

October 9, 2020



CDC's Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program is a critical source of funding, guidance, and technical assistance for state, local, and territorial public health departments to strengthen their public health preparedness capabilities and improve their response readiness. The Division of State and Local Readiness (DSLR) Friday Update provides information and resources for PHEP recipients and other preparedness planners. Please share the newsletter with your colleagues.

For more information, visit the CDC State and Local Readiness website or contact us at preparedness@cdc.gov.

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- October 30 PHEP BP1 FFRs, Annual Progress Reports, and Performance Measure Data Due
- October 30 PHEP Quarterly Spend Plan Reports for BP1 (Q5) and BP2 (Q1) Due



October 14 PHEP Connects Webinar Highlights Responder Support

CDC's next PHEP Connects webinar is scheduled for 1 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, October 14. This month's webinar, "Responder Support Lifecycle: From Data to Deployment," explores the complete responder support



program and how public health professionals can use data collection to continuously improve the safety and health of responders. The presenters include Bobby Rasulnia and Sachiko Kuwabara of CDC's Division of Emergency Operations and Crystal Harper and Gregory Linden from CDC's Office of Safety, Security, and Asset Management. Participants will learn about CDC's best practices for supporting responders before, during, and after their missions.

Participants can log onto https://adobeconnect.cdc.gov/r6ooog3mlz5/ to view the webinar. To listen to the audio portion via phone line, dial 1-888-455-5125 and enter participant pass code 4495815. Registration is not required to join this webinar via Adobe Connect. Continuing education credit will not be offered for this presentation. For more information on the PHEP Connects webinar series, contact preparedness@cdc.gov.

SAS License Renewal Now Underway

The renewal period for Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) licenses has begun, and recipients will soon receive renewal forms from their DSLR project officers. Recipients who have not previously purchased SAS licenses through direct assistance but want to do so in calendar year 2021 should contact their project officers as soon as possible. Recipients must complete the SAS license renewal/request forms and return them to their project officers by **Tuesday**, **October 20**.



CDC Updates "How COVID-19 Spreads" Web Page

On October 5, CDC posted updated guidance to its How COVID-19 Spreads information on the CDC website to include information about the potential for airborne spread of the virus that causes COVID-19. CDC continues to believe, based on current science, that people are more likely to become infected the longer and closer they are to a person with COVID-19. The updated content acknowledges the existence of some published reports showing limited, uncommon circumstances where people with COVID-19 infected others who were more than 6 feet away or shortly after the COVID-19-positive person left an area. In these instances, transmission occurred in poorly ventilated and enclosed spaces that often involved activities that caused heavier breathing, like singing or exercise. Such environments and activities may contribute to the buildup of virus-carrying particles.

CDC's recommendations remain the same based on existing science and after a thorough technical review of the guidance. People can protect themselves from the virus that causes COVID-19 by staying at least 6 feet away from others, wearing a mask that covers their nose and mouth, washing their hands frequently, cleaning touched surfaces often, and staying home when sick.

CDC Plans Safe Election Study

With the general election less than a month away, state, local, tribal, and territorial election officials are finalizing plans for protecting the health and safety of poll workers and voters at polling places in light of the COVID-19 epidemic. CDC plans to conduct a Safe Election Study designed to gather evidence on transmission risk among poll workers involved in the November general election and mitigation behaviors. Jurisdictions interested in collaborating with CDC on this study can contact CDC's Elections Unit at eocevent482@cdc.gov for more information. CDC's Considerations for Election Polling Locations and Voters and links to a variety of resources are available on the CDC website.

Deadline Approaches for Submission of COVID-19 Vaccination Plans

Jurisdictional COVID-19 vaccination plans are due to CDC no later than Friday, October 16. Recipients of the CDC Immunization and Vaccines for Children cooperative agreement are required to submit their COVID-19 vaccination plans to their CDC immunization project officers. CDC encourages preparedness directors to work with the immunization program coordinators in their jurisdictions to develop these plans. PHEP directors can access the plan template and other vaccine planning resources in On-TRAC. For more information, PHEP directors should contact their DSLR project officers or email questions to preparedness@cdc.gov.

Reminder: COVID-19 Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement Reports Due October 15 September fiscal reports and second quarterly progress reports for the COVID-19 Crisis Response Cooperative Agreement are due Thursday, October 15, in REDCap. For the second quarterly progress report, recipients should provide programmatic updates on their response activities from July 1 to September 30,

focusing on successes and challenges to date. Recipients should use both the radial buttons and the text boxes to describe their progress. The September fiscal report should summarize obligations and commitments incurred through September 30. Recipients should direct any questions to their DSLR project officers.



- October 14 PHEP Connects Webinar
- October 21 HPP-PHEP Recipient Call



SNS Offers New Federal Medical Station Training Videos and Updated Course Offerings

The Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) offers a series of training videos designed to assist in the assembly and operation of key components and equipment in the Federal Medical Station (FMS) deployment cache. The FMS is a deployable healthcare facility that can provide surge beds to support healthcare systems anywhere in the United States that are impacted by disasters or public health emergencies. To learn more about the assembly or operation of key component in the FMS deployment cache, see this series of FMS training videos.

In addition, the following SNS trainings have new course numbers as of October 1.

- <u>Strategic National Stockpile Overview</u> New Course ID # 1093663
 This one-hour course provides background information on the stockpile for all levels of planners, responders, and those involved in medical countermeasure operations.
- Mass Dispensing Overview: A Stockpile Perspective New Course ID # 1093666
 This one-hour course introduces state and local planners, responders, and anyone working with medical countermeasure (MCM) dispensing to mass dispensing operational concepts and focuses on large-scale public health emergencies such as a release of anthrax or a novel disease outbreak.

More SNS course offerings are available atwww.phe.gov/about/sns/Pages/SNS-Training.aspx.

ASPR Announces New RDHRS Demonstration Site

The Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) recently awarded Denver Health and Hospital Authority \$3 million to demonstrate how a Regional Disaster Health Response System (RDHRS) can build partnerships as well as improve medical surge and clinical specialty capabilities during a national emergency to save more lives. ASPR also awarded \$1.5 million to Nebraska Medicine in Omaha and \$1.6 million to Massachusetts General in Boston to continue their RDHRS demonstration sites for a third year. More information on these awards and the RDHRS can be found in the recent press release and on the RDHRS web page.



CDC MMWR Reports

- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, October 9
- Early Release: Trends in COVID-19 Incidence After Implementation of Mitigation Measures Arizona, January 22—August 7, 2020, October 6
- Early Release: Adolescent with COVID-19 as the Source of an Outbreak at a 3-Week Family Gathering
 Four States, June–July 2020, October 5

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **NEW** CDC HAN: Recent HIV Clusters and Outbreaks Across the United States Among People Who Inject Drugs and Considerations During the COVID-19 Pandemic
- **UPDATED** Evidence Used to Update the List of Underlying Medical Conditions that Increase a Person's Risk of Severe Illness from COVID-19
- UPDATED Scientific Brief: SARS-CoV-2 and Potential Airborne Transmission
- UPDATED How COVID-19 Spreads
- **UPDATED** Interim Guidance on Management of Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Correctional and Detention Facilities
- UPDATED <u>CDC's Interim Guidance for General Population Disaster Shelters During the COVID-19</u>
 Pandemic
- UPDATED CDC COVID Data Tracker
- **UPDATED** COVID-19 Travel Recommendations by Destination
- UPDATED COVID By The Numbers
- UPDATED Staffing Resources

• UPDATED COVID-19 Forecasts: Hospitalizations

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