

IVR for Maryland Hot Topics Line

Thank you for calling the Maryland Hot Topics line.

Press 1 for English

Press 2 for Spanish

If this is a medical emergency please hang up and call 911. If this is a mental health problem please call 800-422-0009.

Options from the IVR:

Option #1 Breaking Health related news

1. SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome)
2. Immunizations for school age children
3. Mold prevention

Option #2 West Nile Virus and Mosquito's

1. West Nile Virus
2. What the state is doing to protect us
3. How to decrease mosquito's
4. Dead Birds
5. Jurisdictions: Number of positive cases reported in Humans Equine and Mosquito's in 2004.
6. Pesticide Illness

Option #3 Eastern Equine Encephalitis (aka Triple E)

1. Triple E
2. Number of cases reported
3. Steps to prevent

Option #4 Bio-terrorism

1. General Public
 - 1.) Anthrax
 - 2.) Suspicious letters and packages
 - 3.) Maryland Anthrax surveillance
 - 4.) Patient and Environmental anthrax test information
 - 5.) Small pox
 - 6.) Coping with recent terrorist attacks
2. Healthcare Providers
 - 1.) Anthrax
 - 2.) Patient and Environmental anthrax test information
 - 3.) Small pox
 - 4.) Web pages and Fax information about small pox, anthrax and Bio-terrorism

- 5.) Messages for Health Care Providers who want to volunteer
- 6.) For treatment questions push (0) for the operator assistance.

3. Businesses

- 1.) Anthrax
- 2.) Suspicious letters and packages
- 3.) Maryland Anthrax Surveillance
- 4.) Patient and Environmental anthrax test information
- 5.) Further information push (0) for operator (DHMH) assistance.

Option #5 Potassium Iodide

Maryland has taken advantage of the National Regulatory Commission to give out KI packets. They are free if you live within a 10 miles of a Nuclear Power Plant. The Potassium Iodide helps protect your Thyroid Gland in case of exposure to radiation. If you do not live within the 10 miles of a Nuclear Power Plant please contact your local health department or pharmacist. There are 2 different plants: Peach Bottom Nuclear Power Plant and the Calvert Cliffs Power Plant. This option also provides you with your local health department where the power plants are located.

Option #6 Influenza

- 1.) Information on Influenza (signs and symptoms)
- 2.) Who should get the flu shot
- 3.) Where to get the flu shot. (listing for local health departments)

If you stay on the line and press none of the options the call comes into us. Otherwise everything is just informational except option #4 which transfers to DHMH.