

August 4, 2003

Dear Doctor:

Last winter the Northeast Pennsylvania Area Health Education Center (NEPA AHEC) surveyed the physicians in our rural counties to clarify issues surrounding continuing education. Over 120 of you responded, with observations about the time and resource commitment to continuing education and the means, traditional and technological, that you wish to use. It was clear from your responses that many of you want more information on bioterrorism, and that it should be accessible on-line.

We want to draw your attention to the *Learning Management System (LMS)* recently set up by the PA Department of Health. It is a web-based system for education and information-sharing regarding bioterrorism and other public health issues. There is a fact sheet attached to this letter which gives details on the system. Users can access the system from any computer that is connected to the Internet. CME credit is currently available for one topic, and is scheduled for the whole system by October. The system continues to grow and develop, with new courses added on a regular basis.

It is very simple to sign up to take a look at the system. If you wish to access it, please contact me by phone (945-5623) or email (vera.walline@keystone.edu), providing your name and email address. Your User ID and initial password will be emailed to you.

As your local contact, I am happy to offer to share your thoughts and concerns about the system with Andy Mariella, the Administrator of LMS for the PA Department of Health in Harrisburg (717-346-0640), but feel free to contact either of us at any time. We are both interested in making this system work to meet your needs.

Sincerely,

Vera Walline
Program Coordinator