

Currently in the Coalition

Updates from the Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition—August 2022

ESF-8 Health & Medical Overview

If you've attended your county-level coalition meeting in the past couple of months, you may have gotten the opportunity to hear our Region 4 Department of Health Team present on Emergency Support Function 8 (ESF-8), or the Health & Medical Desk at the state and county Emergency Operations Centers. If not, here are some highlights below!

At the State and County EOCs in Florida, there is a Health & Medical desk, usually designated as ESF-8. All of these desks in the Tampa Bay region are lead and staffed by the Florida Department of Health (FDOH), and can be supported by other agencies like the Agency for Health Care Administration, Department of Elder Affairs, and Health Care Coalitions.

The ESF-8 desk is responsible for emergency coordination of special needs sheltering, healthcare facilities, environmental health, disease control, behavioral health, and fatality management. Communication with this desk is key for health and medical organizations when faced with a disasters & emergencies.

Communications from the ESF-8 desk at your county EOC can include evacuation orders, available resources, and reporting requirements. Healthcare providers should also communicate their updates with the ESF-8 desk, such as post-storm damage, relocation or evacuation plans, and unmet needs. This will help the EOC have good situational awareness on how the health and medical system is faring, and help identify any unmet needs. Significant issues like safety issues and critical resource challenges should be reported to the ESF-8 desk immediately.



Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition

Citrus, Hardee, Hernando, Hillsborough, Manatee, Pasco, Pinellas, Polk & Sumter Counties

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Upcoming Coalition Meetings

Pinellas CHAMP:

August 5th

Pasco County Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition:

August 8th

Manatee CHAMP:

August 10th

Hernando County ESF-8 Working Group:

August 11th

Hardee County ESF-8 Working Group:

August 15th

Sumter County ESF-8 Working Group:

August 18th

Polk County Health & Medical Coalition:

August 25th

Citrus County ESF-8 Working Group:

August 31st



Below is a list of phone numbers for ESF-8/Health & Medical desks at county EOCs in the Tampa Bay Region. (Please note that these will likely be forwarded to the main county Emergency Management line when the EOC is not activated.)

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Citrus | 352-249-2833 |
| Hardee | 863-473-4801 |
| Hernando | 352-754-4083, 352-540-6931 |
| Hillsborough | 813-301-7435, 813-301-7441, 813-301-7437 |
| Manatee | 941-379-9500 ext. 3525, 1511, 1512 & 1513 |
| Pasco | 727-847-8948, 727-847-8941 |
| Pinellas | 727-464-4740, 727-464-4682, 727-464-4595 |
| Polk | 863-298-7159, 298-7160, 298-7161, 298-7162 |
| Sumter | 352-569-3171 |

Important Info & Updates

NEW! Disaster Available Supplies in Hospitals (DASH) Tool

This interactive tool (designed by ASPR TRACIE) is now available [here](#). Hospital emergency planners and supply chain staff can use [DASH](#) to estimate supplies categorized in four modules (pharmaceutical, burn, trauma, and PPE) that may need to be immediately available during various mass casualty incidents and infectious disease emergencies based on hospital characteristics. Each module also incorporates pediatric sizes and specific medication needs as appropriate.



ASPR TRACIE will host a **DASH Overview Webinar** to introduce stakeholders to the DASH tool on Monday, August 15th from 11:30am – 12:30pm. Speakers will provide an overview and/ demonstration of DASH and share information on how the tool may be used from both the hospital and supply chain perspective. . [Register here](#).



CDC, Federal Drug Administration (FDA) to Streamline Process to Provide Tecovirimat (TPOXX) for Monkeypox Treatment

CDC, in partnership with the FDA, has made it easier for health care providers to provide TPOXX treatment to patients with monkeypox under an expanded access investigational new drug (EA-IND) protocol. The streamlined process reduces the number of required forms, patient samples, and photos, and gives patients the option to see their doctor virtually.

TPOXX is available through the Strategic National Stockpile. To request TPOXX, clinicians and care facility pharmacists can contact their state or territorial health departments or CDC's Emergency Operations Center at (770) 488-7100 or poxxvirus@cdc.gov.

Treatment with TPOXX can begin upon receipt of the medication and after obtaining informed consent. No preregistration is required for clinicians or facilities. All forms requested under the EA-IND can be returned to CDC after treatment begins. For more information, see CDC's webpage on [Obtaining and Using TPOXX \(Tecovirimat\)](#).

Help Inform Florida's State Health Improvement Plan with 2 Simple Surveys

Please consider completing the follow two surveys from the Department of Elder Affairs that will inform Florida's State Health Improvement Plan (SHIP). These survey responses will aid in addressing Alzheimer's Disease & Related Dementias, which is a priority area designated in the SHIP.

- [Training Survey](#)
- [Outreach Survey](#)



State Health Improvement Plan

August is National Immunization Awareness Month!

National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) is an annual observance held in August to highlight the importance of vaccination for people of all ages. We know the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted all aspects of life, including your ability to attend important appointments and receive routine vaccinations.

During NIAM, encourage your patients to schedule appointments to ensure they are up to date on annual exams and recommended vaccines. Research has consistently shown that healthcare providers are the most trusted source of vaccine information for parents and patients.

Use NIAM as an opportunity to access [CDC educational resources](#) like the [#HowIRecommend Video Series](#), which offers simple and practical guidance for having successful vaccine conversations with parents and patients. These short videos demonstrate how to make effective vaccine recommendations, address common vaccine questions, and take a team-based approach to vaccination.

For those patients who are eligible for COVID-19 vaccination, you play a critical role in helping vaccine recipients understand the importance of vaccination and that [COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective](#). Check out this toolkit on [Talking to Recipients about COVID-19 Vaccination](#), where you will find resources to help you share clear and accurate information about COVID-19 vaccines, raise awareness about the benefits of vaccination, and address common questions and concerns about what to expect when getting vaccinated.



Upcoming Trainings & Events

Virtual Federal Consortia Training for Florida Health Care Coalitions:

- **Hospital Incident Command System** - [August 31st at 10am—12pm EST](#). This class explores the Hospital Incident Command System as a methodology for effectively applying the incident command system in a healthcare environment. The Hospital Incident Command System is discussed as it pertains to improving emergency management planning, response, and recovery capabilities for both planned and unplanned health and medical emergencies.
- **Mass Casualty Incident Response**—[September 15th at 10am—12pm EST](#). This class provides mass casualty triage education and practical experience in the application of the SALT (Sort, Assess, Lifesaving Interventions, Treatment/Transport) Mass Casualty Triage Algorithm. The instruction addresses global sorting of mass casualties, assessment of individual patients, performance of on-scene lifesaving interventions and the treatment, stabilization, and transport of patients for further treatment in a healthcare facility.



Hospital Emergency Response Team (HERT) Trainings with BayCare



BayCare is graciously sharing spaces in **Hospital Emergency Response Team (HERT) Trainings** being offered at their facilities over the next several months. Upcoming training dates include August 15th at Morton Plant North Bay Hospital, September 12th at Mease Dunedin, and October 13th at St. Anthony's Hospital. HERT is the first line of defense for protecting the facility, team members, and patients from hazardous materials. HERT Training is open to both clinical and non-clinical staff who have an interest in responding to incidents and have met the criteria. Please contact Dirk Palmer, dirk.palmer@baycare.org (West Region) for more info.

Emergency Management Training

Here are upcoming EM trainings available for registration on [SERT TRAC](#).

- [August 17th – 19th](#) – L0105 – **Public Information Basics** at the Pinellas County EOC in Largo
- [September 13th & 14th](#) or [September 15th & 16th](#)—G-400—**Advanced Incident Command System Command & General Staff: Complex Incidents** at the Pinellas County EOC in Largo or the Pasco EOC in New Port Richey.

CISA Quarterly ChemLock Trainings

This course introduces how to identify, assess, evaluate, and mitigate chemical security risks. This easy-to-understand overview identifies key components and best practices of chemical security awareness and planning to help kick start chemical security discussions at your facility. The course is appropriate for all personnel regardless of their level of involvement with dangerous chemicals.

- [Register for January 11, 2023 – 3-5 pm ET](#)
- [Register for April 12, 2023 – 1-3 pm ET](#)



First Responder Resiliency TeleECHO Program

The First Responder Resiliency ECHO Program is aimed at increasing self-care and resiliency in crisis. This interdisciplinary team, led by a group of subject matter experts including Dr. George Everly, an internationally acknowledged disaster psychologist, and Dr. Jeff Katzman, a leading expert in trauma and resiliency, has expertise in a variety of specialties including: critical incident trauma care, psychiatry, emergency and pre-hospital medicine, law enforcement mental health, and pastoral care. These sessions are held every other Monday from 4:00 - 5:00 PM ET. [Register Here](#)



COVID-19 VACCINE UPDATE

Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine

- Available for primary series vaccination in the U.S. for adults ages 18 years and older
- Uses protein subunit vaccine technology, similar to the Hepatitis B vaccine



[cdc.gov/coronavirus](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)



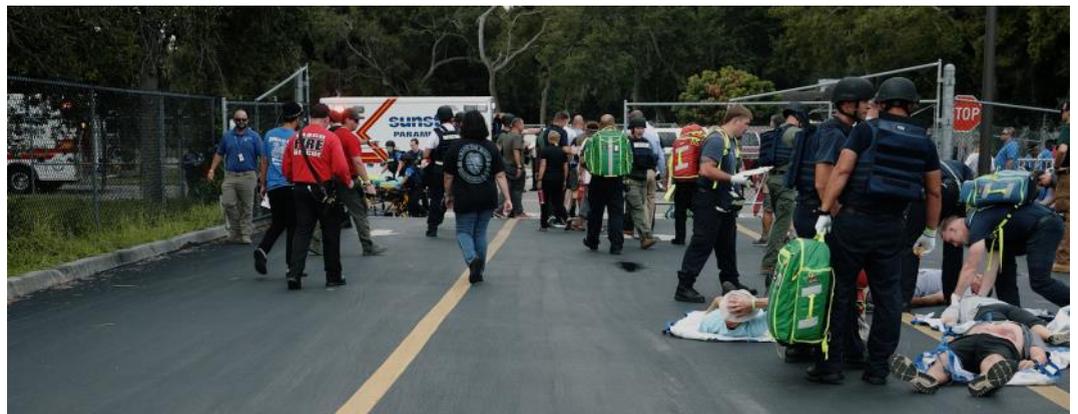
Coalition Highlights

Pinellas County Sheriff's Office

On Wednesday, July 20th the PCSO conducted an active assailant mass casualty exercise at Highpoint Elementary School in Clearwater. The unprecedented exercise was in collaboration with the Pinellas County School Board and multiple public safety partners including other law enforcement agencies, fire departments, emergency medical service providers, county emergency management, and the regional 9-1-1 center. .



The purpose of the exercise was to test the procedures put in place to see what works and, more importantly, what doesn't. In the world of public safety, continuously evaluating what we're doing and how we're doing it is essential to our success and instilling confidence in our community.



We want to hear from you! If you would like to share a highlight or best practice from your organization in a future Coalition newsletter or publication, please email it to Turea at

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