

Western Massachusetts Health & Medical Coordinating Coalition (HMCC)

Newsletter - September 2017

News and Updates

SEATS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR THE WESTERN MA JURISDICTIONAL RISK ASSESSMENT MEETING

This second element of the the Jurisdictional Risk Assessment (JRA) process will engage stakeholders to further identify vulnerabilities and risks specifically related to regional health and medical facilities and systems, and discuss potential mitigation strategies. This in-person meeting will build upon the survey issued to western MA health and medical stakeholders in the spring of 2017.

For providers and suppliers covered under the new CMS emergency preparedness rule, the JRA process will fulfill the rule's community-based risk assessment components based on current Federal guidance. Participating partners will be provided with content to include in their emergency plans regarding the community assessment.

**Friday, October 13th
9 a.m. - 1 p.m.**

Pittsfield Elks Lodge
27 Union Street Pittsfield, MA

*Registration and light breakfast at 8:30
Lunch will also be provided*

Please RSVP prior to October 6th

[Register Now!](#)

W MA HMCC Documents Included in National Resource Directory!

The Health and Human Services' [ASPR TRACIE](#) (Assistant Secretary of Response Technical Resources Assistance Center and Information Exchange) has included some western MA HMCC documents in their Healthcare Coalition Topics Collections, which point to notable resources and best practice throughout the country!

Our [Introduction to the Western Massachusetts HMCC](#) is included in: [Coalition Administrative Issues Topic Collection](#), as well the the the [Coalition Model and](#)

[Functions Topic Collection](#) (our [Duty Officer Quick Reference Guide](#) is also included in this collection).

ASPR TRACIE was created to meet the information and technical assistance needs of healthcare coalitions, healthcare entities, healthcare providers, emergency managers, public health practitioners, and others working in disaster medicine, healthcare system preparedness, and public health emergency preparedness. If you have not yet checked them out, we encourage you to do so!

New Resources

CMS Preparedness Rule Surveyor Course is Now Available Online

The [Preparedness Rule training module for CMS surveyors](#) is now available online. Personnel in facilities that are newly accountable for greater preparedness efforts and documentation may wish to take the course to get a better handle on what the surveyors will be looking for to document compliance with the CMS Preparedness Rule.

Mark will take the course for greater situational awareness this week, so if you are hesitant to commit the time without hearing more about it, feel free to [email Mark](#) in early October to glean his thoughts on the surveyor training and how helpful it might be to preparedness coordinators in various health and medical facilities.

As a reminder, resources for the Preparedness Rule can be found on the [HMCC webpage!](#)

Upcoming Trainings

"Highly Infectious and Emerging Disease Protection: The Basics"

Despite advances to infection control, highly infectious and emerging diseases continue to be a threat to public health worldwide. This training from the [Del Valle Institute for Emergency Preparedness](#) provides instruction on recognition of and protection from highly infectious and newly emerging threats in the workplace.

The online, learn-as-you-go format delivers **awareness level training to non-clinical workers in healthcare, public health, and law enforcement**. Participants of this training will learn how to effectively protect themselves from potential encounters with highly infectious and emerging diseases in their work setting.

Access the course [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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