

October 6, 2023

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 (DSLR) 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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- October 16 CDC Action Plan Module Training (7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. EDT)
- October 18 HPP-PHEP Recipient Call (2 p.m. to 3 p.m. EDT) Canceled

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Upcoming Deadlines

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- October 31 PHEP BP4 Annual Progress Reports



PHEP Cooperative Agreement Updates

CDC PHEP Connects Webinar Scheduled for October 11 CDC's next PHEP Connects webinar is scheduled for 1 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, October 11. The webinar will discuss "Maternal and Infant Health in Emergency Preparedness and



Response: Tools and Resources for State, Tribal, Local, and Territorial Communities." CDC presenter Romeo Galang, Division of Reproductive Health, will share information to help state, tribal, local, and territorial emergency planners address the special needs of maternal and infant populations during public health emergencies. Learn more about the resources and tools available for women of reproductive age, mothers, and infants before, during, and after public health emergencies. Following is the participant information.

Participant Information

Dial-In: (669) 254-5252 (Audio only)

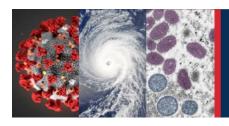
Meeting ID: 161 241 1865

Passcode: 569595

Web Link: https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1612411865

2024 SAS Requests Due October 16

On Friday, October 6, PHEP project officers will begin to email Statistical Analysis Software (SAS) license renewal instructions and request forms to recipients. Recipients must sign and return completed forms to their PHEP project officers by **Monday**, **October 16**. The current SAS licenses will expire December 31, with a grace period through March 2024. CDC will begin to distribute fiscal year 2024 licenses in January 2024. Recipients should contact their PHEP project officers for additional information.



Emergency Response Activities

CDC Plans for Triple Threat of Respiratory Viruses

Fall and winter are when viruses that cause respiratory diseases usually circulate at high levels. Last year, SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19), influenza (flu), and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) caused high rates of severe illness and strained health care systems nationwide.

In the 2022-2023 season: COVID-19 hospitalizations surged, flu-related hospitalizations returned to a range seen in seasons before the COVID-19 pandemic, and RSV-related hospitalizations were 1.5 times higher than typical pre-pandemic rates.

This year, CDC has implemented a Respiratory Viruses Response, led by the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases. This response is coordinating CDC's ongoing work on these viruses and integrating new and existing resources to help people protect themselves and their families from serious illness this fall and winter.

Through the Respiratory Viruses Response, CDC is working to:

- Prevent illness and death from respiratory disease by using effective tools, including, for the first time in the United States, vaccines to protect against RSV.
- Advance health equity and protect those who are most vulnerable to severe disease.
- Use high-quality data to detect trends in disease and quickly characterize new variants and novel viruses.
- Support healthcare workers to prevent the spread and reduce the impact of COVID-19, flu, and RSV in their facilities.
- Promote practical, effective action including vaccination, ventilation improvements, masking, and hand washing to protect against respiratory diseases.
- Increase timely access to testing and treatments to enable individuals.

Visit CDC's <u>Protect Yourself from COVID-19</u>, <u>Flu</u>, <u>and RSV</u> webpage for additional resources and stay up to date with weekly CDC updates on the respiratory illness season at <u>CDC Respiratory Virus Updates</u>.



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Preparedness and Response Resources

Jump start fall with the following featured trainings on CDC Learning Connection.

- CDC is preparing for respiratory virus season this fall and winter. Learn the latest recommendations
 for influenza, COVID-19, and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) vaccines with Preparing for the Upcoming Respiratory Virus Season. Free continuing education credit is available.
- Learn how to identify the source of a foodborne outbreak and prevent further illness with Applied Outbreak Investigation.

<u>Sign up</u> to receive the CDC Learning Connection newsletter to stay informed about public health trainings from CDC and partners.

NACCHO Seeks Resources for RIM-serving Organizations and Communities

Many communities in the United States have faced challenges in coordinating resources for a sudden and significant increase in the number of arrivals of migrants, refugees, and displaced populations. The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is seeking to bolster the preparedness resources of organizations working with refugee, immigrant, and migrant (RIM) populations. To that end, NACCHO is soliciting preparedness resources to disseminate to RIM-serving organizations and communities. These tailored resources will better equip organizations in their response planning and provide more robust support for newly arrived populations.

These resources may include but are not limited to promising and best practices in strategies used, resources employed, checklists, templates, and any other guidance specifically tailored to support an influx of newly arrived populations. Please share these resources via email to RIM@NACCHO.org.



News You Can Use

HHS Launches Tool to Identify Counties at Risk of Climate-Related Hazards

In coordination with the White House Summit on Building Climate Resilient Communities, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of Climate Change and Health Equity (OCCHE) and Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response's (ASPR) Geospatial Team launched the Climate and Health Outlook Portal, an interactive tool that provides actionable, county-level data that can be used to prepare for climate-related hazard events. Policymakers, health care providers, and the general public can use the tool to better understand the health impacts of climate-related hazard forecasts in their communities and plan accordingly.

The portal builds on an OCCHE publication, <u>Climate and Health Outlook</u>, that links seasonal weather and hazard forecasts to health impacts. This beta version of the Climate and Health Outlook Portal features interactive maps showing county-level extreme heat, wildfire, and drought forecasts for the current month, along with county-level data on individual risk factors that may make people more vulnerable to negative health outcomes from these climate hazards. Future iterations of the tool will incorporate additional climate-related hazards and individual risk factors.



Online Resources

CDC MMWR Reports

- Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, October 6
- Characteristics and Outcomes Among Adults Aged ≥60 Years Hospitalized with Laboratory-Confirmed Respiratory Syncytial Virus RSV-NET, 12 States, July 2022–June 2023
- Disease Severity of Respiratory Syncytial Virus Compared with COVID-19 and Influenza Among Hospitalized Adults Aged ≥60 Years — IVY Network, 20 U.S. States, February 2022–May 2023
- COVID-19–Associated Hospitalizations Among U.S. Adults Aged ≥65 Years COVID-NET, 13 States, January–August 2023
- <u>Disparities in COVID-19 Vaccination Status Among Long-Term Care Facility Residents United</u>
 States, October 31, 2022–May 7, 2023
- QuickStats: Age-Adjusted Death Rates for Stroke, by Region National Vital Statistics System, United States, 2001–2021

CDC Online Resources

- UPDATED <u>Viral Respiratory Pathogens Toolkit for Nursing Homes</u>
- UPDATED Preventing Transmission of Viral Respiratory Pathogens in Healthcare Settings
- UPDATED RSV in Infants and Young Children
- UPDATED RSV for Healthcare Providers
- **UPDATED** RSV Prevention

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Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

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