



NEW JERSEY  
HEALTHCARE COALITIONS

## New Jersey Healthcare Coalitions Newsletter

November 1st, 2024

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### IV Solution Shortage

#### Summary:

On September 29th, Baxter, a major IV Solution manufacturer, announced their North Carolina-based production plant would be temporarily closed as a result of flooding related to Hurricane Helene.

Baxter's plant accounts for 60% of domestically produced IV Solution in the U.S. Healthcare providers are encouraged to review medical supply rationing plans, inform staff of the ongoing disruption, and contact other IV Solution vendors.

As of writing, Baxter's North Carolina plant is seeking to be fully operational again by the end of the year. In the interim, federal and private industry partners have continued to support increased IV Solution production, more information can be found below in our most recent [IV Solution Shortage messaging](#).

#### What the Coalitions Are Doing:

The NJ Healthcare Coalitions are continuing to survey all HCC members across the state to better understand how this disruption might impact patient care. Additionally, the Coalitions have been in close contact with emergency management staff at the NJ Department of Health and other partners across the country. All information obtained by the EM Support Staff will continue to be shared with NJHCC members via our typical communication channels.

We encourage you to review the linked resources below and to reach out to your municipal/county offices of emergency management (OEM) if you're facing an emergency due to a supply shortage. Click [here](#) to access the NJOEM County Coordinator directory.

## Recent Updates from Baxter:

- Pertinent Updates from Baxter as of 10/31/2024
  - Baxter has restarted the highest-throughput IV solutions manufacturing line.
  - Baxter's first temporary bridge has already transported more than 885 truckloads of finished product off site and to customers.
  - Baxter has begun to expand their support for new peritoneal dialysis (PD) patients on a limited basis, beyond the highly restricted medical exceptions to date, to help providers address urgent medical needs.

[Access Baxter's Hurricane Helene Page](#)

## IAEM Healthcare Caucus Webinar - IV Fluid Shortages: Best Practices for Healthcare:

**What:** This webinar is tailored to bring together Emergency Management Personnel, Emergency Management Medical Directors, Clinicians, and Support Staff responsible for operations or incident management to collaboratively address the ongoing IV fluid shortages. The objectives are to:

- Share and discuss best practices for conserving IV fluids, managing resources, and adjusting medical practices to mitigate the impact of shortages.
- Gain a comprehensive understanding of the current national landscape regarding IV fluid shortages and how different regions are affected.
- Identify critical needs or areas of concern that may require legislative action or advocacy to ensure a sustainable supply of IV fluids and mitigate the effects on patient care.

This meeting serves as an essential platform for key stakeholders to exchange insights, align on strategies, and determine if further actions are necessary to address this pressing issue.

**When:** Thursday, November 7th, 1-2 PM EST

**Where:** Virtual Webinar via Microsoft Teams

[Register for the IAEM Webinar](#)

## NJHCC Updates and Upcoming Events

Virtual Statewide  
Coalition Meeting

MRSE Exercise Planning  
Workgroup 2024

*November 14th, 2024  
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM*

The NJHCC EM Support Team will be facilitating a virtual statewide coalition meeting that will feature subject matter experts on topics related to emergency management.

Please stay tuned for additional information, including a formal agenda, speaker, and topic announcements.

[Register for the Virtual Statewide HCC Meeting Here](#)

The Medical Response Surge Exercise (MRSE) is an annual exercise requirement that focuses on surging large amounts of patients into healthcare facilities and identifying gaps in a mass casualty incident response for all healthcare member types.

We're excited to begin planning our 2024 MRSE exercise for all three NJHCC regions. We encourage all members to participate in both the exercise planning workgroup and the exercise that is tentatively set for early March 2024.

[Register for the MRSE 2024 Workgroup Here](#)

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## HCC Meeting Presentations October 2024

This month we were excited to welcome new and returning members back to our regularly scheduled in-person HCC meetings.

Our focus this month was on our regional Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA), the HVA will assist our team in identifying potential exercise, training, and resource development opportunities in addition to better informing our regional response annexes.

Below you'll find our meeting minutes from all three regional in-person meetings.

Our next meeting will be a virtual statewide call taking place on November 19th, from 10 AM - 12:00 PM EST via Microsoft Teams. Register for our November virtual call by clicking [here](#).

[OctoberSouth HCC Meeting  
PowerPoint](#)

[OctoberCentral HCC Meeting  
PowerPoint](#)

## NJHCC Orientation Packet 2024-2025 1st Edition

Following several months of development, feedback, and resource vetting we are pleased to announce the first edition of the NJHCC Orientation Packet is now available via digital download.

The purpose of this resource is to introduce new and existing emergency managers, healthcare preparedness staff, and other partners to the purpose behind the Coalitions, in addition to providing a compendium of preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery resources.

We'd like to emphasize that this is the first edition, this resource is a living document, and we encourage all forms of feedback as we continue to regularly update and tailor it to benefit all NJHCC members.

The graphic features a dark blue background with a white geometric shape on the right side containing images of meeting rooms. Text on the left reads '2024-2025 NEW JERSEY HEALTHCARE COALITIONS (NJHCC) ORIENTATION PACKET'. A QR code is present with the text 'Reading this packet in person?' and 'Scan here for a digital copy!'. At the bottom, contact information is listed: '1-800-457-2262', 'www.NJHCC.org', and 'RHCC@NJHA.com'. A logo with five colored arrows (orange, green, blue, purple, red) is in the top right corner.

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

## Regional Healthcare Coalition Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA)

### In-Person Attendees:

Our team is currently aggregating your feedback from the collected HVA forms. If you requested a scanned copy, our team should have those to you shortly.

If you brought your form back to your organization for further discussion or to complete it please scan or take a photo of the completed form and send it to [RHCC@NJHA.com](mailto:RHCC@NJHA.com) if you'd like it to be aggregated into the regional, statewide, and (when possible) county-specific HVA.

## Not Able to Attend:

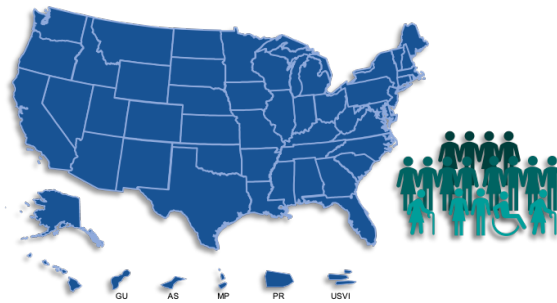
If you weren't able to join us, we'd still like to hear from you, below you can download our HVA template\*. Please discuss this with your team and send a copy of your completed HVA to [RHCC@NJHA.com](mailto:RHCC@NJHA.com) if you'd like it to be aggregated into your region's, state, and (when possible) county HVA.

Please ensure you fill out your organization's name and county located at the top of the workbook.

\* = The HVA template is saved as a Microsoft Excel Workbook

Please return your completed HVAs to [RHCC@NJHA.com](mailto:RHCC@NJHA.com) by Monday November 4th, 2024.

## NJHCC 2024 HVA Template



## HHS emPOWER and SVI Data

In the interest of increasing situational awareness in regard to specialty patient populations and enhancing the understanding of health nuances in your local communities, the Coalitions are continuing to share the most recent EMPOWER and SVI data for your region.

The NJHCC EM Support Team highly encourages you to look into this data and incorporate it when possible, into your preparedness and response plans, in addition to exercises and real-world responses.

emPOWER  
Dataset

2022 SVI  
Dataset

2022 SVI Data  
Definitions

Current Events in  
Emergency Management and Healthcare



## Mycoplasma pneumoniae Infections Increasing in New Jersey

(NJLINCS)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) are observing an increase in reports of pneumonia. The proportion of patients discharged from emergency departments with a diagnosis of *Mycoplasma pneumoniae*-associated pneumonia has been increasing across the United States and New Jersey. *Mycoplasma pneumoniae* infections are typically mild, but can result in severe illness among vulnerable populations, including young children, older adults, and individuals with underlying health conditions.

Health care providers should consider *M. pneumoniae* as a possible cause of infection and test using nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs) when indicated. Providers should ensure appropriate antibiotic therapy is administered. Macrolides are the first line of treatment for *M. pneumoniae* infections. Consider using tetracyclines or fluoroquinolones if a macrolide does not appear to be effective.

Early childcare, schools, long-term care facilities, and other congregate care settings should report suspected clusters or outbreaks to their [local health department](#). Individual cases of *M. pneumoniae* are not reportable in New Jersey.

Local health departments, schools, long-term care facilities, and other congregate care settings should promote [CDC core prevention strategies](#) to prevent respiratory illness, including practicing proper hand hygiene and covering coughs and sneezes.

[Click Here to Read More](#)

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## NYC Health + Hospitals Leads Multi-Agency Training Exercise for H5N1

(NYC Health + Hospitals)

NYC Health + Hospitals led a training exercise testing the health care system's ability to screen and isolate a "patient" with simulated symptoms of H5N1 and relevant exposure history, also known as bird flu, and safely transport from NYC Health + Hospitals/Kings County to NYC Health + Hospitals/Bellevue. Health care and ambulance workers needed to wear an N95 respirator, eye protection, gown and gloves and follow strict protocols to ensure their safety while handling the patient to prevent exposure to the pathogen. H5N1 is a highly pathogenic avian influenza virus that is widespread among wild birds globally and has been responsible for outbreaks in poultry and dairy cows. While the risk to the U.S. general population remains low, the virus has a historical fatality rate of [over 50%](#).

In 2024, [27 human cases](#) have been reported in the U.S., primarily among dairy and poultry workers, though no fatalities have been reported. The risk of H5N1 coming to New York City is low. Health care workers seeing the simulated patient were informed that this was an exercise to test the health system's various protocols for bird flu. The exercise was a coordinated effort between the health system and the NYC Health Department.

[Click Here to Read More](#)

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## South King Fire launches Innovative Mobile Integrated Healthcare program

(KIRO 7 News)

Firefighters with the South King Fire announced Monday that its new Mobile Integrated Healthcare (MIH) program after its initial launch over the summer.

The initiative aims to enhance health and wellness in the Federal Way community and expand the fire district's engagement with its neighbors beyond emergency response, according to a press release from South King Fire. They said the program will help provide proactive, patient-centered care to the community.

The program is also designed to confront health issues within the neighborhood and offer other options for those who don't need to go to the emergency room. Anything from preventative care, complex care management and health education will be offered to the community through this program. Staff with the program can meet neighbors "when and where they are needed," through the initiative. Staff also generates nearly 400 contacts with individuals requiring service.

[Click Here to Read More](#)

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**Beyond Floppy Disks And Fax Machines: Modernizing Immunization Information Systems**



Chronic [underinvestment in public health](#) at the federal, state, and local levels has weakened the nation's infrastructure and threatens its ability to address basic disease prevention and maintain economic stability. One underfunded piece of infrastructure is the network of state and local immunization information systems (IIS), often called registries, that exchange immunization data with electronic health records (EHRs) and other systems.

IIS were the [lynchpin of vaccination campaigns](#). During the COVID-19 pandemic, 58 IIS across the US and its territories captured patient data on vaccination regardless of where individuals were vaccinated (for example, a Federal Emergency Management Agency pop-up clinic, public health department, pharmacy) and made data available to immunization providers and public health authorities to manage the vaccination campaign. Every state and territory (and a handful of cities) has its own independent system with some limited interoperability to exchange data with another system. In short, a national picture of vaccination coverage on a population level is difficult to ascertain.

[Click Here to Read More](#)

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### [Additional Readings and Resources](#)

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

[Weekly Vector-borne Surveillance Report \(NJDOH\)](#)

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

[Guidelines for the Control of Respiratory Virus Outbreaks in Long-Term](#)

[Care and Other Institutional Settings \(NJDOH\)](#)

[Nursing Home Incident Command System \(NHICS\) \(CAHF\)](#)

**Webinars and  
Independent Training Opportunities**



## **G0358: Evacuation and Re- entry Planning**

**Location:** NJSP AHIMT - Classroom 45 Fernwood Ave, Edison, NJ 08837

**Date:** Tuesday, November 26th, 2024

**Time:** 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM

### **Course Overview:**

This course is designed to provide participants with the knowledge and skills needed to design and implement an evacuation and re-entry plan for their jurisdictions. It uses a community's vulnerability analysis and evacuation plan. It also addresses evacuation behavior and recommends methods to make evacuation and re-entry more efficient. This course does not address the decision to evacuate or re-enter.

### **Additional Information:**

G358 is an elective course for the Advanced Professional Series (APS) certificate. Enrollment is limited to 30 students. There are no prerequisites to attend this course.

[\*\*Access the NJOEM Training Flyer Here\*\*](#)

[\*\*Register for the Evacuation and Re-Entry Planning Course Here\*\*](#)

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**World Cup Preparations -  
Site Protection Through Observational Techniques  
(AWR-219-C)**

**Location:** Virtual, Instructor-Led

**Dates:** Thursday, November 14th, 2024,  
**OR**  
Wednesday, December 18th, 2024

**Times:** November 14th, 11 AM to 3 PM  
**OR**  
December 18th, 9 AM to 1 PM

**Course Overview:**

Emergency responders, security professionals, security support staff, and the public must work together to identify suspicious objects, substances, and people. This course trains public safety personnel to improve their observational techniques by using a four-step ongoing screening process that includes increasing protective awareness, identifying preoperational behaviors, evaluating, and taking action. Participants will use fictional scenarios to examine each step of the process.

**Additional Information:**

G358 is an elective course for the Advanced Professional Series (APS) certificate. Enrollment is limited to 30 students. There are no prerequisites to attend this course.

[Register for the Site Protection Through Observational Techniques Course Here](#)

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## **21PHirst Signature Series Webinar: A Reckoning for Public Health & Its Future**

**When:** Thursday, October 30th, 4:00 - 5:30 PM EST

**Where:** Virtual Webinar via Zoom

### **Webinar Overview:**

Rebuilding public health practice requires new, different, and innovative thinking. Dr. Brian C. Castrucci, president and CEO of the de Beaumont Foundation, will discuss the state of public health following the pandemic and the major public health challenges that presently exist. He will then clearly discuss practical steps that all public health serving agencies must consider to build a more inclusive, effective, and valued public health system.

[Register for the 21PHirst Signature Series Webinar 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 Feedback 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

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