
  - Inter Agency Board (IAB) (11/10/11).
- **Other Activities:**
  - Provided feedback to Senate Committee on PAHPA Reauthorization Act (12/3/11).
  - Coalition invited to join the Inter Agency Board.

### **Activities for 2012**

- The Coalition will continue to expand its influence and effectiveness as an advocate for its membership before Congress, the Executive Branch.
- The Coalition has established a new effort to developing an education plan and awareness campaign to advance the following goals:
  - Boost immunization levels across emergency services.
  - Support a voluntary anthrax immunization program.
  - Lead the development of a private-public home antibiotic kit for providers, dependents and families.

### **Administrative Report**

The Coalition has chosen the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM) as the administrative lead for the Coalition. The Coalition held one in-person organizational meeting; administrative conference calls through out the year; and hosted a meeting in conjunction with the Fire Rescue International meeting in August. The Coalition is funded by unrestricted educational grants from private companies.