



**NEW JERSEY  
HEALTHCARE COALITIONS**

## **New Jersey Healthcare Coalitions Newsletter**

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### **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**

### **Nursing Home Incident Command System (NHICS) Handbook and Associated Resources**

**(CAHF)**

Our peers at the California Association of Healthcare Facilities (CAHF) have revised and updated their NHICS Handbook and several NHICS forms.

We highly encourage all long-term care, skilled nursing facility, and nursing home teams to review the NHICS handbook as it provides a great introduction to emergency management operations in a specialized care environment.

Click the button below to access the NHICS Handbook in its entirety and click [here](#) to access several other NHICS resources from CAHF.

**Access the NHICS Handbook Here**

# NJDOH Health Advisory: Increase of Pertussis Cases in New Jersey and the United States

(NJDOH)

The number of pertussis cases has been increasing in the United States (US). Reports were lower than usual over the past few years, during and following the COVID-19 pandemic due to mitigation practices (e.g., good hygiene, distancing, masking). However, cases are beginning to return to pre-pandemic patterns where more than 10,000 cases are typically reported each year. Pertussis is an endemic disease in the US, with peaks in reported disease every 3 to 5 years and frequent outbreaks.

In 2024, reported cases of pertussis increased across the US, indicating a return to more typical trends. Preliminary data show that more than three times as many cases have been reported as of week 32, reported on August 10, 2024, compared to the same time in 2023. The number of reported cases this year is higher than what was seen at the same time in 2019, prior to the pandemic.

New Jersey is experiencing a similar increase in pertussis cases. Cases have occurred across the state, in multiple schools, and have included a mix of unvaccinated individuals (mostly infants), vaccinated individuals (school-aged children), and individuals with unknown vaccination history (mostly adults).

[Read the Full NJDOH Health Advisory Here](#)

## Upcoming NJHCC Membership Meetings



The Coalition Support Team is excited to announce our next set of in-person meetings, as a reminder these meetings are scheduled for approximately 2 hours.

Each meeting will feature updates and discussions from our Coalition members, partners, and guest speakers who will be discussing relevant and timely emergency management and preparedness topics.

### Please Note:

As we have a recently welcomed a large group of new members into the

Coalitions, we'd like to remind folks that each Coalition is defined by county boundaries that mirror the NJ Office of Emergency Management's (NJOEMs) operating picture, please find the coalition breakdown below.

Additionally, while we encourage all HCC members to attend their respective Coalition meetings, we also recognize that in some cases another Coalition's meeting space may be more geographically close to your office. All individuals and agencies are welcome to attend any Coalition meeting they'd prefer.

**North HCC  
In-Person Meeting**

**October 19th, 2024**

[Register](#)

**Central HCC  
In-Person Meeting**

**October 21st, 2024**

[Register](#)

**South HCC  
In-Person Meeting**

**October 24th, 2024**

[Register](#)

**North HCC Breakdown:**

Bergen, Essex, Hudson,  
Morris, Passaic, Sussex,  
and Warren

**Central HCC Breakdown:**

Hunterdon, Mercer,  
Middlesex, Monmouth,  
Ocean, Somerset, and  
Union

**South HCC Breakdown:**

Atlantic, Burlington,  
Camden, Cape May,  
Cumberland, Gloucester,  
and Salem

## Current Events in Emergency Management and Healthcare



**Hospital Preparedness for One of the Worst Predicted  
Hurricane Seasons on Record –  
Why This Time is Different**

**(The Lancet)**

Cyclonic storms are natural disasters that can be predicted to occur seasonally in certain parts of the world. Along with Caribbean islands, it is likely that the eastern and southern coastlines of the United States will experience the impact of at least one significant storm each year during hurricane season. The 2024 Atlantic Hurricane season begins June 1 through November 30. Forecasters at the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) predict an 85% chance of an above normal hurricane season in the Atlantic Basin.<sup>1</sup> The agency predicts 17–24 named storms the highest in any preseason forecast on record. Of these 4–7 are expected to be major hurricanes category (3,4, or 5 with winds of 111 mph or greater).<sup>1</sup> Hurricane Beryl is the first of the 2024 Atlantic season, which was unusually early in the year. It strengthened to a Category 5 storm that made landfall in Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Barbados and Mexico, killing at least 11 people throughout the Caribbean.<sup>2,3</sup> Human caused climate change is resulting in global warming of oceans and in the Atlantic basin, melting of ice on land, glaciers in northern Canada and Greenland are leading to sea level rise which significantly impacts the risk of storm surge.<sup>1</sup>

Hurricane Ian in 2022 devastated western Florida becoming the seventh deadliest hurricane in US history with 66 total direct deaths attributed to the storm of which 41 were a result of storm surge. The leading causes of death were blunt trauma and drowning due to storm surge and flooding, particularly in Lee County, Florida. Freshwater flooding caused additional fatalities in central and eastern Florida.<sup>4,5</sup> Several lessons were learned from hurricane Ian that are instructive for healthcare systems to consider to adequately prepare and respond to future hurricanes

[Click Here to Read More](#)



## FDA Approves New mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines as US Sees Spike in Virus

(MSN.com)

New COVID-19 vaccines could soon be on their way to a pharmacy near

you, as the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved updated mRNA shots from manufacturers Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna.

The vaccines have been approved and granted emergency use authorization, according to a [statement](#) from the agency. Changes have been made to the formulae to target the KP.2 variant, one of the so-called FLiRT variants that came to dominate during spring 2024.

[Click Here to Read More](#)

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## The Joint Commission

### Joint Commission Revises Emergency Management Standards for Nursing Care Centers

(Beckers Hospital Review)

The Joint Commission has [released](#) new and updated guidelines for emergency management standards at nursing care centers.

The guidelines will go into effect on January 1, 2025 and apply to all nursing care centers under Joint Commission accreditation, according to an Aug. 20 report released by the commission.

[Click Here to Read More](#)

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#### Additional Readings and Resources

[Weekly COVID Report \(NJDOH\)](#)

[National Preparedness Report \(FEMA\)](#)

[Summer Weather Safety Presentation \(NWS\)](#)

[Guidelines for the Control of Respiratory Virus Outbreaks in Long-Term Care and Other Institutional Settings \(NJDOH\)](#)

# Webinars and Independent Training Opportunities



**FEMA** | *Emergency  
Management  
Institute*

## IS-238: Critical Concepts of Supply Chain Flow and Resilience

### Course Overview

This two-hour Independent Study course covers the lessons learned from the 2017 hurricane season, with the effort of improving post-disaster supply chain management to strengthen understanding of local supply chain dynamics; improve information-sharing and coordination among public and private stakeholders; and provide State, Local, Tribal and Territorial Emergency Managers with the knowledge of potential and experienced post-disaster supply chain disruptions, management efforts, and best practices.

### Course Objectives:

- Explain basic supply chain concepts and associated challenges
- Describe the basic components of a supply chain, common disruptions to supply chain flow, and ways to respond to them
- Describe concepts of the bottleneck and their impacts on supply chain management
- Describe the potential impacts of a disaster on supply chains
- Describe concepts of supply chain resilience before, during, and after a disruption.

[Access the Self-Paced Training Course Here](#)

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## NETEC Special Pathogens Exercise Templates

A suite of exercise templates including all content and materials related to identifying, assessing, treating, managing, transporting and transferring high risk patients, which are fully customizable, approved by ASPR and the CDC, and based on the HSEEP model.

These templates should be customized to meet each end user's requirements. The templates contain exercise content and material based on the HSEEP model and related to assessing, treating and managing Ebola virus disease and other special pathogen patients for Frontline Facilities, Assessment Hospitals, State-Designated Ebola Treatment Centers, Regional Ebola and Special Pathogen Treatment Centers & Regional Partners, and Health Care Coalitions.

[Access NETEC's Exercise Templates Here](#)

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### [Additional Webinars and Training Resources](#)

[LSU NCBRT/Academy of Counter-Terrorist Education -](#)

[World Cup Training](#)

[New Jersey Learning Management Network Upcoming Courses](#)

[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.

Please click the button below to access our newsletter feedback form.

[Click Here to Access Our Newsletter Survey](#)

## Additional Resources



NEW JERSEY  
COVID-19 Information Hub



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

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Email](#)

[Contact us via 24/7  
Hotline](#)

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