

# Western Massachusetts Health & Medical Coordinating Coalition (HMCC)

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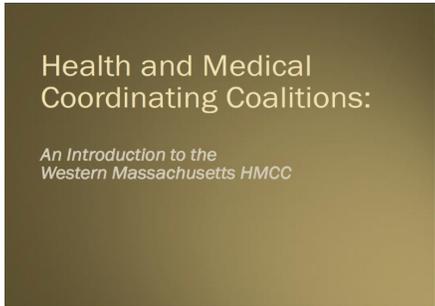
## Save the Date!

*for our Full Coalition Meeting*  
**Friday, October 21st**

9 AM - 1 PM - lunch provided  
*We will issue an invite as the date draws closer*

Feeling unsure about the HMCC? What it is, what it does, or why it does it?

Click this graphic, and take a look at our Introduction to the Western Massachusetts HMCC. We think it will answer a lot of your questions!



Health and Medical  
Coordinating Coalitions:

*An Introduction to the  
Western Massachusetts HMCC*

## Coalition Updates

### A New Program Year Brings New Activities

Summer marks the beginning of a new budget period under the cooperative agreement with the MA DPH Office of Preparedness and Emergency Management. Coalition staff and OPEM-funded disciplines worked this summer to finalize the prior grant period by submitting all outstanding deliverables, and closing up the fiscal year.

We built a handout to indicate the pending Coalition activities for the coming program year. Take a look via the link below, and don't hesitate to contact **Mark** or **Tracy** with any questions or feedback - we'd love to hear from you!

[View the coming program year activities here!](#)

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### Coalition Calendar Available Online

To better coordinate notification and planning around Coalition-related

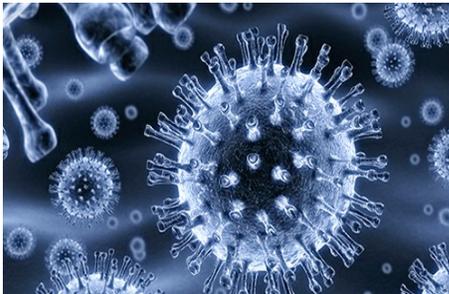
events, from meetings, to trainings, etc., we have embedded an interactive calendar into our webpage. From this calendar you can import events directly into your own digital calendar, or simply browse it for upcoming events.



Please [contact Mark](#) if you have an event you'd like posted on the calendar for other Coalition members to see! Not sure if something merits inclusion in the HMCC calendar? [Contact Mark](#), and we'll figure it out together!

[Find the interactive calendar at the bottom of our webpage!](#)

## Training Opportunities



### Training Series: Managing Response to Emerging Infectious Disease

The [DelValle Institute for Emergency Preparedness](#) will commence their training series: Managing Response to Emerging Infectious Diseases (EID) in early August.

The series will consist of **3 webinars, followed by an in-person session offered in various regions within the state.** The target audience consists of the five core public health and healthcare disciplines (community health centers, emergency medical services, long term care, hospitals, and public health).

Participants are not expected to attend all sessions, but are encouraged to attend the live session.

#### Webinar 1: Core Concepts

**Tuesday, August 9, 2016 - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

The unique challenges of emerging infectious diseases include an increased need for trust and communication with the public, personal protective measures, and collaboration with colleagues across agencies and disciplines. This webinar will introduce these and other challenges and review foundational concepts that will be expanded upon for the remainder of the training series.

[Register for Webinar 1](#)

#### Webinar 2: Learning From the Past

**Wednesday, August 24th, 2016 - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM**

As with any type of hazard, it is imperative that we draw upon experience from past outbreaks to build a collective wisdom and continual improvement to our response. With emerging infectious diseases, this is particularly challenging given that such outbreaks often occur years apart and in distant communities. In this webinar, we'll examine best practices and lessons uncovered from historical EID response efforts, and explore how these can be applied to improve our response to future outbreaks.

[Register for Webinar 2](#)

#### Webinar 3: Examining the Present

**Wednesday, September 7, 2016 - 11:00 am - 12:00 pm**

In September 2014, the first Ebola patient in the US was diagnosed in Dallas. From the day of that diagnosis, and for weeks afterward, public health, healthcare, and EMS agencies in Dallas County

were working in a context very different from the day-to-day routine. Join us for a look behind the scenes of the multi-agency response, including how lessons observed in 2014 are informing planning and response actions today.

[Register for Webinar 3](#)

### **Live Session for Western MA:**

**Friday, September 30, 2016**

Whitney Avenue Conference Center, Bay State Health - Holyoke, MA

Given all that we will have learned and discussed about the past and present from the preceding webinars, what steps can we take to improve our future responses? Join this live session to explore this question with colleagues across the core public health and healthcare disciplines. **We look forward to seeing you there!**

[Register for the Western MA Live Session](#)

## **Web Links**

[Region 1 HMCC Homepage](#)

[Western Region Homeland Security Advisory Council \(WRHSAC\)](#)

[Region 1 Multi-Agency Coordination Center \(MACC\) Project](#)

The Western MA HMCC is sponsored by the  
[Franklin Regional Council of Governments](#)

*and made possible by funding from the*  
[MA DPH Office of Preparedness and Emergency Management](#)

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