

Division of State and Local Readiness Friday Update

October 30, 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 (DSLRL) 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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DSLRL FRIDAY UPDATE 

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- 2021 CPG Module Training to Be Held November 5

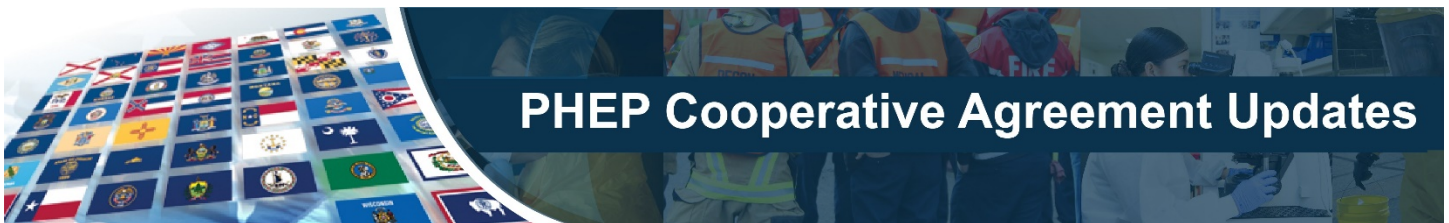
News You Can Use

- CDC Opens New South America Regional Office in Brazil

Online Resources



- **October 30** – PHEP TP17-1701 Closeout Reports Due
- **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
- **November 16** – Direct Assistance Renewals/New Requests for Personnel Due



New Project Underway to Enhance PERFORMS

CDC and ASPR have launched an initiative to enhance the PERFORMS information system used for program management and monitoring of the PHEP and Hospital Preparedness Program cooperative agreements. Over the next two months, the PERFORMS Enhancements Work Group will review the strengths and weaknesses of the current PERFORMS system, with a focus on improving and modernizing the system for its users. The work group also will provide suggestions for renaming PERFORMS (Preparedness Emergency Response System for Oversight, Reporting and Management Services). Initially, the PERFORMS system was slated to be replaced in the fall of 2020 with a new program management system. However, CDC and ASPR determined it would be more feasible to retain PERFORMS and enhance its ability to electronically process applications, track ongoing budget and work plan actions and monitor recipient progress and performance.

DSLRL's Information Technology Team is managing the PERFORMS review process and will use the work group's input to make recommendations to PHEP and HPP leadership on changes to the PERFORMS system. CDC and ASPR are seeking input from a small number of PHEP and HPP recipients on suggested enhancements. In the next two weeks, DSLR project officers will be contacting PHEP recipients that are experienced PERFORMS users to ask them to serve on the work group.

November PHEP Connects Webinar Highlights Enhanced Information Exchange Using GIS Technology

CDC's next PHEP Connects webinar, "Building a United COVID-19 Response Using GIS Technology in Minnesota," is scheduled for **1 p.m. EST on Thursday, November 12**. Normally held on the second Wednesday of the month, the November webinar has been moved due to the Veterans Day federal holiday on November 11.



The COVID-19 pandemic has presented new challenges for many states. Health departments have had to develop new ways of tracking and analyzing data, scheduling mass testing, and circulating information both inside and outside of their internet firewalls. This PHEP Connects webinar will highlight how Minnesota, using Geographic Information System (GIS) technology, quickly progressed from being reactive to proactive in collecting and sharing information. Webinar presenters will describe how the state's simple maps and dashboards evolved into a collaborative environment designed to fulfill mounting information demands.

Participants can log onto <https://adobeconnect.cdc.gov/r600og3mlz5/> to view the webinar. To listen to the audio portion via phone line, dial 1-888-455-5125 and enter participant passcode 4495815. Registration is not required to join this webinar and no software downloading is required. Continuing education credit will not be offered for this presentation. For more information on the PHEP Connects webinar series, contact preparedness@cdc.gov.



Common Investigation Protocol Now Available for Suspected SARS-CoV-2 Reinfection

CDC has released a new [protocol](#) designed to support a common public health investigation into suspected SARS-CoV-2 [reinfection](#) cases across jurisdictions. Detecting confirmed or suspected SARS-CoV-2 reinfections is critical to public health control and related risk assessments. The possibility of reinfection could present challenges to controlling viral transmission within communities or within specific vulnerable populations. A better understanding of reinfection and the immune response to SARS-CoV-2 is also needed to inform vaccine planning efforts. Confirming SARS-CoV-2 reinfection requires advanced laboratory diagnostic support built upon advanced planning to implement this protocol, or a locally adapted version, with referral of specimens to supporting laboratory networks. Data collected with this protocol will identify potential cases of reinfection, advance understanding of SARS-CoV-2 epidemiology, and inform public health response.

CDC Releases MMWRs on COVID-19 Outbreaks and Exposure Among Healthcare Personnel

Three new studies in CDC's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)* highlight the importance of preventive measures in group settings and the need for improved strategies to prevent and control COVID-19 in healthcare settings.

- [COVID-19 Outbreak Among a University's Men's and Women's Soccer Teams — Chicago, Illinois, July–August 2020](#): This MMWR identified social gatherings and limited mask use as possible sources of spread. Colleges and universities should consider CDC guidelines on testing students without symptoms who are at increased risk for infection to detect outbreaks and improve messaging regarding mask use and the importance of staying 6 feet apart.
- [COVID-19 Outbreak at an Overnight Summer School Retreat — Wisconsin, July–August 2020](#): This CDC report details a COVID-19 outbreak at a summer retreat where students stayed in dorms and yurts and did not wear masks or keep 6 feet apart. Seventy-six percent of the attendees developed COVID-19 after a student tested positive. These findings highlight the importance of preventive measures in group settings, including quarantining and testing before arrival, wearing masks, and keeping interactions within small groups.
- [SARS-CoV-2 Exposure and Infection Among Health Care Personnel — Minnesota, March 6–July 11, 2020](#): Findings indicate that one out of four COVID-19 exposures among healthcare personnel were higher-risk exposures, meaning they involved close, prolonged contact without appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) with someone who had the virus. More than a third of these higher-risk exposures occurred outside of direct patient care, such as during contact with co-workers, friends, or family. Healthcare settings need improved strategies to prevent and control COVID-19; consistent availability of PPE, including masks and gloves; flexible sick leave; and testing access.

New CDC Resource Highlights Case Investigation, Contact Tracing Considerations for RIM Populations

[COVID-19 Case Investigation and Contact Tracing among Refugee, Immigrant, and Migrant \(RIM\) Populations: Important Considerations for Health Departments](#) supplements the [Interim Guidance on Developing a COVID-19 Case Investigation & Contact Tracing Plan: Overview](#). The supplement highlights important topics that may affect contact tracing among refugee, immigrant, and migrant populations, including concerns regarding confidentiality, language barriers, and opportunities for community engagement.



What's on the Calendar

- **November 5** – 2021 CPG Module Training
- **November 12** – PHEP Connects Webinar
- **November 18** – PHEP Recipient Monthly Call



Tools and Resources


2021 CPG Module Training to Be Held November 5

The 2021 Capabilities Planning Guide (CPG) module will open in PERFORMS on Monday, November 2. Recipients will use the 2021 CPG module to assess their current preparedness status for each of the 15 preparedness and response capabilities, which will help inform their PHEP Budget Period 3 work plans. CDC's PERFORMS team will present a training session on the CPG module from **2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EST on Thursday, November 5**. Following is the participant information for this session.

Conference Phone Number: 8667245153

Participant Code: 75708931

<https://dslr-itt.adobeconnect.com/itt-performs/>



News You Can Use

CDC Opens New South America Regional Office in Brazil

On October 29, CDC opened its new South America regional office in Brasilia, Brazil. The new regional office strengthens CDC's ability to meet its mission of protecting Americans by responding more rapidly to health threats wherever they occur and building key relationships to tackle shared health priorities. According to CDC Director Robert R. Redfield, MD, CDC's regional approach provides CDC with the flexibility to focus efforts and to deploy staff and other resources where they are most urgently needed, such as responding to outbreaks at their source, providing technical assistance; and advancing programmatic objectives that improve health. Juliette Morgan, MD, the new CDC South America regional director, will develop a global health security strategy for the region and coordinate global health security activities.

CDC is establishing other regional offices around the world to advance U.S. global health security goals and build and maintain a sustainable global presence. CDC recently established regional offices in Eastern Europe/Central Asia (Georgia), the Middle East/North Africa (Oman), and Southeast Asia (Vietnam).



CDC MMWR Reports

- [Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report](#), October 30
- [Early Release: COVID-19 Outbreak Among a University's Men's and Women's Soccer Teams — Chicago, Illinois, July–August 2020](#), October 28
- [Early Release: COVID-19 Mitigation Behaviors by Age Group — United States, April–June 2020](#), October 28

COVID-19 Guidance and Resources

- **NEW** [Reinfection of the Virus that Causes COVID-19](#)
- **NEW** [Common Investigation Protocol for Investigating Suspected SARS-CoV-2 Reinfection](#)
- **NEW** [Investigative Criteria for Suspected Cases of SARS-CoV-2 Reinfection \(ICR\)](#)
- **NEW** [“Excess Death” Data Point to Pandemic’s True Toll](#)
- **NEW** [When to Delay Your Travel](#)
- **NEW** [Toolkit for Reducing the Spread of COVID-19 During Elections](#)
- **NEW** [Tips for Voters to Reduce Spread of COVID-19](#)
- **UPDATED** [CDC COVID Data Tracker](#)
- **UPDATED** [Staffing Resources](#)
- **UPDATED** [COVID-19 Forecasts: Hospitalizations](#)
- **UPDATED** [When to Quarantine](#)
- **UPDATED** [When You Can Be Around Others After You Had or Likely Had COVID-19](#)
- **UPDATED** [Interim Clinical Guidance for Management of Patients with Confirmed Coronavirus Disease \(COVID-19\)](#)

Christine Kosmos, RN, BSN, MS

Director, Division of State and Local Readiness
Center for Preparedness and Response
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

1600 Clifton Rd Atlanta, GA 30329 1-800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636) TTY: 888-232-6348

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