

# Western Massachusetts Health & Medical Coordinating Coalition (HMCC)

Newsletter - July 2017

## News and Updates

### A New Program Year for the HMCC!

The HMCC has begun its second program year as a fully operational coalition! Of course the staff are planning vacations and moments to enjoy the summer, but we are also lining up the strategies and activities for the new program year, which runs concurrent with the fiscal year.

We will continue to strengthen regional healthcare collaboration in preparedness and response, providing guidance and support to our partners, as well as testing existing plans, and building new Appendices and Annexes to the regional Emergency Coordination Plan.

Interested to learn more about our **goals and activities for the coming year**? Take a look at our anticipated activities at a glance by clicking the image above, or checking out our website at [www.region1hmcc.org](http://www.region1hmcc.org).

Western MA Health and Medical Coordinating Coalition (HMCC)  
BPI (Program Year 2017-2018) At a Glance

Throughout the **summer and fall of 2017**, the HMCC staff and committees will:

- Plan and conduct a **redundant communications drill**
- Build and conduct a **Duty Officer functional exercise**
- Review and update as needed the **HMCC Principles of Operation** and regional **Emergency Coordination Plan**
- Complete the coordination of a regional **Jurisdictional Risk Assessment**
- Support health and medical stakeholders in meeting elements of the **CMS Preparedness Rule**

Later in the **winter of 2017/18**, the HMCC staff and committees will:

- Commence a **health and medical resource inventory** within region
- Identify strategies to support the **Inclusion of people with access and functional needs** supports in all health and medical stakeholder planning
- Build a **Behavioral Health Resources Appendix** to the regional Emergency Coordination Plan
- Build a regional **Medical Surge Annex** to the Emergency Coordination Plan

In the **spring of 2018**, the HMCC staff and committees will:

- Review and update the **Resource Coordination Annex** to Emergency Coordination Plan as needed
- Explore **furthering executive engagement** in health and medical preparedness
- Engage in **geospatial analysis** to identify and plan for vulnerable populations
- Conduct a **Medical Surge Test**

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[www.region1hmcc.org](http://www.region1hmcc.org)

## CENTERS FOR MEDICARE & MEDICAID SERVICES (CMS) ISSUES PREPAREDNESS RULE GUIDANCE AND SURVEYOR TOOL

Last month, CMS issued Interpretive Guidance for the new Preparedness Rule Conditions of Participation; the guidance offers some clarity into the specifics behind the new rule.

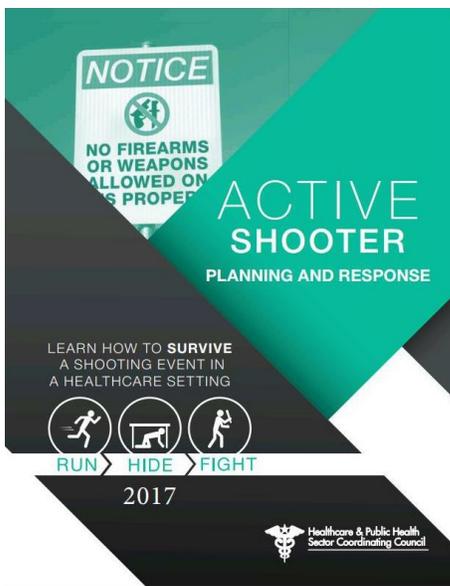
While we can't say it's the most user-friendly document, it does indeed offer clarity to those willing to dig through it, mainly in the form of specific surveyor guidance around what should be asked, what types of documents should be requested, etc.

We have posted the .pdf of the guidance document on the [Region 1 HMCC website](http://www.region1hmcc.org), as well as the spreadsheet that will be used by surveyors. If your work involves any efforts towards CMS Preparedness Rule compliance, we recommend you check them out!

[Interpretive Guidance for CMS Preparedness Rule](#)

[Surveyor Tool \(Excel Spreadsheet\)](#)

New Resources



Click the image above to access the Active shooter Planning and Response Guide.

## Active Shooter Planning Guide for Healthcare

Earlier this year, the Department of Homeland Security's Healthcare and Public Health Sector Coordinating Council released "[Active Shooter Planning and Response](#)", a planning guide that outlines various perspectives and planning options around healthcare facility active shooter events.

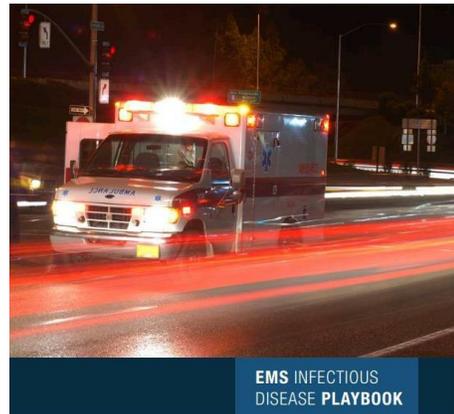
The guide addresses planning considerations specific to the healthcare sector, and outlines pathways for collaboration with first responders to ensure the most efficacious response possible with the maximum amount of lives saved.

This guide is filled with good information and planning considerations. We recommend you check it out and incorporate it into your facility planning.

## EMS Infectious Disease Response Playbook Issued

The [ASPR TRACIE EMS Infectious Disease Playbook](#), released in June, is a one-stop information source to guide the transport of patients known or suspected of having an infectious disease. Organized by type of precaution, the Playbook lists example diseases, the goal of precautions, dispatch actions, considerations for arriving EMS, patient care, and transport, type and proper use of PPE, ambulance decontamination instructions; and links to resources for more information

EMS directors and other authorities can review the Playbook to identify practices worthy of inclusion in agency standard operating procedures. Dispatchers and responders can refer to it for the latest information and links to detailed guidance. Planners can use the Playbook to assess whether personnel have the correct equipment, training, and knowledge to accomplish their jobs safely.



Click the Image above to access the ASPR EMS Playbook.

## Upcoming Trainings

### Training: "Event Security Planning for Public Safety Professionals"

The [Rural Domestic Preparedness Consortium](#) will present a 2 day, 16-hour, classroom-based course is designed to provide planning and management-level skills to public and private sector event security planners who have a lead or supporting responsibility for event security planning. The audience for this course includes local and state law enforcement personnel who are often assigned responsibility for coordinating security for planned events, as well as other planners representing emergency management, emergency medical service (EMS), fire service, and public health.

Participants will be provided with the essential skills and knowledge to understand the importance of and the need for planning and managing security for special events, and to identify guiding principles and components associated with event security.

This free training will be held in Agawam on August 2nd and 3rd.

Please register by July 19th to ensure a seat.

[Register Here](#)

## 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](#)

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