

Aware Prepare Update



Department
of Health

Office of
Health Emergency
Preparedness

June 2023

Welcome to the **June 2023** issue of the Aware Prepare (AP) Update. The AP is your bi-monthly guide to upcoming trainings related to preparedness, readiness and response. These trainings may be provided in one or more of the following formats, including: live webcasts, webinars and in-person training; archived webcasts, webinars and on demand e-learning much of which can be accessed through the NYS Department of Health's (NYSDOH's) [NYLearnsPH.com](https://www.ny.gov/learns-ph) Learning Management System (LMS). Questions or submissions, email: edlearn@health.ny.gov

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NYS Office of Mental Health (NYS OMH) [New York's 988 web page](https://www.ny.gov/988). 988 is the three-digit number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (NSPL) is available nation-wide.

[Español](#) [中文](#) [Русский](#) [עברית](#) [বাঙালি](#) [한국어](#) [Kreyòl](#)
[Aisyen](#) [Italiano](#) [العربية](#) [Polski](#) [Français](#) [اردو](#)

ICYMI: GOVERNOR HOCHUL – Preparedness Related Press Releases

[ICYMI: Buffalo News Editorial: Gun Laws and a More Sensible Culture Keep This State Safer Than Bloody Texas](#)

May 29, 2023 | 12:41 PM EDT

The Buffalo News published an editorial on gun violence and how Governor Hochul has strengthened New York's gun laws.

[Ahead of Memorial Day Weekend, Governor Hochul Welcomes Visitors to State Beaches and Updates New Yorkers on Ongoing Shark Safety Protocols](#)

May 26, 2023 | 11:44 AM EDT

Governor Hochul encouraged travelers to safely enjoy state parks, beaches, trails and historic sites across NY this Memorial Day weekend.

[Governor Hochul Announces New Actions to Drive Down Growing Presence of Illicit Drug Xylazine and Prevent Overdoses](#)

May 25, 2023 | 02:27 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced new actions to address the spread of xylazine in New York State, including a new effort to supply free test strips through NYS agencies.

[Governor Hochul Announces \\$10 Million to Advance Innovation in Clean Hydrogen Research, Development and Demonstration Projects](#)

May 24, 2023 | 12:16 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced a \$10 million initiative to advance research, development and demonstration projects that address the challenge of replacing fossil fuel usage in hard-to-electrify sectors.

[Governor Hochul Honors Fallen Emergency Medical Services Providers With Memorial Dedication During EMS Week](#)

• **[Video, Audio, Photos & Rush Transcript](#)**

May 23, 2023 | 02:15 PM EDT

Governor Hochul honored eight Emergency Medical Services Providers who died while serving and protecting New Yorkers.

[Governor Hochul Announces Five Additional Listening Sessions to Advance Clean Water, Clean Air, and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act](#)

May 23, 2023 | 12:17 PM EDT

Governor Hochul named the next five locations in the statewide educational listening tour to advance the Clean Water, Clean Air and Green Jobs Environmental Bond Act

[Video, Audio, Photos & Rush Transcript: Governor Hochul and Mayor Adams Call for Expedited Work Authorization for Asylum Seekers](#)

May 22, 2023 | 12:24 PM EDT

Governor Hochul, joined by Mayor Adams, called for expedited work authorization for asylum seekers.

[Governor Hochul Announces New York State Citizen Preparedness Corps Trainings Now Online in Multiple Languages](#)

May 17, 2023 | 02:30 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced the New York State [Citizen Preparedness Corps](#) program is now offering online training to New Yorkers in English and with subtitles for 12 additional languages.

• *New Training Videos Educating New Yorkers on Emergency Preparedness Now Available in 13 Languages [on YouTube](#)*

ICYMI: GOVERNOR HOCHUL – Preparedness Related Press Releases

[Governor Hochul Announces \\$8 Million Now Available for New Climate Smart Community Projects](#)

May 16, 2023 | 12:50 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced \$8 million is now available for the [Climate Smart Communities Grant](#) program to help municipalities take action to address climate change.

[Governor Hochul Announces \\$55 Million Available to Enhance Public Safety and Emergency Communications Systems](#)

May 15, 2023 | 04:31 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced a \$55 million grant opportunity for improvement and maintenance of the state's emergency communications systems and public safety answering points.

[Governor Hochul Signs Legislation to Strengthen Health Care Workforce](#)

May 15, 2023 | 03:05 PM EDT

Governor Hochul signed legislation that strengthens New York's health care workforce by permitting nursing students to complete up to one third of their clinical training through simulation experiences.

[Video, Audio, Photos & Rush Transcript: Governor Hochul Delivers Remarks at Memorial Service for Healing and Hope](#)

May 14, 2023 | 09:09 PM EDT

Governor Hochul delivered remarks at the Memorial Service for Healing and Hope in Buffalo, New York.

[On the One-Year Anniversary of Mass Shooting at Tops Supermarket in Buffalo, Governor Hochul Announces Nearly \\$10 Million to Address Vital Needs of East Buffalo](#)

May 14, 2023 | 05:14 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced nearly \$10 million in investments and grant awards as part of the state's ongoing efforts to address the needs of the East Buffalo community.

[Video, Audio, Photos & Rush Transcript: Governor Hochul Delivers Remarks at Moment of Remembrance at Tops Friendly Markets in Buffalo](#)

May 14, 2023 | 04:24 PM EDT

This afternoon, Governor Hochul delivered remarks at a Moment of Remembrance at Tops Friendly Markets in Buffalo, New York.

[Statement from Governor Hochul and New York Delegation Dean Nadler on Bipartisan Meeting](#)

May 12, 2023 | 03:10 PM EDT

"Today we convened New York's bipartisan Congressional delegation to discuss the end of Title 42 and the asylum seekers arriving in New York City."

[Governor Hochul Urges President Biden to Mobilize Federal Government to Provide Shelter for Asylum Seekers Arriving in New York City](#)

May 12, 2023 | 02:58 PM EDT

Governor Hochul issued a letter to President Biden, urging him to direct additional federal resources to NY as it faces asylum seekers set to arrive as Title 42 expires.

[Governor Hochul Announces Thousands of State Jobs Available in Critical Health and Human Services Titles](#)

• Updated: [Español](#) [中文](#) [Русский](#) [עִבְרִית](#) [বাঙালি](#) [한국어](#) [Kreyòl](#)
[Avisyen](#) [Italiano](#) [العربية](#) [Polski](#) [Français](#) [اردو](#)

May 10, 2023 | 01:57 PM EDT

Governor Hochul announced thousands of state jobs are open and available for immediate hiring in the health and human services fields.

ICYMI: NYS Department of Health – Preparedness Related Press Releases

May 25, 2023

- [New York State Department of Health Reminds New Yorkers to Follow Safety Precautions for Memorial Day Gatherings](#)
 - [Español](#) [中文](#) [Русский](#) [עברית](#) [বাঙালি](#) [한국어](#) [Kreyòl](#)
[Ayisyen](#) [Italiano](#) [العربية](#) [Polski](#) [Français](#) [اردو](#)

May 24, 2023

- [New York State Department of Health Statement on Repealing the COVID-19 Healthcare Worker Vaccine Requirement](#)
 - [Español](#) [中文](#) [Русский](#) [עברית](#) [বাঙালি](#) [한국어](#) [Kreyòl](#)
[Ayisyen](#) [Italiano](#) [العربية](#) [Polski](#) [Français](#) [اردو](#)
- [New York State Department of Health Recognizes Lyme Disease Awareness Month in May](#)
 - [Español](#) [中文](#) [Русский](#) [עברית](#) [বাঙালি](#) [한국어](#) [Kreyòl](#)
[Ayisyen](#) [Italiano](#) [العربية](#) [Polski](#) [Français](#) [اردو](#)

May 23, 2023

- [Governor Hochul Honors Fallen Emergency Medical Services Providers With Memorial Dedication During EMS Week](#)

May 18, 2023

- [New York State Department of Health Leads with Groundbreaking Mpox Vaccine Effectiveness Studies](#)
 - [Español](#) [中文](#) [Русский](#) [עברית](#) [বাঙালি](#) [한국어](#) [Kreyòl](#)
[Ayisyen](#) [Italiano](#) [العربية](#) [Polski](#) [Français](#) [اردو](#)
 - *View the DOH Led Study [Here](#) and the CDC Study [Here](#).*

May 15, 2023

- [Governor Hochul Reminds New Yorkers to Take Action to Stay Covered Through New York State Marketplace](#)
- [Governor Hochul Signs Legislation to Strengthen Health Care Workforce](#)

May 12, 2023

- [CONSUMER ALERT: Attorney General James and Acting Department of Health Commissioner Dr. McDonald Issue Alert to Protect New Yorkers from Health Insurance Renewal Scams](#)
- [Governor Hochul Updates New Yorkers on State's Progress Combating COVID-19](#)

###

A Note from the Commissioner

Today, June 1st, marks the beginning of Gun Violence Awareness Month, a time to pause and consider the impact of gun violence. A time to consider our efforts to strengthen equity and bring about positive change that contributes to creating healthier and safer environments for all.

In New York, and nationwide, gun violence is the leading cause of premature death. It is also the number one cause of death for children 19 and under, surpassing traffic accidents for the first time ever. This is stunning. This is preventable. This is a public health crisis, impeding our efforts to close racial health gaps and achieve health equity, as people of color are far more likely to be killed or injured by gun violence.

How do we stop this crisis? We start by acknowledging that gun violence is preventable. We need a comprehensive public health approach that keeps families and communities safe. An approach that considers the social determinants of health and invests in communities with the highest rates of gun violence to fill in gaps in services, resources, and opportunities

NYS Department of Health Resources - A Note from the Commissioner (Continued)

Strong gun laws also save lives. Here in New York, we have some of the strongest gun laws in the country, including requirements for safe gun storage and background checks. The Red Flag Law, also known as the Extreme Risk Protection Order Law, was signed into law in 2019. It prevents individuals who show signs of being a threat to themselves or others from purchasing or possessing any kind of firearm. After the heartbreaking mass shooting at Tops Supermarket in Buffalo last May, Governor Hochul expanded the scope of the Red Flag Law to require the use of this law by New York State Police when there is probable cause and to allow input and petitioning from health care practitioners and mental health professionals when concerned about the health and safety of patients.

During this month, I encourage everyone to follow the Department's Instagram and Twitter as we share important information about gun violence and its pervasive impacts. Let's foster open dialogues to promote understanding and empathy. Let's elevate the voices of survivors, families, and communities devastated by gun violence. Let's continue to do all that we can so that New Yorkers can run errands, go to school, or enjoy a family outing and still make it back home.

Together, let us confidently look forward to a day, when all New Yorkers live in the peace of mind knowing they are safe from gun violence. This will not happen by accident, it will happen as we work together, with our partners doing the hard work of solving problems together.

###

NYSDOH – Opioid Prevention – Data to Action Report

The New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) has just released the latest report (attached) in a series of Data to Action reports to support efforts to prevent opioid overdose deaths in the state. Data to Action reports are short communications on important topics that provide specific data to mobilize public health action. This report, *Xylazine Awareness in New York State, 2021*, is meant to inform the general public, healthcare providers, local health departments, emergency medical service providers, and county coroners/medical examiners about the presence of xylazine in overdose deaths involving opioids. Additionally, it presents data and information to raise awareness of xylazine being found with heroin and fentanyl and warns about serious effects associated with xylazine use in humans, especially regarding potential complications in responding to opioid overdoses.

Important findings of the report:

- Xylazine (“zai-luh-zeen,”) is an [animal tranquilizer and sedative not](#) approved for use in humans, but has been increasingly detected in opioid overdose deaths.
- Starting in 2021, xylazine was tested for in all overdose deaths involving opioids in NYC. Data showed that during 2021, approximately 1 in 5 overdose deaths involving opioids also involved xylazine.
- In NYS outside of NYC, there is variation in local testing protocols and xylazine has not been tested for in all overdose deaths involving opioids. Data for 2021 showed that 1 in 20 opioid-involved overdose deaths also involved xylazine.
- During 2021 in NYC and NYS outside of NYC, all xylazine-involved overdose deaths also involved fentanyl.
- Acute serious effects like heavy sedation, respiratory and central nervous system depression etc., may complicate opioid overdose response, as naloxone will have no impact on the effects of xylazine. However, if someone is suspected to be experiencing a xylazine-involved overdose, naloxone should be administered to reverse the effects of any opioids present.

Please use and share this report with your partners and colleagues. We hope this Data to Action report will be a useful tool in our collective work to prevent overdoses and to improve public health response.

- Please direct opioid prevention related questions and requests for additional information to opioidprevention@health.ny.gov.
- **ICYMI:** Update: Opioid Surveillance Data Dashboard: <https://www.health.ny.gov/opioiddashboard>⁵.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

CDC Health Alert Network (HAN) – [2023 HAN Messages | Health Alert Network \(HAN\)](#)

NEW! May 17th: [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) - 00491 | Outbreak of Suspected Fungal Meningitis in U.S. Patients who Underwent Surgical Procedures under Epidural Anesthesia in Matamoros, Mexico \(cdc.gov\)](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is issuing this Health Alert Network Health Advisory about an outbreak of suspected fungal meningitis among U.S. patients hospitalized in Texas after undergoing cosmetic procedures under epidural anesthesia in the city of Matamoros, state of Tamaulipas, Mexico. It is currently unknown which organism(s) is causing the outbreak. A fungal etiology is suspected based on elevated cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) levels of the fungal biomarker (1,3)-beta-D-glucan in at least one patient. As of May 12, 2023, five patients have been diagnosed with suspected fungal meningitis; all have been hospitalized, and one has died. All these patients received epidural anesthesia and underwent cosmetic procedures. Affected patients underwent procedures in at least two clinics in Matamoros, Mexico, including River Side Surgical Center and Clinica K-3. Other facilities might be identified through further investigation.

Healthcare providers and the public should be aware that patients who underwent medical or surgical procedures under epidural anesthesia in Matamoros, Mexico, and who have developed signs or symptoms of possible meningitis (e.g., fever, headache, stiff neck, nausea, vomiting, photophobia, altered mental status) should promptly seek evaluation by a healthcare provider and convey that medical history.

NEW! May 15th: [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) - 00490 | Potential Risk for New Mpox Cases](#)

In the United States, cases of mpox (formerly monkeypox) have declined since peaking in August 2022, but the outbreak is not over. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to receive reports of cases that reflect ongoing community transmission in the United States and internationally. This week, CDC and local partners are investigating a cluster of mpox cases in the Chicago area. From April 17 to May 5, 2023, a total of [12 confirmed and one probable case of mpox](#) were reported to the Chicago Department of Public Health. All cases were among symptomatic men. **None of the patients have been hospitalized.** Nine (69%) of 13 cases were among men who had received 2 JYNNEOS vaccine doses. Confirmed cases were in 9 (69%) non-Hispanic White men, 2 (15%) non-Hispanic Black men, and 2 (15%) Asian men. The median age was 34 years (range 24–46 years). Travel history was available for 9 cases; 4 recently traveled (New York City, New Orleans, and Mexico).

ICYMI - UPDATE To February 1st: [Health Alert Network \(HAN\) - 00485 | Outbreak of Extensively Drug-resistant Pseudomonas aeruginosa Associated with Artificial Tears \(cdc.gov\)](#) — CDC continues to investigate a [multistate outbreak](#) of an extensively drug-resistant strain of *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* associated with artificial tears. CDC and FDA continue to recommend clinicians and patients stop using and discard EzriCare Artificial Tears **and two additional products made by the same manufacturer**, Delsam Pharma's Artificial Tears, and Delsam Pharma's Artificial Ointment. **Testing of unopened bottles of EzriCare Artificial Tears by FDA identified bacterial contamination;** further characterization of the contaminants is ongoing. Additional information can be found here: [FDA warns consumers not to purchase or use EzriCare Artificial Tears due to potential contamination | FDA](#)

###

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Resources

A Spotlight on Rural, Frontier, and Small Local Health Departments Activities to Eliminate Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI), Antimicrobial Resistance (AR), and Antibiotic Stewardship (AS) — Healthcare-associated infections (HAIs) and antimicrobial-resistant organisms can pose threats to the safety of patients and the overall public. Rural, frontier, and small local health departments (LHDs) play a vital role in their communities as the frontline of public health. Not only do they support community health programs, such as chronic disease prevention or vaccine drives, but LHDs also have an important role in the detection and control of healthcare associated infections (HAI), including those caused by antibiotic-resistant (AR) pathogens. Further, they can provide antibiotic stewardship (AS) education and resources in hard to reach, or resource-limited healthcare settings.

With support from CDC, the National Association for County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) conducted an exploratory survey to examine rural, frontier, and small local health departments' engagement in HAI, AR, and/or AS activities or initiatives. In-depth interviews were conducted to assess facilitators/barriers, partnerships/collaborations, and workforce capacity. NACCHO highlighted key findings from the survey in a [six-part blog series](#). **Interested learning more about the ways CDC is supporting Local Health Departments including Rural, Frontier, or Small Local Health Departments' HAI/AR/AS initiatives?** Please contact PSCT_DHQP@cdc.gov.

- **ICYMI: Preparing for the Next Pandemic in the Era of Antimicrobial Resistance** — The Presidential Advisory Council on Combating Antibiotic Resistant Bacteria (PACCARB) released their [11th recommendation report \[PDF - 62 Pages\]](#), Preparing for the Next Pandemic in the Era of Antimicrobial Resistance. This report was unanimously approved and transmitted to the Secretary of HHS.
- **ICYMI: Eight Ways Health Department Leaders Can Support Effective HAI/AR Programs** — State and territorial health agency (S/THA) HAI/AR programs play a critical role for spearheading prevention, detection, and outbreak response in their communities. During the COVID-19 pandemic, HAI/AR programs led and supported healthcare infection prevention and control activities. Several significant federal investments have been made to HAI/AR programs during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. To meet the requirements of these new investments, HAI/AR programs need support from S/THA leaders and their partners. Last year, ASTHO developed a report titled [Eight Ways Health Department Leaders Can Support Effective HAI/AR Programs](#).

###

CDC Mpox Resources & Updates — During the past year, mpox was spread for the first time in the United States. Thanks to a lot of hard work by dedicated partners, there are now a handful of cases a week instead of the hundreds a day at the height of the outbreak last summer. Without renewed vaccination and prevention efforts, spring and summer events could lead to a [resurgence of cases](#) as people gather in crowds. This is a particular concern for gatherings with high potential for skin-to-skin contact or that are associated with increased sexual activity.

CDC has updated messaging in anticipation of spring and summer events to help raise awareness of [how to prevent mpox](#) for people who are most likely to be exposed and urging clinicians to be on alert for cases of mpox in the coming months. The resources include:

- [COCA Call Mpox Update: Stay Up to Date on Testing, Treatment, and Vaccination](#)
- [Mpox infections after vaccination](#)
- [A Health Alert Network \(HAN\) Health Update](#) ; A [Medscape article](#) ; A [New England Journal of Medicine article](#) on JYNNEOS vaccine effectiveness
- Three MMWRs: JYNNEOS effectiveness in [New York](#) and [multiple jurisdictions](#), and a comprehensive article on [CDC's Domestic Mpox Response—United States, 2022-2023](#)
- Resources for community organizations and event organizers including content on [staying healthy at summer events](#), [toolkits](#), and updated Pride Month [event cards](#)

###

Public Health Communications Collaborative (PHCC)

ICYMI: The End of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Declaration

On May 11, the COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) declaration officially ended. Among other policy implications, the end of the PHE impacts health policy measures associated with the public's access to COVID-19 testing and treatment.

Use PHCC's [messaging resource](#) to help keep your community informed about what the end of the PHE means for your constituents, for questions to consider when communicating about COVID-19 and the end of the PHE, and additional resources. As always, [PHCC would love to hear from you](#) with insights from the field. Don't hesitate to reach out with the questions you're hearing from your constituents or learnings about messaging that is proving to be effective. [Read our Latest Resource](#)

Additional Resources on the End of the PHE Declaration

In addition to the resources highlighted in our latest messaging guidance on the end of the PHE, we've compiled the following resources to help you communicate what the end of the PHE does and *doesn't* mean for your community:

- [End of the Federal COVID-19 Public Health Emergency \(PHE\) Declaration](#): CDC
- [COVID-19 Public Health Emergency \(PHE\)](#): U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- [What the end of the COVID-19 public health emergency means for you](#): Public Good News
- [Timeline of End Dates for Key Health-Related Flexibilities Provided Through COVID-19 Emergency Declarations, Legislation, and Administrative Actions](#): Kaiser Family Foundation
- [Understanding the end of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency status](#): NPR Milwaukee

On the PHCC Radar:

Blog: [A monumental moment: End of international emergency](#) (Your Local Epidemiologist)

Advisory: [The Healing Effects of Social Connection](#) (U.S. Department of Health and Human Services: Office of the U.S. Surgeon General)

Blog: [I am struggling with my mental health and what I am doing isn't working](#). (Those Nerdy Girls)

Resource: [Achieving Environmental Health Equity: The Need and Opportunities for Public Health Action](#) (APHA)

Blog: [May is Better Sleep Month](#) (NPHIC)

ICYMI:

- [Messaging: Updated COVID-19 Vaccine Recommendations](#)
- [Webinar: When and How to Respond to Public Health Misinformation](#)
- [Communications Tool: Plain Language for Public Health](#)
- [Toolkit: When to Take an At-Home COVID-19 Test](#)
- [Messaging: Vaccine Safety and Effectiveness](#)
- [Misinformation Alerts](#)

To get the latest updates, misinformation alerts, and resources from the Public Health Communications Collaborative and their partners, visit their [website](#) and follow them on Twitter at [@PH Comms](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

CDC Resources (Continued)

Decline in pediatric emergency department visits and hospitalizations for unsupervised medication exposures coincide with renewed prevention efforts — [New CDC data](#) show that the estimated number of U.S. emergency department (ED) visits for unsupervised medication exposures in young children declined 45% from 2009 to 2020. The number of ED visits for unsupervised medication exposures resulting in hospitalization also declined during this period.

In response to increasing numbers of ED visits and poison center calls for unsupervised medication exposures in young children in the early 2000s, renewed prevention efforts were initiated. The CDC-led [PRevention of Overdoses and Treatment Errors in Children Taskforce \(PROTECT\)](#) Initiative, an innovative public-private partnership that aims to prevent unintentional medication overdoses in young children, implemented a 3-pronged approach to help: 1) encourage improved safety packaging; 2) standardize medication labeling to prevent errors; and 3) update safe storage educational messages. The new study found that declines in ED visits and hospitalizations for unsupervised medication exposures in young children coincided with these prevention efforts.

- To learn more about storing medications safely at home and when traveling with young children, visit CDC's [Up and Away Campaign website](#).
- To learn more about CDC's Medication Safety Program, visit [Medication Safety Program | CDC](#)

###

CDC Updates COVID-19 Healthcare IPC Recommendations — With the end of the federal COVID-19 public health emergency (PHE) on May 11, 2023, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will no longer receive data needed to publish Community Transmission levels for SARS-CoV-2, which influenced the use of source control (or masking) in all healthcare settings, as well as admission testing in nursing homes.

CDC has updated recommendations in the [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Healthcare Personnel During the Coronavirus Disease 2019 Pandemic](#). Updates include:

- Admission testing in nursing homes will be at the discretion of the facility, as it already is for other healthcare settings.
- Facilities will be encouraged to look beyond SARS-CoV-2 and make broader masking decisions based on facility-and-patient-level characteristics and local metrics that could reflect increasing respiratory virus transmission in the community.

Recently Published *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Reports (MMWRs)*:

- [COVID-19 Surveillance After Expiration of the Public Health Emergency Declaration — United States, May 11, 2023 | MMWR \(cdc.gov\)](#)
- [Correlations and Timeliness of COVID-19 Surveillance Data Sources and Indicators — United States, October 1, 2020–March 22, 2023 | MMWR \(cdc.gov\)](#)

***In Case You Missed It* Additional studies find no association between COVID-19 vaccination during pregnancy and miscarriage** — In new studies published in [JAMA Open](#) and [American Journal of Epidemiology](#), researchers analyzed data from over 100,000 pregnancies and found that monovalent COVID-19 vaccination during early pregnancy was not associated with an increased risk for miscarriage (also known as spontaneous abortion, or loss of a pregnancy before 20 weeks' gestation). These findings reinforce the safety of COVID-19 vaccination among pregnant people.

Vaccination continues to be the most effective way to prevent severe illness from COVID-19. People who are pregnant should [stay up to date](#) with their COVID-19 vaccines. CDC will continue to monitor COVID-19 vaccine safety and provide updates as needed to guide vaccination recommendations.

###

Johns Hopkins COVID-19 Resources

End to COVID-19 pandemic emergency phase brings focus on preparedness, response efforts for future health threats

The COVID-19 pandemic's impacts, [in the US](#) and globally, will be felt for years to come. Though the global COVID-19 emergency has officially ended, [SARS-CoV-2 continues to kill](#) at least 1 person every 4 minutes, and [questions remain](#) about how to move forward living with a dangerous virus, especially for vulnerable people and countries with less or no access to vaccines and treatments. Meantime, the world must also [prepare for the threat of new variants or other pathogens with even deadlier potential](#), WHO Director Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said recently at the World Health Assembly, calling on nations to be “ready to answer decisively, collectively, and equitably.”

Discussions about how to [ensure equitable access](#) to [medical countermeasures](#) during future pandemics are underway, as are [negotiations of a wide-reaching treaty](#) laying out new rules for dealing with pandemics. A draft document sent to member states and nongovernmental organizations this week included feedback from previous versions, as well as a clause calling on [countries with greater “capacities and resources”](#) to bear a “commensurate degree” of responsibility in global health threat preparedness and response efforts. Separately, [discussions are underway to reform the 2005 International Health Regulations](#) (IHR), which describe countries' obligations during public health events that have the potential to cross borders. Both the pandemic treaty and IHR amendments are on track to be [presented at next year's World Health Assembly](#).

In related news, the [co-chairs of the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response](#) and [more than 15 scientists and public health experts](#) called on G7 leaders to make specific commitments to pandemic preparedness and response at their summit in Hiroshima, Japan, last weekend. In their [communiqué](#), the leaders committed to “further enhancing political momentum toward more coordinated and sustained leader-level governance for health emergency prevention, preparedness and response (PPR) that ensures legitimacy, representation, equity, and effectiveness,” and recognized the importance of the WHO pandemic negotiations to break the cycle of panic and neglect.

Additionally, efforts to [track and anticipate the next outbreak](#) from an unknown pathogen, sometimes referred to as [Disease X](#), are ongoing. The WHO on May 20 [launched the International Pathogen Surveillance Network \(IPSN\)](#), a platform using technology to map out the genetic code of disease-causing organisms that will connect countries and regions with an aim of improving systems for collecting and analyzing samples. Though many countries scaled up their genomics capacity over the past 3 years, the IPSN will allow nations to [more efficiently share data](#) and use it to drive public health decision-making.

US debt ceiling negotiations consider takeback of unused COVID-19 emergency relief funds

The United States is rapidly approaching the date at which the government can no longer pay its bills, with Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen setting a fast-approaching [June 1 deadline](#) to avoid a potential debt default. Debt ceiling negotiations are zeroing in on several key issues, including [remaining COVID-19 relief funds](#). The potential for the redistribution of unused COVID-19 emergency money is an item of contention between US House Democrats and Republicans. Though President Joe Biden has said he is willing to consider a takeback of the remaining funds, many [congressional Democrats worry about the consequences](#) such an action would have for public health initiatives the money is intended to support, including efforts to develop vaccines and therapeutics for future SARS-CoV-2 variants and to fortify medical supplies for the Strategic National Stockpile, among others. House Republicans argue that the remaining US\$30 billion of the total US\$4.6 trillion of pandemic-related funding should be put toward

Johns Hopkins COVID-19 Resources (continued)

raising the nation's debt limit because [the COVID-19 pandemic emergency is over](#). [While it seems likely](#) that the Biden administration and House Democrats will cede some of the funding, the unspent COVID-19 funds are only a drop in the bucket, dwarfed by the more than US\$31 trillion in debt the nation owes.

WHO advisory group recommends updating COVID-19 vaccines to include XBB subvariant; US FDA set to discuss vaccine composition in June

The WHO Technical Advisory Group on COVID-19 Vaccine Composition (TAG-CO-VAC) last week released new [recommendations for updating the antigen composition of COVID-19 vaccines](#). Current vaccines based on the index SARS-CoV-2 virus offer broad protection against severe disease; however, experts are recommending that [new vaccines tailored only to the Omicron XBB.1 subvariant](#), which is now the most commonly circulating strain, will improve durability and breadth of protection. Some COVID-19 vaccine producers, including Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, Novavax, and others, have [already begun research and development](#) on vaccines targeting currently circulating variants like XBB.1.

The [US FDA is set to meet in mid-June](#) to discuss next-generation vaccine composition and rollout ahead of cold and flu season in the fall. Using the influenza vaccination as a model for future COVID-19 vaccination strategies, the FDA will likely move toward recommending [once-a-year COVID-19 boosters](#) that are updated annually to match the most widespread circulating SARS-CoV-2 variant or variants. Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna are already [innovating new approaches for their vaccines](#) against COVID-19, including combination shots that could protect against multiple viral threats.

Pandemic worsened racial/ethnic disparities in health, highlighting need to confront structural inequities

Over the course of the COVID-19 pandemic, racial disparities in cases and deaths have widened and narrowed, but overall, Black, Hispanic, and American Indian and Alaska Native (AIAN) people in the US have [borne the heaviest health impacts of the pandemic](#). New findings renew concerns over these disparities:

- [Research from KFF](#) released earlier this week found [widening racial disparities in US life expectancy from 2019 to 2021](#), noting the trend was largely driven by COVID-19 mortality. Researchers said life expectancy declined 2.7 years overall, with decreases of 2.1 years for Asian people (85.6 to 83.5), 2.4 years for White people (78.8 to 76.4), 4 years (74.8 to 70.8) for Black people, 4.2 years (74.8 to 70.8) for Hispanic people, and 6.6 years (71.8 to 65.2) for AIAN people.
- A study published in [JAMA](#) last week examined excess deaths and years of potential life lost for the Black population of the US, compared to the White population, from 1999 to 2020. Researchers found that Black Americans have suffered 1.63 million excess deaths and more than 80 million years of potential life lost compared to White Americans. These disparities seemed to be improving until they stalled and then worsened in 2020. Heart disease was the leading cause of excess mortality.
- Black adults are more likely than White adults to suffer from [high blood pressure](#) (56% vs 48%, respectively) and less likely to have the condition under control with medication (25% vs 32%, respectively). This disparity, which is expected to worsen in the coming decades, further exacerbates COVID-19 racial disparities, as high blood pressure is listed as a contributing factor in 21.4% of COVID-related deaths among Black patients and 15.5% of COVID-related deaths among White patients.

Johns Hopkins COVID-19 Resources (Continued)

With the end of the public health emergency in the US ushering in the termination of several policies implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic meant to help people access care, including continuous enrollment for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), many fear [these health disparities could widen even further](#). Federal, state, and local governments must work to raise awareness of health disparities and focus on implementing solutions that include [confronting structural inequities](#) affecting health insurance coverage and access to care, as well as other socioeconomic factors that impact health.

China experiencing new wave of COVID-19 cases due to XBB subvariants; authorities working to update vaccines

Chinese authorities are working to develop, approve, and distribute vaccines updated for the XBB subvariants, which are driving a [new wave of COVID-19 cases](#). Authorities have approved 2 new vaccines for the subvariants, with the approvals of 3-4 more expected soon. The wave of new infections is [expected to peak in June](#), with up to 65 million cases per week under the worst-case scenarios. China last faced a surge in cases over the 2022-23 winter after dropping its "zero COVID" policy, causing as much as 85% of the population to become infected. Although officials believe this wave will be less severe, public health experts are stressing the need for an [aggressive vaccine booster program](#) and ample antiviral supplies to prevent a spike in deaths, particularly among the elderly population. While some hospitals have advised precautions, and some concerts and other events have been [canceled without explanation](#), most residents are continuing life as usual.

Research into new monoclonal antibody therapies moving forward but threatened by lack of long-term investments

Treatment with a monoclonal antibody (mAb) within 2 days of a COVID-19 diagnosis [reduced the risk for hospitalization or death by almost 40%](#), according to one study. With the emergence of the Omicron variant, however, the [US FDA withdrew the emergency use authorizations](#) (EUAs) for 5 mAbs because they are ineffective due to mutations in SARS-CoV-2. Now, researchers are working to redesign antibody treatments to target parts of the virus that are less prone to mutation, [Science](#) reports. One approach involves creating antibody-like compounds that can bind to multiple sites on viral proteins simultaneously, making it harder for the virus to evade treatment. Other strategies include targeting conserved regions of the spike protein that have not changed among variants and modifying the structure of antibodies to enhance their potency.

But with the US emergency declaration expired, concerns over waning interest and lack of investment in research threaten the development of these new therapies. In April, President Biden's administration launched a US\$5 billion [Project NextGen](#) to help commercialize vaccines, mAbs, and other therapeutics, but that funding could fall victim in ongoing debt ceiling negotiations (see story above). What is clear is that long-term investments are needed for COVID-19 therapy research and development, especially for people who are immunocompromised, about 3% of the US population.

What we're reading

ORIGIN INVESTIGATIONS [The Atlantic](#) looks at the state of current scientific investigations into the origin of SARS-CoV-2, including how prior beliefs can affect data interpretation and lead researchers into heated battles. All evidence and options remain on the table, however, "the world probably won't ever get data that will conclusively end the debate."

Johns Hopkins COVID-19 Resources (Continued)

US FEDERAL PRISON RESPONSE In an analysis of nearly 1,500 pages of data, obtained through multiple Freedom of Information Act requests, [STAT provides a detailed look](#) at the US federal prison system's COVID-19 response, finding many prisons implemented substandard mitigation measures throughout the pandemic, including facilities meant to take care of the sickest incarcerated people. The article highlights 4 shortcomings, such as delays in vaccinating high-risk residents, failures to provide widespread screening testing, a lack of reliable data from the Bureau of Prisons on testing activities, and low rates of vaccine booster administration among prison populations.

AFRICA'S TRUST [Devex](#) examines the structural and systemic issues that led to a further erosion of trust among African nations during the COVID-19 pandemic and how efforts moving forward might help improve that trust. The article features comments made by Dr. Ayoade Alakija, the WHO's special envoy for the ACT-Accelerator, who spoke on the sidelines of the World Health Assembly.

WORLD HEALTH STATISTICS REPORT The COVID-19 pandemic is estimated to have resulted in nearly 15 million excess deaths in 2020 and 2021, with each resulting in an average loss of more than 22 years of life, or more than 330 million years of life lost globally, according to the WHO's [2023 World Health Statistics report](#). Though global life expectancy increased from 67 years in 2000 to 73 years in 2019, progress against many global health indicators began to slow or stagnate beginning in 2015, prior to the pandemic. The [pandemic set things back even further](#), however, overwhelming health systems and badly disrupting essential health services, the report notes. The WHO warned of the growing threats of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs), air pollution, and antimicrobial resistance but also highlighted successes, such as reductions in exposure to many health risks—including tobacco use, violence, and unsafe water and sanitation—as well as declines in new HIV infections and HIV-related deaths. Global life expectancy at birth is projected to reach 77 years by 2048, according to the report.

CANINE OLFACTORY DETECTION A meta-analysis of 27 studies published in the [Annals of Epidemiology](#) adds to the evidence that [dogs are able to detect SARS-CoV-2 in humans](#). According to the analysis, dogs have a high sensitivity of more than 80% and specificity of more than 90% in detecting SARS-CoV-2 in humans through scent. The studies tested dogs on their capacity to detect SARS-CoV-2 in various samples such as sweat, saliva, masks, and urine. In 6 studies with high-quality data, the sensitivity ranged from 82% to 97% and specificity from 83% to 100%. The researchers suggest that canine detection can be beneficial in public spaces and events, providing a relatively cost-effective testing strategy alongside other measures in controlling pandemics.

ICYMI: "THE BAT LANDS" In the first of a graphically rich [5-part series](#), *Reuters* examines areas of the world where bat habitat is being threatened by agriculture, extractive industries, infrastructure, and other development, creating ["jump zones"](#) where there is an increased risk of a bat-borne pathogen spilling over to the human population. According to the [analysis](#), these areas cover 6% of Earth's land mass, and more than 1 of every 5 people on the planet lives in an area at highest risk of bat disease zoonosis. The other 4 parts examine the [spread of the Nipah virus](#), how China's efforts to expand its economic reach are [driving deforestation and increasing the risk](#) of bat zoonotic diseases, research into bats and their habitats in the [vast Amazon rainforest](#), and efforts to [manage bat-human interactions](#) and invest in more monitoring and preparedness.

###

American Public Health Association (APHA)

Check out highlights from the May issue of *The Nation's Health* and read the full issue [online](#).

Visit [The Nation's Health online](#) to read more news and share articles on social media. Contact us [here](#).

Stay up on what's happening with [Public Health Newswire](#) from *The Nation's Health*. Recent stories:

- [Public parks provide opportunities to improve public health](#) - While there is no one-stop shop for fitness and well-being, public parks come close, offering a place to nurture both. In a new report released Wednesday, the Trust for Public Land shared ways health supporters and policymakers can boost park use by promoting the health benefits of nature and green spaces.
- [Social media linked with mental health harm to children, teenagers](#) - Social media can pose a “profound risk” to the mental health and well-being of children and teenagers, according to a new advisory from the U.S. surgeon general. The May 23 advisory recommends that parents, policymakers and technology companies take “immediate action to protect kids now.”

American Journal of Public Health (AJPH)

[June 2023 – Volume 113, Issue 6 Work \(aphapublications.org\)](#)

Work-Related Inequities Before and Since COVID-19

The June issue of AJPH features a special section on the occupational dimension of public health. Select articles cover mortality inequities in the United States, workers' risk for COVID-19 by occupation and industry, and work as a fundamental determinant of health. Other articles in this issue address topics such as substance use among Asian Americans, rural-urban differences in vaccination rates and the public health workforce, decreasing survey response rates, and more.

Featured Articles:

- [To EHB-1638 or Not to EHB-1638? For Immunization Policymakers, That is the Question.](#) Targeted immunization bills that eliminate non-medical vaccine exemptions for specific vaccines (e.g., MMR) may improve public health, although they come with ethical limitations and unintended consequences.
- [State Policy Removing the Personal Belief Exemption for Measles, Mumps, and Rubella \(MMR\) School Immunization Requirement, Washington State, 2014–2022](#) Promising practices collected from over 100 high-throughput COVID-19 vaccination sites across the United States might help planning and implementation of current and future COVID-19 and other vaccine preventable disease vaccination operations.
- [Mortality Inequities: Power, Theory, and Data Considerations](#) | Jahn and Hernandez | Am J Public Health | May 18, 2023
- [Stratified Simple Random Sampling Versus Volunteer Community-Wide Sampling for Estimates of COVID-19 Prevalence](#) | Keith et al. | Am J Public Health | May 18, 2023
- [CRISPR in Public Health: The Health Equity Implications and Role of Community in Gene-Editing Research and Applications](#) | Subica | Am J Public Health | May 18, 2023

ICYMI: [May 2023 - Volume 113, Issue 5 \(aphapublications.org\)](#)

###

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)

[ASTHO Comments on the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act](#)

ASTHO is pleased to provide comments in response to the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions request for information in their deliberations to reauthorize the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act. ASTHO recognizes the need for strong federal support for state and territorial public health preparedness to maintain and advance public health emergency response capacity. Check out the full letter to learn more.

Supporting State Health Agency HAI/AR Programs | Check out two new videos available highlighting strategies to support healthcare-associated infection and antimicrobial resistance (HAI/AR) programs. The first video features Joseph Kanter (SHO-LA) and Erica Washington of the Louisiana Department of Health explaining the need to [align HAI/AR program communications and structure with state and territorial health agencies](#). In the second, ASTHO sat down with Joan Duwve and Bryna Stacey from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to discuss ways to [support HAI/AR staff recruitment and retention](#).

[States Can Lead on Mitigating the Effects of Climate Change](#) Extreme weather events caused by climate change disrupt healthcare delivery, education, employment, and other social structures, while also displacing people from their homes and communities. Additionally, certain vulnerable and marginalized populations are disproportionately impacted by the health impacts of climate change. However, state health agencies can help protect the public from some of these effects. Learn more in the latest *Health Policy Update*.

ICYMI: ASTHO CEO Michael Fraser and co-author Robert Johnson of Riestler Influence have released [A Communications Playbook for Public Officials](#), the first strategic skills primer book published by ASTHO. Created to help public officials, this book provides advice on how to respond to real media relations challenges. Easy-to-read and drawing from examples of true crisis communications events, this book is a valuable resource helping readers understand the complexities of public relations and the changing landscape of media. [Learn more and order now](#).

###

Trust for America's Health (TFAH)

- The Office of Climate Change and Health Equity (OCCHE) has released a new resource, [Protecting Vulnerable Patient Populations from Climate Hazards: A Referral Guide for Health Professionals](#). This resource is intended to inform education and referrals in clinical settings for patients who are vulnerable to climate change's health impacts, and can be used by health and human services providers to address climate-related threats to their clients' well-being.
- EPA recently released the [Climate Change and Children's Health and Well-Being in the United States Report](#). This national-scale, multi-sector report quantifies projected health effects associated with extreme heat, air quality, changing seasons, flooding, and infectious diseases. Where possible, the analyses consider the extent to which these risks disproportionately fall on children from overburdened populations.
- Children's Environmental Health Network recently released its [2022 Annual Report](#). The resources track's the organizations work related to education, advocacy, clean air and water, health equity, and climate justice amongst other topics in the past year.
- The National Academies' [Standing Committee on Emerging Infectious Diseases and 21st Century Health Threats](#) has announced the appointment of the [Committee on Examining the Working Definition for Long COVID](#). This group of experts and individuals with lived experience will conduct activities to examine the current U.S. Government working definition for Long COVID and related technical terms. For more information on the project and committee, please visit the [project webpage](#).

Trust for America's Health (TFAH, Continued)

[*Pain in the Nation 2023: The Epidemics of Alcohol, Drug, and Suicide Deaths*](#)

Increases occurred among all ages, races, and geographic groups, but were particularly high for youth suicides and overdoses among certain populations of color.

The rate of U.S. deaths due to alcohol, drugs, and suicide climbed 11 percent in 2021, according to [*Pain in the Nation 2023: The Epidemics of Alcohol, Drug, and Suicide Deaths*](#), a new report released today by Trust for America's Health (TFAH).

A record 209,225 Americans lost their lives due to alcohol, drugs or suicide last year, and these deaths are part of a two-decade trend of sharply increasing fatalities due to substance misuse and suicide in the U.S. The 2021 data showed such deaths were up across the U.S. population, with the largest increases occurring among certain populations of color as well as people living in the South, West, and rural regions of the country. The report includes recommendations for steps federal, state, and local policymakers should take to begin to reverse the deaths of despair crisis.

Key Findings:

- Drug overdose deaths increased by 14 percent between 2020 and 2021, with larger increases among Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, American Indian/Alaska Native people, and among youth and older adults. For the year, drug overdose rates were highest among adults ages 35 to 54, males, Black people, and young adults ages 18 to 34.
- Alcohol-induced deaths increased by 10 percent between 2020 and 2021, with the highest increases among Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, Latino people, and American Indian/Alaska Native people.
- Suicide mortality increased by 4 percent between 2020 and 2021, with the highest increases among American Indian/Alaska Native people and Black people.
- Over the last decade, alcohol, drug, and suicide deaths among youth ages 10 to 17 increased by 65 percent. American Indian/Alaska Native and LGBTQ youth are most at risk for poor mental health and suicidal behaviors.

Recommendations:

- **Invest in Prevention:** Support programs and conditions that promote health, prevent adverse childhood experiences and provide trauma-informed services, prioritize student mental health, and strengthen crisis intervention programs, including the 988 crisis lifeline.
- **Prevent Substance Misuse and Overdose:** Back syringe service programs, increase availability of naloxone and fentanyl test strips, and expand funding for prevention programs for youth through the Drug-Free Communities Support Program.
- **Transform Mental Health and Substance Use Care:** Increase access to mental health and substance use healthcare by fully enforcing the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act, integrating mental health and substance use treatment with other healthcare services, and expanding culturally and linguistically appropriate care for populations of color and other underserved populations.

TFAH ICYMI:

- In case you were unable to attend, [a recording](#) of last week's TFAH webinar focusing on the report [*Ready or Not 2023: Protecting the Public's Health from Diseases, Disasters, and Bioterrorism*](#) is now available. Subject matter experts discussed the nation's readiness for public health emergencies, examine the findings of the report, and discuss key recommendations for policymakers.
- [EPA: Climate Change and Children's Health and Well-Being in the United States Report](#)
- [Social Connection — Current Priorities of the U.S. Surgeon General \(hhs.gov\)](#)
- [Climate Change and Human Health \(nih.gov\)](#)
- [Accelerating the Development and Uptake of Rapid Diagnostics to Address Antibiotic Resistance: Proceedings of a Workshop |The National Academies Press](#)
- The [Congressional District Health Dashboard](#) and the [City Health Dashboard](#)

United States Fire Administration (USFA)

The NFA's application period is open

Train with the best to be the best! Apply by June 15 for National Fire Academy on-campus courses offered from October 2023 to March 2024. [View course schedule](#)

The U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA) National Fire Academy (NFA) has three (3) Type 3 All-Hazards Incident Management Team (AHIMT) class offerings scheduled this summer on our campus in Emmitsburg, Maryland. These classes are free of charge and meet the needs of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the National Response Framework (NRF). Dates are as follows: July 23 - 28, 2023 / July 30, 2023 - August 4, 2023 / August 13 - 18, 2023. If you are selected to attend the NFA will provide world-class training, lodging, travel reimbursement, and class materials. Participants are required to pay for their meals on campus. NFA classes are not limited to structural fire-rescue personnel, those who meet the student selection criteria are all welcome and encouraged to apply. For more information or to apply

<https://apps.usfa.fema.gov/nfacourses/catalog/details/10844#schedule>

[New information on potential carcinogens in firefighter gear](#)

A new National Institute of Standards and Technology study suggests that the amount of PFAS (chemicals linked to cancer and other diseases) in firefighter turnout gear can be significantly reduced by selecting optimal combinations of fabrics for each fabric layer.

[New wildfire social media cards](#)

5 new social media cards contain messages that encourage people to practice wildfire safety while participating in outdoor activities this summer.

From the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

[Suicide among EMS and 911 personnel](#)

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Office of EMS participated in a new study characterizing suicides among first responders and identifying potential opportunities for additional data collection. Published in *The Journal of Safety Research*, "An analysis of suicides among first responders — Findings from the National Violent Death Reporting System, 2015–2017," examines the factors contributing to higher suicide rates among first responders, including EMS clinicians.

[The USFA Podcast: A Conversation With U.S. Fire Administrators \(fema.gov\)](#) On this episode, Fire Administrator Dr. Lori Moore-Merrell interviews former administrator Keith Bryant about his time in office and his priorities as the Oklahoma state fire marshal.

ICYMI: Combating violence against first responders: A systems approach

On this episode of The USFA Podcast, the FIRST Center's Dr. Jennifer Taylor discusses use of the SAVER (Stress And Violence to fire-based EMS Responders) checklist and model policy to mitigate occupational violence against EMS responders. [Listen or read](#)

ICYMI: Firefighter Safety Stand Down focuses on lithium-ion batteries

The 2023 Firefighter Safety Stand Down, June 18-24, will focus on lithium-ion batteries, a potential risk for first responders during fire incidents. The Safety Stand Down website will feature daily topics related to responder safety during incidents involving lithium-ion batteries. [Read the article](#)

ICYMI: 2023 wildland fire safety training annual refresher -- The 2023 Wildland Fire Safety Training Annual Refresher (WFSTAR) is now available from the National Wildfire Coordinating Group. WFSTAR training is focused on operations and decision-making issues related to fireline safety. [Read the article](#)

NYSDOH Commerce Training Institute (CTI) Courses

CTI-100

Introduction to the Health Commerce System

Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 2-3pm
Wednesday, July 5, 2023, 11-12pm
Tuesday, August 1, 2023, 10-11am
Thursday, September 7, 2023, 1-2pm

Provider: NYSDOH Commerce Training Institute
Average Completion Time: 1 hr
Continuing Education credits: No
Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-100](#)

The redesigned Health Commerce System (HCS) became available in March 2010. The HIN and HPN were recreated as the Health Commerce System portal, or HCS. There is no longer a separation between the HPN and HIN.

Objectives:

- Identify the major elements of the HCS architecture
- Identify the features of the HCS
- Demonstrate strategies to customize the portal for your own use.

CTI-120

Integrated Data Reporting in HERDS v.3

Wednesday, June 21, 2023, 9-10am
Thursday, July 18, 2023, 10-11am
Friday, August 4, 2023, 9-10am
Wednesday, September 14, 2023, 11-12pm

Provider: NYSDOH Commerce Training Institute
Webinar: Yes
Average Completion Time: 1 hr
Continuing Education credits: No
Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-120](#)

This course provides a solid foundation for adult care facilities, home health agencies, hospices, hospitals, LHCSAs, nursing homes and extension clinics to report data using the HERDS v.3 application. The course will begin with a look at how to obtain access to HERDS and how facilities will be notified when there are activities to be completed. Learners will then be provided demonstration of the new reporting platform. The session concludes with a brief overview of the pre-selected reports available from the application. This course is presented in a one-hour session via WebEx Training Center.

Objectives:

- Locate and modify the person record.
- Explain the importance of the person record in relation to HERDS.
- Demonstrate the ability to review assigned roles.
- Locate and access HERDS.
- Describe the overall structure of HERDS activities.

CTI-200

Communications Directory Certification

Tuesday, June 13, 2023, 9:30-11am
Thursday, July 13, 2023, 1-2:30pm
Wednesday, August 9, 2023, 9-10:30am
Thursday, September 14, 2023, 2-3:30pm

Provider: NYSDOH Commerce Training Institute
Webinar: Yes
Average Completion Time: 1.5 hrs
Continuing Education credits: No
Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-200](#)

This course provides a comprehensive review of the Health Commerce System Communications Directory, the underlying records that make up the directory, and the tools all HCS users can use to access the directory. This two-hour course will begin by examining the structure of the directory and differentiating between the actual contact information records stored for each person in the directory, and the facilities and roles those records can be associated with. Once the structure of the directory has been examined learners will review and have an opportunity to practice with the applications used to access the information stored in the directory. At the conclusion of this course learners will be able to:

- List the components of the Communications Directory
- Summarize how the components are related and work together
- Summarize the HCS emergency call down procedure, describing the role the Communications Directory plays

NYSDOH Commerce Training Institute (CTI) Courses continued

CTI-300

Integrated Health Alerting and Notification System (IHANS) Training & Certification

Tuesday, June 20, 2023, 9am-12pm
Monday, July 12, 2023, 1-4pm
Wednesday, Aug 16, 2023, 9-12pm
Wednesday, Sept 13, 2023, 1-4pm

Provider: NYSDOH Commerce Training Institute
Webinar: Yes
Average Completion Time: 3 hrs
Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-300](#)

This course covers all information necessary to begin the certification process for using the Integrated Health Alerting & Notification System. Participants will receive hands on practice with the tools and be offered an opportunity to complete certification.

Users who wish to complete certification are strongly encourage to send an advance message to any audience they may broadcast to as part of the certification process. Typically, course participants broadcast a sample notification to their HIN Coordinators (LHDs) or Directory Coordinators (NYSDOH).

CTI-502

New York State Evacuation of Facilities in Disasters Systems (eFINDS) version 3.0

Monday, June 26, 2023, 2-3pm
Friday, July 21, 2023, 3-4pm
Thursday, Aug 24, 2023, 10-11am
Monday, Sept 18, 2023, 11-12pm

Provider: NYSDOH Commerce Training Institute
Webinar: Yes
Average Completion Time: 1 hr
Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-502](#)

The New York State Evacuation of Facilities in Disasters Systems (eFINDS) is the patient/resident tracking application housed on the Health Commerce System (HCS). This course provides a solid foundation for registering and updating patient/resident location information during an incident or event, such as a storm, flood, non-natural incident or practice exercise/drill. Course participants will be provided a demonstration of the eFINDS application including: eFINDS Data Reporter and eFINDS Data Administrator role permissions; how to register a patient/ resident with a scanner and without; use a spreadsheet to register multiple patient/residents; update patient/resident tracking information as an evacuating facility, and as a receiving facility. The session concludes with hands-on exercises.

New and Upcoming Live Events Note: *Some items are marked with **NEW!** generally indicating that the promotion is new to this edition of the Aware Prepare Update.*

June 2023

NEW! Trauma Nursing Care Course (TNCC)

Sponsored by ENA
Arnot Ogden Medical Center, Elmira, NY
June 3-4, 2023, 7:30am - 4:30pm
[Register Here](#)

Advanced Burn Life Support Course

Sponsored by Kessler Burn Center -- Strong Memorial Hospital, Rochester, NY
Monday, June 5, 2023, 7:30am - 4:30pm
[Register Here](#)

NEW! Log-in2Learn: Public Health’s “Equity Clout” Problem: What Is It And How Do We Address It To Achieve Structural and Cultural Humility?

Sponsored by Region 2 Public Health Training Center

Tuesday, June 6, 2023, 12-1pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Social Media Tools & Techniques

Sponsored by NDPTC

June 6-7, 2023, 1:00pm - 5:00pm

[Register Here](#)

Fundamental Critical Care Support - Crisis Management

Sponsored by WRHEPC

Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 8am-5pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-WRHTC-SCCM-FCCS-CM-BP4](#)

Psychological First Aid

Sponsored by NYSDOH

Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 10-11:30am

[Register Here](#)

Health Commerce System Orientation (CTI-100)

Sponsored by NYSDOH CTI

Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 2:00pm - 3:00pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-100](#)

NEW! CDC Public Health Academy

Sponsored by CDC Foundation

Wednesday, June 7, 2023, 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

[Register Here](#)

Leadership in Supervision R0645

Sponsored by FEMA/USFA

June 11-16, 2023

Emmitsburg, MD | [Register Here](#)

VIRTUAL Evacuation of Facilities in Disaster System (eFinds) Train-the-Trainer

Sponsored by NYSDOH Regional Training Centers (RTCs)

Tuesday, June 13, 2023 @ 8:30am – 12:30pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-BP4-HPP6](#)

Communications Directory

Sponsored by NYSDOH CTI

Tuesday, June 13, 2023, 9:30am - 11:00pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-200](#)

The Healthcare Cybersecurity Benchmarking Study

Sponsored by HANYS

Tuesday, June 13, 2023, 12-1pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Domestic and Homegrown Violent Extremism, Access Code: NCBRT-409

Sponsored by LSU NCBRT/ACE

June 13-14, 2023, 11:00am - 3:00pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Planning for Disaster Debris Management (MGT-460)

Sponsored by DHSES

June 13-14, 2023, 1:00pm - 5:00pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! FEMA Virtual Tabletop Exercise Program: IPAWS Hurricane

Sponsored by FEMA NETC EMI

June 13-15, 2023

[Register Here](#)

JUNE 2023: 2024 Total Solar Eclipse Planning

Sponsored by CDR HTC

Thursday, June 15, 2023, 1:00pm - 2:30pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-HTC-BP4-S6-062023-CDR](#)

NEW! Gowns and gloves: The importance of PPE to infection control

Sponsored by HANYS

June 15, 2023, 9:00am - 9:30am

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Emergency Preparedness in Healthcare Conference

Sponsored by Spark Conferences

June 15 - 16, 2023 | Hybrid Online OR Toronto

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Mass Casualty Impact and Recovery Webinar Series Session 4: When the Crime Tape Comes Down: Providing Immediate Crisis Report

Sponsored by PSPR2

June 15, 2023, 12:00pm - 1:30pm

[Register Here](#) | [FLYER](#)

NEW! CDC COCA Call: Evaluating and Supporting Patients with Long COVID in Returning to Work

Sponsored by CDC

Thursday, June 15, 2023, 2:00–3:00pm

[Register Here](#)

National Lightning Safety Awareness Week

Sponsored by FEMA

June 18 – 24, 2023

[Register Here](#)

Management and Safety in Response to Hazardous materials/WMD Incidents

Sponsored by FEMA/USFA

June 19-29, 2023

Emmitsburg, MD | [Register Here](#)

HERDS Reporting (CTI-120)

Sponsored by NYSDOH CTI

June 21, 2023, 9:00am - 10:00am

Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-120](#)

NEW! Partnerships for Progress: An Intro to the Vaccine Equity Project

Sponsored by The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

June 21, 2023, 1-2:30pm

[Register Here](#)

NYS Evacuation of Facilities in Disasters Systems (eFinds) version 3.0

Sponsored by NYSDOH CTI

June 26, 2023, 2:00pm - 3:00pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [CTI-502](#)

Healthcare Facility Evacuation Center (HEC) Worker Practical Skills Training

Sponsored by NYSDOH, Office of Health Emergency Preparedness (OHEP)

Wednesday, June 26, 2023, 9-11:30 & 1-3:30pm

90 Church Street Conference Room 4A/B.

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-2023HECPST-1](#)

NEW! Functional Biomechanics on the Emergency Scene

Sponsored by Vital Signs Academy

June 26, 2023, 11:00am - 12:00pm

[Register Here](#)

E0490 Voluntary Agency Coordination in Disasters

Sponsored by FEMA

June 26-29, 2023; Emmitsburg, MD

[Register Here](#)

E8540 - Basic Interagency Logistics Seminar

Sponsored by FEMA/EMI

June 26-30, 2023; Emmitsburg, MD

[Register Here](#)

National CERT Conference

Sponsored by FEMA

June 26 - July 1, 2023

[Register Here](#)

Newcomer Health Webinar Series: GI Infections - Soil Transmitted Helminth Infections

Sponsored by ECHO CO

June 27, 2023, 9:00am - 10:00am

[Register Here](#)

NEW! The biggest IT security challenges in healthcare

Sponsored by Becker's Healthcare

June 27, 2023, 12:00pm - 1:00pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! Hazardous Materials First Responder Operations

Sponsored by DHSES

June 27-July 1, 2023, 16 Hours

Wayne County Fire Training Center

[Register Here](#)

K0202: Debris Management Planning for State, Tribal, Territorial and Local Officials

Sponsored by FEMA EMI

June 27-30, 2023, 12:00pm - 6:00pm

[Register Here](#)

July 2023

Management and Safety in Response to Hazardous materials/WMD Incidents

Sponsored by FEMA/USFA

July 17-27, 2023 | Emmitsburg, MD

[Register Here](#)

Evacuation Planning Strategies and Solutions (MGT-461)

Sponsored by DHSES

July 18-19, 2023, 1:00pm - 5:00pm

[Register Here](#)

FEMA Virtual Tabletop Exercise Program: Wildfire Urban Interface (WUI)

Sponsored by FEMA NETC EMI

July 18-20, 2023

[Register Here](#)

Mass Casualty Impact and Recovery Webinar Series Session 5: Reopening and Resuming Operations | [FLYER](#)

Sponsored by PSPR2

July 20, 2023, 12:00pm - 1:30pm

[Register Here](#)

Type 3 All-Hazards Incident Management Team (AHIMT) class offerings: National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the National Response Framework (NRF)

Sponsored by The U.S. Fire Administration's (USFA) National Fire Academy (NFA)

FEMA Campus in Emmitsburg, Maryland

July 23 - 28, 2023 / July 30, 2023 - August 4, 2023 / August 13 - 18, 2023.

[For more information](#)

K0139: Exercise Design and Development

Sponsored by FEMA NETC EMI

July 24-27, 2023, 9:00am - 1:00pm

[Register Here](#)

NEW! NYS CHEMPACK Program Overview

Sponsored by CDR HTC

July 25, 2023, 1-2:30pm

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-HTC-BP4-S6-062023-CDR](#)

Intermediate Emergency Operations Center Functions (G-2300)

Sponsored by DHSES

July 25-27, 2023, 8:00am - 5:00pm | Livingston Co. Office of Emergency Services

[Register Here](#)

Newcomer Health Webinar Series: Lead and Anemia

Sponsored by ECHO CO

July 27, 2023, 9:00am - 10:00am

[Register Here](#)

August 2023

Evacuation Planning Strategies and Solutions (MGT-461)

Sponsored by NDPTC

August 8-9, 2023, 12:00pm - 4:00pm

[Register Here](#)

FEMA Virtual Tabletop Exercise Program: Cyber

Sponsored by FEMA NETC EMI

August 8-10, 2023

[Register Here](#)

Natural Disaster Awareness for Community Leaders (AWR-310)

Sponsored by DHSES

August 9, 2023, 1:00pm - 5:00pm

[Register Here](#)

Isolation & Quarantine for Rural Communities (MGT-433)

Sponsored by DHSES

August 9-10, 2023, 8:30am - 12:30pm

[Register Here](#)

Mass Casualty Impact and Recovery Webinar Series Session 6: The Immediate Aftermath: What Short Term Recovery Looks Like [FLYER](#)

Sponsored by PSPR2

August 17, 2023, 12:00pm - 1:30pm

[Register Here](#)

Evacuation Planning Strategies and Solutions

Sponsored by NDPTC

August 24-25, 2023, 12:00pm - 4:00pm

[Register Here](#)

FEMA Virtual Tabletop Exercise Program: Active Threat (Shooter) – School

Sponsored by FEMA NETC EMI

August 29-31, 2023

[Register Here](#)

###

Disaster Mental Health: A Survivor's Perspective

Sponsored by NYSDOH OHEP

Recorded on April 4, 2023

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-BP4-HPP5](#)

Evidence-Based Approaches for Post-Disaster Mental Health Disorders

Sponsored by South Central Partnership

Enroll in LMS Course: [SCP-2055](#)

Addressing Human Trafficking in Healthcare Settings

Sponsored by Region V Public Health Training Center

[Free CE and Certs: 1.75 Nursing Contact Hours | 1.75 CHES Category I CECH](#)

Enroll in LMS Course: [RVPHTC-20210201](#)

HTC Webinar Series – BPx - Emergency Planning and Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities & Access and Functional Needs – Two-part Series

Sponsored by WR HTC (FLRTC)

Enroll in Part I (BP3 Session 6, December 2021) - LMS Course: [RTC-BP3-S6-122021-WR](#)

Enroll in Part II (BP4 Session 3, March 2023) LMS Course: [OHEP-HTC-BP4-S3-032023-WR](#)

Log-in 2 Learn - The Science of Trust: Implications for Public Health Research

Sponsored by Region 2 Public Health Training Center

Recorded on March 7, 2023

Enroll in LMS Course: [Reg2PHTC-L2L202303](#)

Cyber Security Response in Healthcare: Emergency Management's Role

Sponsored by MARO HTC

Recorded on February 16, 2023

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-HTC-BP4-S2-022023-MARO](#)

Log-in 2 Learn - Mortality Surveillance Using an Automated Mortality Syndromic Surveillance System (MortalSS) – Lessons Learned from New York City

Sponsored by Region 2 Public Health Training Center

Recorded on February 7, 2023

Enroll in LMS Course: [Reg2PHTC-L2L202302](#)

Guidance to Complete ServNY Notification Drill

Sponsored by NYSDOH OHEP

2022-2023 Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program Deliverable BPR-4

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-BP4-BPR4](#)

BP4 Series: Steuben County Response and Recovery to Tropical Storm Fred

Sponsored by URMC, Wester Region HTC – FLRTC, Steuben County EMO

Recorded on January 23, 2023

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-HTC-BP4-S1-012023-WR](#) | [HTC-BP4-S1 Handouts](#)

Psychological First Aid

Sponsored by NYSDOH OHEP

Enroll in LMS Course: [OHEP-OMH-PFA-NY](#)

Additional Training of Interest

NEW! Around the Table with Climate & Health Champions: 2023 Series Kick Off: Tell the Story

Sponsored by The New York Academy of Medicine

Recorded May 25, 2023 | [View Here](#)

NEW! Infection Prevention and Control Post COVID-19 Public Health Emergency

Sponsored by CDC Project Firstline

Recorded May 16, 2023

[View Here](#)

NEW! Do Antibiotics Reduce the Risk of Death From Viral Respiratory Infections? Why Do Norovirus Infections Continue to Rise in the US? What are the Risk Factors Associated with Post-COVID-19 Conditions?

Sponsored by Vu Medi

Recorded April 9, 2023

[View Here](#)

A Look Inside Life-Saving Overdose Prevention Centers

Sponsored by Drug Policy Alliance

Posted March 30, 2023

[View Here](#)

Vaccine Confidence Panel Presentation: Equity in Childhood COVID-19 Vaccination

Sponsored by the Office of New Americans

Recorded March 7, 2023

Passcode: 9987#Nex | [View Here](#)

Project Public Health Ready (PPHR)

Sponsored by NACCHO

Online course | [View Here](#)

Medical Needs Sheltering

Sponsored by Region 6 South Central Public Health Training Center

Online course | [View Here](#)

Partnering with the Autism Community on Inclusive Emergency Preparedness

Sponsored by Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO)

Recorded September 20, 2022

[View Here](#)

Public Health Prepared Training Catalog

Sponsored by U of Michigan Center for Infectious Disease Threats & Pandemic Preparedness

[Access Training Catalog](#)

The National Center for Disaster Preparedness, through its FEMA training grants, will be offering the following *free* upcoming trainings.

Economic disaster recovery web-based trainings:

- [PER-376-W: Preparedness Actions to Promote Economic Resilience and Recovery](#)
- [AWR-390-W: Improving Individual and Households' Financial Literacy and Management to Support Post-Disaster Economic Recovery](#)
- [AWR-391-W: Improving Business' Financial Literacy and Management to Support Post-Disaster Economic Recovery](#)

Housing disaster recovery web-based trainings:

- [AWR-370-W Addressing Gaps in Housing Disaster Recovery: Conducting Impact Assessments](#)
- [AWR 371-W Addressing Gaps in Housing Disaster Recovery: Pre-Disaster Planning](#)
- [AWR 372-W Addressing Gaps in Housing Disaster Recovery: Post-Disaster Planning](#)
- [MGT-472: Planning for Transitional and Long-Term Housing After a Major Disaster](#)

[1744-REVISED-Training Opportunity-K0289 State Volunteer and Donations Management](#)

K0289: State Volunteer and Donations Management

[Read more in Training Opportunity 1744 REVISED.](#)

[1787-Training Opportunity-EK0131 Exercise Evaluation and Improvement Planning](#)

E/K0131: Exercise Evaluation and Improvement Planning

[Read more in Training Opportunity 1787.](#)

Live Virtual Learning (June - August 2023)

The training hosts are in the locations below; however, learners in the FEMA regions are also welcome to attend.

- **June 22, 2023 - Montana, FEMA Region 8**
[MGT-472: Planning for Transitional and Long-Term Housing After A Major Disaster](#)
- **July 13, 2023 - Snohomish County, WA, FEMA Region 10**
[MGT-477: Roles for State, Tribal, and Territorial Governments in the Implementation of Disaster Housing Programs](#)
- **August 1, 2023 - Wyoming, WA, FEMA Region 8**
[MGT-477: Roles for State, Tribal, and Territorial Governments in the Implementation of Disaster Housing Programs](#)

Instructor-led In-Person Learning (June - August 2023)

The training hosts are in the locations below; however, learners in the FEMA regions are also welcome to attend.

- **June 6, 2023 - Delaware, FEMA Region 3**
[MGT-472: Planning for Transitional and Long-Term Housing After a Major Disaster](#)
- **June 20, 2023 - Broward County, FL, FEMA Region 4**
[MGT-477: Roles for State, Tribal, and Territorial Governments in the Implementation of Disaster Housing Programs](#)
- **July 11, 2023 - Delaware, FEMA Region 3**
[MGT-477: Roles for State, Tribal, and Territorial Governments in the Implementation of Disaster Housing Programs](#)
- **August 23, 2023 - Alleghany County, PA, FEMA Region 3**
[MGT-472: Planning for Transitional and Long-Term Housing After A Major Disaster](#)

###



Working With Tribal Governments for Effective Emergency Preparedness and Response Optional Webinar

Background

In support of continued relationships with tribal nations, this optional webinar will review the in-digenous people's history and inequities and how they have led to their health disparities, tribal sovereignty authorities and ways to approach tribal nations, and how to develop and increase tribal engagement to work effectively to improve preparedness programs. The training will be con-ducted in partnership with Seneca Solutions+.

This optional webinar supports Core Deliverables C-3—Support participation in preparedness and response training opportunities and C-9 Engage in cross-border public health emergency preparedness planning (counties with International / Tribal Borders).

Goal

This webinar will provide LHDs and partners with information, guidance, and best practices for working with Tribal Governments.

Target Audience

Preparedness representatives, planning staff, health services, nursing, and any additional staff who have a role in health care, and/or emergency preparedness and response.

Frequently Asked Questions Training Sections

- Wednesday, May 17, 2023
- 1:00 PM-3:00 PM
- This session will also be recorded

Questions Regarding NYSDOH Learning Management System (LMS)

Direct questions to edlearn@health.ny.gov or 518-473-4223 Ext 4.

Questions Regarding Training

Direct questions to prepedap@health.ny.gov or 518-474-2893.

Registration

To enroll in the training, please go to www.NYLearnsPH.com and either register or login to the LMS. Search Course Catalog for: **OHEP-BP4-C3**.

NOTE - PLEASE READ - Please verify your con-tact information and employer information in your LMS profile when registering. Any required course correspondence will be sent using the e-mail ad-dress listed in the LMS.

Guidance to Complete ServNY Notification Drill (LHD BP-4 BPR-4)

Deliverable

The 2022-2023 Public Health emergency Preparedness Program Deliverable BPR-4 requires Local Health Departments (LHD) to use the ServNY Volunteer Management System (VMS) to notify volunteers for a response to a real-world event or as part of a local exercise. This optional course provides further guidance on the completion of this deliverable requirement.

Elements of Completion

1. A minimum of one (1) staff person must complete the drill.
2. Submit ServNY results
3. Provide the date(s) of the drill on the LHD Quarterly Deliverables Report

Additional Training and Guidance

An optional course has been created in the NYSDOH LMS that provides training and guidance on how to successfully send a notification to volunteers using ServNY.

To enroll in the training, please go to www.NYLearnsPH.com and search the course catalog for: [OHEP-BP4-BPR4](#)

Questions Direct questions to servny@health.ny.gov or 518- 474-2893.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Are Counties required to use ServNY?

A: Counties that do not use ServNY to send notification are still encouraged to use ServNY in this deliverable. Some exceptions may be granted on a case-by-case basis for Counties that cannot complete this drill using ServNY. Requests for an exception must be submitted in writing to the appropriate Public Health Regional Representative and the NYSDOH Volunteer Coordinator and approved prior to completing the drill.

2. Does a notification have to be sent specifically for this drill?

A: Any notification sent during the current Budget Period can be used to satisfy the elements of completion of this deliverable.

3. Does a certain number of volunteers need to be notified?

A: No, BPR-4 does not specify a certain number of volunteers that need to be sent a notification.

4. Do the volunteers need to acknowledge receipt of the notification?

A: No, BPR-4 does not require a certain number of acknowledgements. However, it is a good idea to track acknowledgments and reach out to volunteers that have not acknowledged receipt of a notification as a means to remain engaged with our volunteers and to confirm that contact information used by ServNY is still valid.

2019 Evacuation Plan Template Update

Recorded Sessions for Nursing Homes and Adult Care Facilities

Background

The Office of Health Emergency Preparedness (OHEP) is pleased to announce the release of the updated 2019 evacuation plan template. The 2019 template will serve as a revision to the previously released version.

Goal

To review the updates and revisions included in the updated 2019 Nursing Home and Adult Care Facility Evacuation Plan templates.

Target Audience

Nursing Home and Adult Care Facility staff responsible for emergency preparedness and evacuation planning

Note

Facilities are not required to adopt or use up- dated templates. It is strongly encouraged for facilities to review the updated documents and include in plan updates as needed or appropriate.

NYSDOH Faculty

Katharine Logan
Health Care Preparedness Coordinator I
Office of Health Emergency Preparedness

Link to recorded sessions:

[Recorded Session for Nursing Homes](#)

[Recorded Session for Adult Care Facilities](#)

Please note– you will need to press play at the lower left corner of the screen

Questions Regarding Training
Direct questions to 518-474-2893.

Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan Training Online Training Module

Background

The purpose of the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) Training is to provide personnel at adult care facilities across the State of New York with the information and tools to develop a CEMP to prepare for, respond to, and re- cover from natural and man-made disasters.

Training Objectives

- Facilitate staff familiarity with CEMP purpose, use, development, and implementation.
- Empower facilities to be self-sufficient for 72 hours after an incident.
- Enable facilities' timely determination and implementation of protective actions.
- Foster collaboration and coordination with facility emergency response partners
- Build the foundation for a risk-based CEMP and emergency preparedness program.
- Empower facilities to use the Incident Command System to respond to emergencies.
- Empower Facilities to identify critical information to protect and disseminate during an incident.

Target Audience

Nursing Home or Adult care facility personnel that will be involved in facility level emergency planning (strongly recommended for Administrators and Safety / Security / Plant Managers).

Prior completion of FEMA IS-100.C strongly encouraged.

Training produced by Hagerty Consulting, Inc.

Training Module

Training delivered though an interactive online module that can be found using the registration information below or by clicking here:

[OHEP-CEMPONLINE](#)

Questions Regarding NYSDOH Learning Management System (LMS)

Direct questions to edlearn@health.ny.gov or 518-474-2893.

Questions Regarding Training

Direct questions to prepedap@health.ny.gov or 518-474-2893.

Registration

To enroll in the training, please go to www.NYLearnsPH.com and either register or login to the LMS. Search Course Catalog for: [OHEP-CEMPONLINE](#) OR click this shortcut to the course enrollment page on the LMS.

NOTE - PLEASE READ - Please verify your contact information in your LMS profile when registering. All required course materials will be sent using the e-mail address listed in the LMS.



Upcoming and Recent CDC COCA (Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity) Calls:

<https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/index.asp>

Free continuing education (CME, CNE, ACPE, CEU, CECH, and AAVSB/RACE) are available for most calls.

For more information about free CE, visit <https://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/continuingeducation.asp>

NEW! Title: [Evaluating and Supporting Patients with Long COVID in Returning to Work](#)

Date: Thursday, June 15, 2023

Time: 2:00–3:00 P.M. ET [Free Continuing Education](#)

NEW! Title: [Mpox Update: Stay Up to Date on Testing, Treatment, and Vaccination](#)

Date: Thursday, May 18, 2023

NEW! Title: [Updated Recommendations for COVID-19 Vaccine Use](#)

Date: Thursday, May 11, 2023

Title: [Epidemiology, Testing, and Management of Extensively Drug-Resistant Shigellosis](#)

Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2023

Title: [Evaluating and Supporting Children and Adolescents Presenting with Post-COVID Conditions](#)

Date: Thursday, February 23, 2023

Title: [Updates to COVID-19 Testing and Treatment for the Current SARS-CoV-2 Variants](#)

Date: Tuesday, January 24, 2023

Title: [COVID-19 Update: Clinical Guidance and Patient Education for Bivalent COVID-19 Vaccines](#)

Date: Tuesday, December 13, 2022

Title: [Updates on Multisystem Inflammatory Syndrome in Children \(MIS-C\): Epidemiology, Case Definition, and Prevention](#)

Date: Thursday, December 8, 2022

Title: [New 2022 CDC Clinical Practice Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Pain](#)

Date: Thursday, November 17, 2022

Title: [Meloidosis in the United States: What Clinicians Need to Know Following Newly Discovered Endemicity](#)

Date: Thursday, October 13, 2022

Title: [What Clinicians Need to Know about Dengue in the United States](#)

Date: Thursday, September 29, 2022

Centers for Disease Control and Preparedness (CDC) - CERC, RAD, Packaging & Receiving, & SNS Courses

CDC-CERC-01

Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication (CERC)

Provider: Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
Course Updated: 6/26/2018
Average Completion Time: 2hrs
Continuing Education: 0.2 CEUs
Enroll in LMS Course #: [CDC-CERC-01](#)

At the conclusion of the training, the participant will be able to do the following:

- Explain Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication (CERC) principles.
- Describe the psychology of a crisis and the type of messages each audience needs.
- Explain how to tailor messages.
- Define core concepts of crisis communication planning.
- Explain the roles of the media and spokesperson.
- Describe the benefits of social media and mobile media devices.

SNS-101

SNS Overview

LMS Course Completion Requirement:
“Message” TRAIN Certificate to Course Administrator
Continuing Education: 1 CHES; 1 CME; 0.1 Continuing Nursing Education; 1 MCHES
TRAIN CE Course #: WB 2273 Course ID 1041004
Enroll in LMS Course #: [SNS-101](#)

The course is designed to provide basic background information and definitions of federal agencies, stakeholders and other partners that will help understand all SNS operations during a public health event. The SNS Overview Course will fill the professional practice gap by providing the states and local agencies with information to manage SNS assets that may be deployed to sites during a public health emergency. The participants will learn the levels of support provided by the SNS, and the response concepts, the planning functions needed for consideration and operational requirements for receiving, distributing and dispensing of SNS material.

SNS-103

Closed Point of Dispensing Considerations: an SNS Perspective

LMS Course Completion Requirement:
“Message” TRAIN Certificate to Course Administrator
Continuing Education: 1.5 CME; .14 ACPE-Contact Hours; 1.4 ANCC: Contact Hours Continuing Nursing Education; 1.5 MCHES
TRAIN Course ID 1055915
Enroll in LMS Course #: [SNS-103](#)

The Closed POD Planning course provides state and local agencies with information to manage Closed POD sites during a public health emergency. It covers planning functions for designing a system to quickly dispense prophylactic medications to the employees and their families. The course introduces common terminology and concepts of mass dispensing at the community level. Some locations may use other terminology.

Centers for Disease Control and Preparedness (CDC) - CERC, RAD, Packaging & Receiving, & SNS Courses

CDC-RAD

Radiation Basics Made Simple

Average Completion Time: 1.5 hrs
Continuing Education: 0.1 CEUs, 1.4 CNEs, 1.5 CMEs
Enroll in LMS Course #: [CDC-RAD](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Radiation Studies Branch announces the launch of *Radiation Basics Made Simple*, the first in a series of radiation preparedness training modules. *Radiation Basics Made Simple* introduces participants to the fundamentals of radiation and radioactivity.

CDC-PSYCH

Psychological First Aid in Radiation Disasters

Average Completion Time: 1.25 hrs
Continuing Education: 0.1 CEUs, 1.2 CNEs, 1.25 CMEs
Enroll in LMS Course #: [CDC-PSYCH](#)

Psychological First Aid in Radiation Disasters is a self-study training that uses interviews conducted with experts involved in the Goiania and Three Mile Island incidents, and video scenarios that allow participants to observe how psychological first aid techniques can be employed in a variety of response settings.

CDC-MYTHS

Communicating in Radiation Emergencies: Myths of Radiation

Provider: Centers for Disease Control
Average Completion Time: 1 hr
LMS Course Completion Requirement: "Message" Certificate to Course Administrator
Continuing Education: 0.1 CEUs
Enroll in LMS Course #: [CDC-MYTHS](#)

Communicating in Radiation Emergencies: Myths of Radiation introduces participants to some common myths of radiation and identifies communications strategies to combat these and other myths. The training uses Person-On-The-Street interviews to identify the myths and features a discussion between risk communication and radiation subject matter experts to set the record straight.

- OBJECTIVES:** At the conclusion of the session, the participant will be able to:
- Describe seven common misconceptions associated with radiation.
 - Debunk seven misconceptions using science-based explanations.
 - Discuss one strategy to communicate accurate information during a radiation emergency for each misconception presented.

Centers for Disease Control and Preparedness CDC)- CERC, RAD, Packaging & Receiving, & SNS Courses

CDC-PS2014

Packaging and Shipping Division 6.2 Materials Online Course

LMS Course Completion Requirement:
 “Message” TRAIN Certificate to Course Administrator
Continuing Education: 2 CEUs
Course ID 1017204
Enroll in LMS Course #: [CDC-PS2014](#)

Packaging and shipping Division 6.2 materials, such as patient specimens containing infectious materials and cultures, are regulated by U.S. and international transport agencies. Fines and penalties can be imposed against those who fail to comply with the applicable rules including proper classification and documentation of training, proper packaging, marking and labeling and proper shipping documentation. Updated for 2014, this intermediate-level online course, designed for individual study, is suitable for those seeking re-certification. Participants are provided with information useful for complying with regulations through use of instructional content and the opportunity to apply knowledge using realistic scenarios. This course should take approximately 2 hours to complete.

Who Should Attend:
 This course is intended for those learners seeking recertification in packing and shipping of infectious substances (Division 6.2 materials). This course does not apply to individuals seeking initial certification.

Objectives: At the conclusion of this program, the participants will be able to:

- Classify specimens as an exempt human or animal specimen or either category A or category B infectious substance.
- Identify basic packaging concepts and processes for exempt human and animal specimens, category A and category B infectious substances and dry ice.
- List the documents required to accompany packages containing category A and category B infectious substances.
- Describe the documentation process for category A and category B infectious substances including specific differences dependent upon mode of transportation.

RSS-101

Receiving, Staging, and Storing (RSS) Training Video

LMS Course Completion Requirement:
 “Message” TRAIN Certificate to Course Administrator
Course ID 1017208
Enroll in LMS Course #: [RSS-101](#)

This 14-minute videoarchive provides an overview of receiving, staging, and storing (RSS) Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) assets in the event of a public health crisis. It is designed to provide information to organizations and personnel involved in Strategic National Stockpile RSS functions.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Courses

FEMA IS-100.C

Introduction to Incident Command System

Provider: FEMA Independent Study
Course Updated: 6/25/2018
Average Completion Time: 2hrs
LMS Course Completion Requirement:
"Message" FEMA Certificate to Course Administrator
Continuing Education: 0.2 CEUs
Enroll in LMS Course #: [FEMA IS-100.C](#)

ICS 100, Introduction to the Incident Command System, introduces the Incident Command System (ICS) and provides the foundation for higher level ICS training. This course describes the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System. It also explains the relationship between ICS and the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

FEMA IS-200.C

ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents

Provider: FEMA Independent Study
Course Updated: 03/11/2019
On-line Course: Yes
Average Completion Time: 4 hrs
LMS Course Completion Requirement:
"Message" FEMA Certificate to Course Administrator
Continuing Education: 0.4 CEUs
Enroll in LMS Course #: [FEMA IS-200.C](#)

ICS 200 is designed to enable personnel to operate efficiently during an incident or event within the Incident Command System (ICS). ICS-200 provides training on and resources for personnel who are likely to assume a supervisory position within the ICS.

FEMA IS-700.B

National Incident Management System (NIMS) An Introduction

Provider: FEMA Independent Study
Course Updated: 6/25/2018
On-line Course: Yes
Average Completion Time: 3.5 hrs
LMS Course Completion Requirement:
"Message" FEMA Certificate to Course Administrator
Continuing Education: 0.4 CEUs
Enroll in LMS Course #: [FEMA IS-700.B](#)

This course provides an overview of the National Incident Management System (NIMS). The National Incident Management System defines the comprehensive approach guiding the whole community - all levels of government, nongovernmental organizations (NGO), and the private sector - to work together seamlessly to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from the effects of incidents. The course provides learners with a basic understanding of NIMS concepts, principles, and components.

FEMA IS-800.D

National Response Framework, An Introduction

Provider: FEMA Independent Study
Course Updated: 5/6/2020
On-line Course: Yes
Average Completion Time: 3 hrs
LMS Course Completion Requirement:
"Message" FEMA Certificate to Course Administrator
Continuing Education: 0.3 CEUs
Enroll in LMS Course #: [FEMA IS-800.D](#)

The course introduces participants to the concepts and principles of the National Response Framework. The goal of this course is to familiarize participants with the National Response Framework and the ways it is applied in actual response situations.

Course Objectives:
At the end of this course, you will be able to describe:

- the purpose, scope, organization, and underlying doctrine of the National Response Framework (NRF).
- the Response roles and responsibilities of all elements of the whole community.
- core capabilities for Response and the actions required to deliver those capabilities.
- coordinating structures and operational planning used to support emergency response.