



EVHC READY

The Eastern Region's Pulse On Healthcare Emergency Preparedness

Thursday
September 16,
2021

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Communications

Psychiatric Times- The Need for Better Crisis Prevention

Source: Psychiatric Times, To address this challenge, in February 2020, SAMHSA released its [National Guidelines for Behavioral Health Crisis Care Best Practice Toolkit](#). Aimed at behavioral health authorities, agency administrators, service providers, and state and local leaders, this document defines national guidelines for crisis care. It also offers tips for implementing care that are in alignment with national guidelines as well as tools to evaluate whether systems are aligned to those guidelines. For more information, please use the following [link](#).

Hospice News- Hospices Brace for Revamped CMS Surveys, Enforcement

Source: Hospice News, Hospices strategizing to navigate these changes can arrange to undergo mock surveys completed by objective parties in order to prepare, Forster and Wehri stated. “Hospices should revisit their most recent surveys to ensure they have sustained compliance with any previous deficiencies, especially condition-level deficiencies as prior survey performance will impact enforcement remedies and SFP eligibility,” Forster and Wehri told Hospice News. “Hospices should also be prepared for more surveys as a greater number of validation surveys are expected to be conducted.” For more information, please use the following [link](#).



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Healthcare workers, once cheered as heroes, now threatened and harassed.

Source: Becker's Hospital Review, only 16 months ago, it was difficult to go a day without hearing the term "healthcare heroes" about the frontline healthcare professional who faced the risks of COVID-19 to care for others. Today many are being harassed and threatened for providing that care. For more on this story please follow the [link](#).

Emergency Operations Planning

EPA- Develop or Update a Drinking Water Utility Emergency Response Plan

Source: United States Environmental Protection Agency, An ERP describes strategies, resources, plans, and procedures utilities can use to prepare for and respond to an incident, natural or man-made, that threatens life, property, or the environment. Incidents can range from small main breaks or localized flooding to large scale hurricanes, earthquakes or system contamination, among other examples. For more information, please use the following [link](#)

When disaster strikes, don't end up on the news!

Evacuation plans for several New Orleans nursing homes comes in to question after complaints were lodged against the nursing home owners. Residents of seven homes were moved to a warehouse during hurricane Ida. Reports of unsanitary conditions, lack of food, and crowded conditions are just some of the items being investigated. It has been reported that seven residents died while waiting in the warehouse. There are many lessons learned from this situation; communication, preparedness, protecting the residents are just a few. Below are several links of news reports for this situation.

Zurik: Nursing home residents evacuated to warehouse describe 'nightmare' conditions
<https://www.fox8live.com/2021/09/07/zurik-nursing-home-residents-evacuated-warehouse-describe-nightmare-conditions/>

Yelling, tears, stacked bags of human waste: Inside the nursing home warehouse
<https://www.wvtv.com/article/news/investigations/mike-perlstein/louisiana-nursing-home-warehouse-hurricane-ida/289-700915a3-1287-48cb-a3cf-96f231da0ec3>

Zurik: Nursing homes claimed they were ready for evacuation, LDH and families disagree
<https://www.fox8live.com/2021/09/08/zurik-nursing-homes-claimed-they-were-ready-evacuation-ldh-families-disagree/>

After warehouse rescue, families have no idea where nursing home residents are



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<https://www.wvltv.com/article/news/investigations/hurricane-ida-nursing-home-crisis/289-799adc0a-678a-4acf-9aca-7b868e06b946>

Class-action lawsuit filed over 'unacceptable' conditions at Independence warehouse where 843 seniors rode out Ida <https://www.wvltv.com/article/news/investigations/class-action-lawsuit-conditions-at-independence-warehouse-where-843-seniors-rode-out-ida/289-8cda5589-40c3-4b82-8be8-bd8dd6020db8>

Lawsuit filed over 'horrific and inhumane' conditions at nursing home evacuation warehouse where 7 died
<https://www.fox8live.com/2021/09/08/lawsuit-filed-over-horrific-inhumane-conditions-nursing-home-evacuation-warehouse-where-7-died/>

Licenses revoked of nursing homes involved in warehouse shelter evacuation where 7 died
<https://www.fox8live.com/2021/09/07/licenses-revoked-nursing-homes-involved-warehouse-shelter-evacuation-where-7-died/>

The Effect of COVID-19 on The Healthcare Incident Command System

Source Asprtracie; Hospitals and other healthcare facilities (HCFs) across the country have been in an extended state of emergency response due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many healthcare and hospital-based Incident Command Systems (ICS) (e.g., Hospital Incident Command System, or HICS) have been in long-term activation and have involved a broader cross-section of participants than any other prior event. As a result, some healthcare organizations have altered emergency response practices. While the pandemic is unique due to its protracted nature, the necessary coordination between government, emergency managers (EM), regional leadership, public health entities, HCFs, and healthcare coalitions (HCCs) has created valuable lessons about how the ICS can be better applied – particularly in regional multi-agency coordination constructs – and from a corporate HCF perspective. Follow the [link](#) for more information.

Training and Exercise

Quarterly Tabletop Series

EVHC will be hosting our second quarter tabletop series for those who need exercise for their CMS surveys or just want to test their plans. The exercises will be held on Fridays in October. We still have five spots available on 10/15, and one spot on 10/22. Please use the following link to register for an exercise. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4DA8A72DA7F4C52-quarterly>



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Norfolk International Airport

Norfolk International Airport will be hosting ICS 300 and 400 classes in November. Contact Tamara DelRosario for more information at tamara.delrosario@vdem.virginia.gov

ICS 300	November 16-18, 2021	Tuesday- Thursday 8am-5pm	Norfolk Airport 2200 Norview Ave Norfolk, VA 23518
ICS 400	January 11-12, 2022	Wednesday/Thursday 8am-5pm	Norfolk Airport 2200 Norview Ave Norfolk, VA 23518

CISA Annual National Cybersecurity Summit

CISA will host its fourth annual National Cybersecurity Summit on Wednesdays during the month of October. The 2021 Summit will be held as a series of four virtual events bringing stakeholders together in a forum for meaningful conversation:

- Oct. 6 - Assembly Required: The Pieces of the Vulnerability Management Ecosystem
- Oct. 13 - Collaborating for the Collective Defense
- Oct. 20 - Team Awesome: The Cyber Workforce
- Oct. 27 - The Cyber/Physical Convergence

Register for this free summit and read more about the presentations at [CISA.gov/cybersummit2021](https://www.cisa.gov/cybersummit2021).

Cyber Security

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA)

CISA is sharing the new guide on ransomware protection for businesses from The New Zealand Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT NZ). The guide includes helpful diagrams that outline different ransomware attack pathways and illustrate where relevant security controls can work to protect or stop an attack. To review the guide please follow the [link](#).



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WEBINAR

VDH Webinar on COVID-19

Virginia Department of Health has several informative webinars coming up discussing the COVID-19 vaccine and insights for Pediatricians. For more information please follow the [link](#) and click the webinar you are interested in.

Prevention

Fall Prevention

Source: U.S. Fire Administration, it doesn't matter how old a person is to know that falling can hurt. As we age our vision can become worse, we lose muscle tone, and accident happen. The U.S. Fire Administration has information on fall prevention that might be useful to your residents. Please follow the [link](#) for more information.

National Preparedness Month

Source Ready.gov, Remember September is National Preparedness month. Take time to review your family preparedness plans, and preparedness with your residents and clients. Please follow the [link](#) for more information.