

ASPR

Week of March 16, 2020

Hospital Preparedness Program
HPP Weekly Update

Upcoming Important Dates

- **March 30: HPP-PHEP Recipient Meeting at 2020 Preparedness Summit – To be Rescheduled**
- **April 28: HPP FY 2020/BP2 Funding Application Due – Budget Components Only**
- **June 29: Remaining HPP FY 2020/BP2 Funding Application Components Due**

Attachments

- [Use of Hospital Preparedness Program Ebola Preparedness and Response Activities Funds for Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Preparedness and Response](#)

Here's what you need to know:

Emergency Response Activities

- ASPR Responds to the COVID-19 Outbreak
- WHO Characterizes COVID-19 as a Pandemic
- White House Announces New Travel Restrictions
- Community Intervention Guidance Now Available
- Updated Infection Control Guidance Addresses Respirator Supply Demands
- COVID-19 Guidance Documents for Specific Groups Available on CDC Website
- COCA Calls Provide Timely Emergency Preparedness Information to Clinicians
- New Map Highlights States Conducting COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing
- CDC Partners with NextDoor to Disseminate COVID-19 Messaging
- CDC Updates Risk Assessment and Management Guidance
- COVID-19: Stay Up-to-Date

Other News and Resources

- CDC Online Resources
- CDC and ASPR to Reschedule March 30 HPP-PHEP Recipient Meeting

Trainings and Webinars

- CDC Learning Connection Offers Free Training Courses

ASPR TRACIE

- What's New with ASPR TRACIE?
- Recording Now Available: Highly Pathogenic Infectious Disease Training and Exercise Resources
- Now Available: Health Care Coalition Burn Surge Annex Template
- Recording Now Available – Developing a Health Care Coalition Pediatric Surge Annex Webinar
- Resources Available – Technical Assistance Responses

Around ASPR

- ASPR Blog: BARDA Leverages Strong Public-Private Partnerships to Spur a Rapid Response to the Novel Coronavirus Outbreak
- On Twitter

Emergency Response Activities

ASPR Responds to the COVID-19 Outbreak

In response to the 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak, the federal government is taking steps to protect the country. Within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response is working with our partners to explore the development of new countermeasures and take other actions to enhance health security. Stay up-to-day by visiting the [ASPR website](#).

WHO Characterizes COVID-19 as a Pandemic

On March 11, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced that the global outbreak of respiratory illness caused by a new coronavirus that emerged from China has reached pandemic proportions. In the past two weeks, the number of COVID-19 cases outside of China has increased, and, as of March 11, there are now more than 118,000 cases in 114 countries, and 4,291 people have lost their lives. As of March 12, CDC has reported:

- 1,215 confirmed and presumptive positive cases of COVID-19 and
- 36 COVID-19 related deaths.

White House Announces New Travel Restrictions

On March 11, President Donald Trump issued a [proclamation](#) that foreign nationals who have been in one or more of 26 European countries within the past 14 days cannot enter the United States for a period of 30 days. Aimed at slowing the spread of COVID-19 in the United States, the proclamation applies to foreign nationals who have been in the Schengen Area, 26 countries in Europe with open borders agreements, within the last 14 days. Those who are exempt from these restrictions, such as American citizens, will be directed to a limited number of U.S. airports where screening will take place. CDC will continue to work with state and local health departments to implement screening and quarantine measures to address these new travel rules.

On March 11, CDC issued a:

- [Level 3 Travel Health Notice](#) recommending travelers avoid all nonessential travel to most of Europe.
- [Global Level 2 Travel Health Notice](#) recommending older adults and those who have chronic medical conditions consider postponing nonessential travel.

On March 8, CDC recommended travelers, particularly those with underlying health issues, defer all [cruise ship travel](#) worldwide.

Community Intervention Guidance Now Available

On March 10, CDC posted [Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission](#). This document is a framework for actions which local and state health departments can recommend in their communities to both prepare for and to mitigate community transmission of COVID-19 in the United States. The guidance will help communities select and implement community interventions based on the local characteristics of disease transmission, local population demographics, and public health and health care system capacity.

Updated Infection Control Guidance Addresses Respirator Supply Demands

On March 10, CDC published updated [Interim Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for Patients with Suspected or Confirmed COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings](#). The revised interim guidance prioritizes the use of N95 respirators and other respiratory protection devices during high-risk procedures, while still protecting health care personnel with facemasks and eye protection during other routine patient care activities in the setting of temporary respirator shortages. This interim guidance aims to support health care facilities in practical decision-making at the local level. This guidance also outlines multiple interventions that can be used to enhance protection of health care personnel.

In addition, CDC has posted information about [strategies to optimize the current supply of N95 respirators](#), including the use of devices that provide higher levels of respiratory protection (e.g., powered air purifying respirators [PAPRs]) when N95s are not available. CDC has also provided a [companion checklist](#) to help health care facilities prioritize the implementation of the strategies.

COVID-19 Guidance Documents for Specific Groups Available on CDC Website

The following CDC guidance documents for specific groups are available on the CDC website.

- [Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers](#)
- [Interim Guidance for Administrators of US Childcare Programs and K-12 Schools](#)
- [Information for Health Care Professionals](#)
- [Resources for Community- and Faith-Based Leaders](#)
- [Resources for Healthcare Facilities](#)
- [Resources for Homeless Shelters](#)

COCA Calls Provide Timely Emergency Preparedness Information to Clinicians

CDC offers late-breaking information to clinicians related to emerging public health threats such as COVID-19 by way of the Clinician Outreach and Communication Activity (COCA). COCA invites all clinicians to [sign up for COCA email updates and reminders](#) regarding upcoming conference calls and webinars focusing on CDC guidance and recommendations. Prior sessions are archived on the CDC website, and recent COVID-19 webinars can be viewed at the following locations.

March 5, 2020: [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Update—What Clinicians Need to Know to Prepare for COVID-19 in the United States](#)

March 5, 2020: [Outbreak of 2019 Novel Coronavirus \(2019-nCoV\)—Interim Guidance for Clinicians](#)

March 12, 2020: [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Update—Information for Clinicians Caring for Children and Pregnant Women](#)

March 13, 2020: [Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Update and Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations](#)

New Map Highlights States Conducting COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing

More state and local public health laboratories are now testing for the virus that causes COVID-19, and they are reporting their results publicly. CDC has developed a [map showing the states that have successfully verified and are currently using COVID-19 diagnostic tests](#). As of March 16, 89 state and local public health laboratories are able to test for COVID-19. Because states are reporting their results directly and publicly, sometimes in near real-time, CDC case counts may differ from what states, local authorities, or media are reporting. If there are discrepancies between case counts reported by state or local officials and CDC-reported numbers, the numbers provided by states will be the most current.

CDC Partners with NextDoor to Disseminate COVID-19 Messaging

CDC is working with NextDoor, the community outreach social media application with a presence across the United States and 10 other nations, to share pertinent COVID-19 information. NextDoor is also interested in working with state organizations to provide state-specific guidance, links to state resources, and messages tailored to specific communities. States interested in learning more about NextDoor can contact [Dan Parham](#), Nextdoor's director of civic engagement, at 917-501-9506. Additional information is available on the [NextDoor website](#).

CDC Updates Risk Assessment and Management Guidance

CDC has released updated [Interim U.S. Guidance for Risk Assessment and Public Health Management of Persons with Potential Coronavirus Disease 2019 \(COVID-19\) Exposures](#). Changes were made to, among other things:

- Clarify that in jurisdictions without sustained community transmission, decisions for public health action should be based on priorities of public health authorities (e.g., surveillance, contact tracing). In jurisdictions with sustained community transmission, travelers and other potentially exposed individuals should follow local guidance. Also provided a rationale for these changes.
- Update definitions for self-observation, self-monitoring, and self-monitoring with public health supervision.
- Provide exposure risk definitions and recommended management for countries other than China.

CDC has provided separate [guidance for health care settings](#).

COVID-19: Stay Up-to-Date

The COVID-19 response continues to evolve. Stay up-to-date on developments by visiting the [CDC Coronavirus Disease 2019 Outbreak website](#) and reviewing the CDC Key Points and Key Messages. In addition, CDC has established a [webpage for SLT public health professionals](#) that includes a summary of key COVID-19 resources and highlights new content. CDC also published an [infographic](#) about protecting and preparing communities.

Other News and Resources

CDC Online Resources

[CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report: March 13, 2020](#)

CDC and ASPR to Reschedule March 30 HPP-PHEP Recipient Meeting

CDC and ASPR plan to reschedule the HPP-PHEP recipient meeting originally scheduled for March 30 in Dallas. NACCHO has rescheduled the 2020 Preparedness Summit for August 21-26, 2020, in Dallas. ASPR and CDC are reviewing options for conducting an abbreviated recipient meeting virtually to discuss COVID-19 response activities and other critical topics. ASPR has waived the HPP summit attendance requirement for FY 2019/Budget Period 1.

Trainings and Webinars

CDC Learning Connection Offers Free Training Courses

The [CDC Learning Connection](#) helps public health and health care professionals stay informed about quality trainings from CDC, other federal agencies, and federally-funded partners.

- Learn how pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) can reduce the risk of HIV by up to 99% and how to prescribe, monitor, and educate patients about PrEP with [Prescribing PrEP](#).
- Learn about unconscious bias and ways to protect your decision making with [Implicit Bias](#).

Learn how to apply a trauma-informed approach to care for trafficked victims with [SOAR: Trauma-Informed Care](#).

ASPR TRACIE

What's New with ASPR TRACIE?

This [ASPR TRACIE Express](#) announces the [Exchange Issue 10](#) which includes interviews with subject matter experts on lessons learned from recent wildfires, evacuating and receiving patients, and preparing for planned power outages. The Express also highlights new and updated ASPR TRACIE resources and recent webinars.

Recording Now Available: Highly Pathogenic Infectious Disease Training and Exercise Resources

[ASPR TRACIE](#) and the [National Ebola Training and Education Center](#) (NETEC) co-hosted a webinar on March 5, 2020 on Highly Pathogenic Infectious Disease Training and Exercise Resources. The presentation and link to the webinar are [now available on ASPR TRACIE](#). The title page of the presentation includes a [link to the recording](#). Please note that you will need to enter your name and email address to access the recording.

Now Available: Health Care Coalition Burn Surge Annex Template

The 2019-2023 HPP Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) requires HCCs to develop a complementary coalition-level burn annex to their base medical surge/trauma mass casualty response plan. This [Healthcare Coalition Burn Surge Annex Template](#) can be tailored by coalitions to help develop their annex. HCCs are encouraged to use this template to promote consistent operational planning and formatting of the specialty annexes.

Recording Now Available – Developing a Health Care Coalition Pediatric Surge Annex Webinar

The Developing a Health Care Coalition Pediatric Surge Annex webinar is [now available](#). You can also access a recording of the presentation [here](#). Please note that you will need to enter your name and email address to access the recording.

Resources Available – Technical Assistance Responses

This [ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Response](#) provides resources for health care system emergency preparedness planners and correctional facility workers preparing for and responding to infectious disease outbreaks that may occur in prisons and jails.

This [ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Response](#) provides surge resources specific to homecare and hospice agencies.

This [ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Response](#) provides resources that can inform a health care coalition's pediatric gap analysis.

This [ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Response](#) provides resources on lessons learned on health care absenteeism during past infectious disease outbreaks.

Around ASPR

ASPR Blog: BARDA Leverages Strong Public-Private Partnerships to Spur a Rapid Response to the Novel Coronavirus Outbreak

ASPR HPP Weekly Update Summary of Items Relating to The Needs of Frontline Healthcare Facilities

On January 31, 2019, Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar declared a nationwide public health emergency in response to the novel coronavirus outbreak. Three days later, BARDA entered into the first in a series of expanded public-private partnerships to develop a new medical countermeasure. BARDA is acting with unprecedented speed to initiate research and development to spur innovative medical countermeasures to fight the 2019 novel coronavirus. Read [more](#).

On Twitter

Follow ASPR [@PHEgov](#)!

- Pharmacists connect people who need their medicine with vital medications. Officers from the U.S. Public Health Service prepare medications for people who are quarantined on Travis Air Force Base following the [#COVID19](#) pandemic. Click [here](#) to learn more.
- Top o' the morning to evacuees at [@Travis60AMW](#) from NDMS responders! Responders from the National Disaster Medical System head out to get breakfast ready for delivery to passengers from the Grand Princess following the [#COVID19](#) pandemic. Click [here](#) to learn more.
- Special delivery for guests at [@MCASMiramarCA](#)! [@HHSgov](#) responders make sure that packages get delivered to passengers from the Grand Princess who under quarantine following the [#COVID19](#) outbreak. Click [here](#) to learn more.

We want to hear from you.

<mailto:hpp@HHS.gov> <https://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/planning/hpp/Pages/default.aspx>

Note: ASPR provides the above sources of information for the convenience of the HPP community and is not responsible for the availability or content of the information or tools provided, nor does ASPR endorse, warrant or guarantee the products, services or information described or offered. It is the responsibility of the user to determine the usefulness and applicability of the information provided.