

New Jersey Healthcare Coalitions Newsletter

Featured Updates and Resources

Call with NJDOH Commissioner September 19th 12:00 - 1:00 PM EST via Microsoft Teams

The New Jersey Healthcare Coalitions (NJHCC) are excited to welcome NJDOH Commissioner Dr. Kaitlan Baston, MD, MSc, DFASAM to speak with the NJHCC membership virtually.

Please stay tuned as an agenda will be shared closer to the date of this meeting.

Register for the September Call Here

New Chemical Preparedness Handbook for Local Health Departments (NACCHO)

Effective chemical preparedness and response at the local level is essential for safeguarding public health, protecting the environment, and ensuring community resilience in the face of chemical emergencies.

NACCHO, in partnership with the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), has published a new chemical preparedness handbook designed to assist local health departments (LHDs) in developing effective public health emergency preparedness and response plans for low-probability, high-risk chemical incidents.

Access the Toolkit Here

CDC Health Advisory Network (HAN)

MPOX Spread in DRC and Neighboring Countries (CDC)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is issuing this Health Alert Network (HAN) Health Update to provide additional information about the outbreak of monkeypox virus (MPXV) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC); the first Health Advisory about this outbreak was released in December 2023.

In late July 2024, Burundi, Rwanda, and Uganda, which sit on the eastern border of DRC, reported confirmed cases of mpox, with some cases having linkages to DRC. Rwanda and Uganda have confirmed these cases are due to clade I MPXV; in Burundi, clade-specific testing is underway, but cases are presumed to be clade I due to DRC's proximity. Mpox is not known to be endemic in these countries.

Read the CDC HAN Here

Current Events in Emergency Management and Healthcare

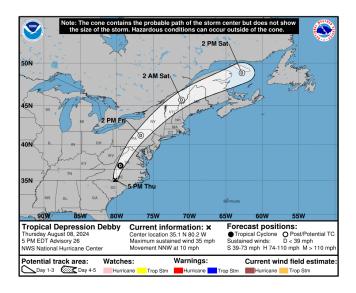


Philadelphia Opens First Urgent Care Walk-In Clinic for Mental Health Needs (WHYY)

Philadelphia now has its first urgent care facility for mental health needs that will provide psychiatric evaluations, quick counseling sessions, prescription refills, and referrals.

A white brick building near North Broad Street and West Allegheny Avenue houses the new walk-in clinic, run through a partnership between mental health services provider Merakey and the city. At a time when demand for behavioral health care is at its highest, and a provider shortage hampers treatment capacity, interim commissioner Marquita Williams of the city Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disability Services said clinics like this are needed to bridge the gaps.

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Tropical Storm Debby Remnants to Blast N.J. with Tornado Threat, 50 MPH Wind Gusts Today (NJ.com)

The dangerous remnants of Tropical Storm Debby could spin up tornados in New Jersey on Friday along with wind gusts up to 50 mph and intense thunderstorms that could cause flash flooding, according to the latest forecast.

The National Weather Service has issued a tornado watch for 17 counties through 2 p.m. Friday. There's a 5% to 9% probability for tornadoes for about half the state, which the weather service notes "is quite high for this area."

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Enhanced National Preparedness

(Healthcare Ready)

In the realm of public health emergencies, preparedness is paramount. Recent developments in the response to the H5N1 avian influenza virus highlight significant strides in pandemic preparedness and response strategies, spearheaded by the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) and the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA), under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

The ASPR, through BARDA, has unveiled a comprehensive Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Strategy aimed at fortifying our nation's defenses against emerging infectious threats like H5N1. This strategy represents a pivotal framework designed to coordinate multi-sectoral efforts, crucial for enhancing our collective readiness and resilience in the face of future pandemics.

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Additional Readings and Resources

Weekly COVID Report (NJDOH)

National Preparedness Report (FEMA)

Summer Weather Safety Presentation (NWS)

Webinars and Independent Training Opportunities



IS-324.A Community Hurricane Preparedness

Course Overview

This computer-based course, Community Hurricane Preparedness, is to provide those involved in the decision making process for hurricanes with basic information about:

- How hurricanes form
- The hazards they pose
- How the National Weather Service (NWS) forecasts future hurricane behavior
- What tools and guiding principles can help emergency managers prepare their communities

Course Objectives:

- Identify the characteristic features of a hurricane
- List ways in which meteorologists monitor hurricane development
- Describe hazards from hurricanes
- Discuss the basic hurricane forecasting process and its limitations
- Identify the correct forecast product to use at various stages in an event
- Analyze various source of information about a hurricane and formulate a plan for dealing with the potential disaster

Access the Self-Paced Training Course Here



Selfcare for Disaster Responders

Wednesday August 28, 2024, from 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm EST

Please join the Region 2 National Preparedness Division in partnership with Americanes for a webinar on selfcare for disaster responders amidst the 2024 Hurricane season.

Disaster Responders deal with the double burden of stress from home and work in the face of major disasters. Facing the difficult scenario of caring for themselves and others during this emergency presents responders with the risk of burnout, indirect trauma, and compassion fatigue. During this webinar, we will discuss the specific stressors for disaster responders as well as provide tools that can be used to promote self-care and aid in self-assessment.

Register for the FEMA Region 2 Webinar Here

Additional Webinars and Training Resources

NETEC: H5N1 Town Hall: Updates for Frontline Staff
LSU NCBRT/Academy of Counter-Terrorist Education World Cup Training

New Jersey Learning Management Network Upcoming Courses

Nursing Home Incident Command System (NHICS) Guidebook

FEMA Region 2 Preparedness Recorded Webinars

NJHCC Training Opportunities Page

Help Us Improve the NJHCC Newsletter

We want to hear from you!

We appreciate you taking the time to read our bi-weekly newsletter. Our team is always looking for ways to improve our resources, if you have two minutes, we'd appreciate it if you shared your feedback.

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Additional Resources













If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the HCC EM Support Team

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