

The Montana Health Care Coalitions Newsletter is a publication of the Montana Hospital Association published on Thursdays.



Montana Hospital Association | October 13, 2022

New & Noteworthy

EMResource API Update

Thank you to all those that were able to attend the Juvare API Kick-Off webinar on Monday, October 3. We already have 4 facilities that have received the files for testing and setting up the API!

If you were unable to join the webinar, I encourage you to view the recording [here](#), the passcode is **9gb%m*hn**. Facilities are encouraged to complete the [interest form](#), even if you have additional questions or are seeking approval for commitment.

Please share the [Partner Interoperability Guide](#) which will provide a better idea of what the interface entails.

Please reach out Casey Driscoll, EMResource API Specialist, at 406.457.8045 or casey.driscoll@mtha.org with questions.

HAN Alert: Influenza Season Preparation and RSV Updates

October announces the start of the 2022-2023 influenza season, and Montana Public Health Laboratory has already confirmed three cases of influenza; two cases of influenza A (H1N1)pdm09 in Flathead County, and one case of influenza A/H3N2 in Yellowstone county. One case was hospitalized. Influenza seasons are extremely variable and difficult to forecast, however Montana DPHHS advises healthcare personnel to prepare for the potential of a severe 2022-2023 flu season.

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) and influenza infections were both largely absent in Montana for the 2020-2021 fall and winter season. In the 2021-2022 season, RSV circulation started and ended months ahead of its

seasonal standard and percent positivity reached a 5-season high, with 30% of RSV tests returning a positive result in November 2021. In contrast, influenza circulation started and ended late in the 2021-2022 season, with cases and hospitalizations continuing past May 2022, but totaling a 4-season low overall (excluding the 2020-2021 flu season with no confirmed influenza cases in Montana). Currently, there is no available RSV vaccine, but RSV is the most common cause of bronchiolitis and pneumonia in children less than 1 year old.

Montana DPHHS will begin its weekly flu surveillance report on October 14th. To learn more about flu activity in Montana please visit our [website](#).

View the full HAN [here](#).

QSO-22-25 CLIA Rescinded

CMS is rescinding QSO-22-25-CLIA effective immediately. CMS will continue to exercise enforcement discretion under CLIA for the duration of the COVID-19 public health emergency for the use of authorized SARS-CoV-2 molecular and antigen POC tests on asymptomatic individuals outside of the test's authorization.

View the full rescinded QSO memo [here](#).

HAN Alert: Outbreak of Ebola Virus Disease in Central Uganda

Healthcare providers in Montana caring for a patient with suspect Ebola Virus Disease (EVD) or viral hemorrhagic fever (VHF) should notify their local or tribal public health jurisdiction immediately [here](#) or by calling the DPHHS Communicable Epidemiology Section (CDEpi) 24/7 phone number at 406-444-0273.

The Montana Public Health Laboratory can test for EVD. Healthcare providers should arrange for testing by notifying their local or tribal public health jurisdiction or calling DPHHS CDEpi at 406-444-0273. Information on specimen collection is available on the [CDC website](#).

View the full HAN [here](#).

Ebola: Considerations for Healthcare Facilities

On September 20, 2022, the Ugandan Ministry of Health confirmed an [outbreak of Ebola virus disease \(EVD\) \(Sudan virus\) in western Uganda](#).

Triage of Patients

It is recommended that facilities

- Ask about and document international travel histories to alert healthcare personnel to the possibility of EVD or other viral hemorrhagic fevers that need specific infection control precautions and/or treatment.
- Post contact information for infection control personnel and the local public health jurisdiction for reporting of communicable diseases, including EVD, in easily visible locations.
- Immediately notify the hospital infection control program, other appropriate staff, and the health department about any person (or patient) under investigation for EVD.

Current Infection Prevention and Control Recommendations for EVD in U.S. Healthcare Facilities

Current CDC infection prevention and control guidance for U.S. healthcare facilities is available on the [CDC Ebola website for clinicians](#). Specific guidance and tools to consider:

- [Key Precautions](#) for preventing Ebola transmission in U.S. healthcare facilities.
- Separate personal protective equipment (PPE) guidance remains in place for the management of [Clinically Stable PUIs](#) and [Confirmed Ebola Patients or Clinically Unstable PUIs](#).

A [PPE Calculator Tool](#) is available to assist healthcare facilities in determining the appropriate supply of PPE to have on hand to manage a PUI or patient with confirmed EVD.

The Regional Treatment Network for Ebola and Other Special Pathogens

Healthcare facilities and public health officials should be familiar with the tiered U.S. [Regional Treatment Network](#) for Ebola and other special pathogens.

- Healthcare facilities should understand their role in the tiered network as a Frontline facility, State-designated Assessment Hospital, State-designated Treatment Center, or HHS-designated [Regional Emerging Special Pathogen Treatment Center](#).
- Healthcare facilities and public health officials should have established plans for how PUIs or EVD patients are to be managed and referred.
- CDC continues to coordinate with the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response and the [National Emerging Special Pathogens Training and Education Center](#) (NETEC) to increase U.S. capability to safely manage patients with EVD and other special pathogens. NETEC maintains online resources at the link above and is available to provide consultation to hospitals for managing patients with EVD.

Additional Updates will be Posted on the [CDC Ebola Virus Disease Website](#)

Advance Stroke Life Support Training

MSU-Northern is offering Advanced Stroke Life Support training to EMS and health care providers throughout the state. View the [flyer](#) for additional information.

At the moment they have some grant funding to cover training costs, but in the future there will be a fee for this training.

If you are interested in hosting this training for your facility, contact Jaime Duke at jaimie.duke@msun.edu.

Data & Situational Awareness

Update on Transition from TeleTracking to NHSN

On December 31, 2022, the TeleTracking contract will expire and reporting will transition to NHSN. Please check out the [transition webpage](#) (UPDATED) and resources for questions. Transition preparation will be ongoing with webinars, standing meetings and frequent webpage updates. **Reporting activities will not change until mid-December and facilities using EMResource to report should see no changes to daily reporting process.** There will be no impact or changes to reporting for the LTCF, Dialysis and Healthcare Personnel Vaccination COVID-19 modules in NHSN. There will be no significant changes to the reporting questions as a result of the transition.

Facilities are encouraged to attend one of the upcoming webinars listed below:

NHSN Data Transition Updates and Q&A

October 21, 1100 - 1200 MT

[Register](#)

NHSN Data Transition Updates and Q&A (Replay)

October 25, 1100 - 1200 MT

[Register](#)

Facilities who do not currently have an NHSN OrgID are strongly encouraged to begin the process of acquiring one as quickly as possible.

Missed Data in TeleTracking

If a facility misses a day reporting into EMResource and TeleTracking, there is a process for doing a manual entry backdate. Users must log into the TeleTracking then click on Add New Entry. There is now a dropdown where you can choose the date to submit data for. This process is much simpler than uploading the template for missed data. **Ensure that ALL fields are entered or the data will not be counted for compliance.** We still encourage hospitals to enter data into EMResource *daily* by 1200.

Upcoming Events

Meetings

Health Care Coalition Executive Committee Meetings

Western Region - October 17, 2022, 0900 - 1300 at Logan Health - Kalispell

Eastern Region - November 1, 2022, 0900 - 1300 at Glendive Medical Center - Glendive

Central Region - November 17, 2022, 0900 - 1100

Southern Region - TBD

Webinars

K8515 Virtual Cyber Security Symposium

October 19-20 and October 26-27

To obtain full credit, students must participate in all 4 days

[Register](#)

POC: [Christopher Yambor](#)

NHSN Data Transition Updates and Q&A

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October 25, 1100 - 1200 MT

[Register](#)

CISA Active Shooter Preparedness Webinar

October 25, 1000 - 1200 MT

[Register](#)

CISA 2022 National Summit on K-12 School Safety and Security

November 1 & 2, 2022

[Additional Information](#)

PER 404: Logistics and Supply Chain Resilience in Disasters

November 7 - 10, 0800 - 1200 daily

Hosted by FEMA Region 8, Presented by the University of Tennessee

Registration Deadline: October 24

[Register](#)

HHS IEA Weekly Monkeypox Briefing

Thursdays, 12:00 MT

[Register](#)

First Responder Resilience TeleECHO Program

Every other Monday, 14:00 - 15:00 MDT

[Register](#)

EOC Virtual Classes hosted by EMI

View the full Course Catalog [here](#)

[Montana Health Network Course Catalog](#)

In-Person Trainings

G205 Recovery from Disaster - Out of State

October 19 and 20, 0830 - 1700 each day

Lovell, WY or virtual

[Register](#)

POC: LaRae Dobbs, emc@bhcounty.com

Crisis and Emergency Risk Communications (CERC) Operations Course

October 27 - 28, 0800 - 1700 daily

Registration Deadline: October 21

[Registration](#)

2022 Big Sky EMS Education Symposium

November 4 and 5, 0700 - 1830

Billings Hotel & Convention Center, Billings

Register by October 28 for Early Bird Rates: 2 days - \$147.90, 1 day - \$91.80

Registration after October 28: 2 days - \$168.30, 1 day - \$102.00

[View Agenda](#)

[Register](#)

Save the Dates

Assisting Individuals in Group and Individual Crisis Intervention

(CISM Basic Group and Individual Peer Support)

November 15 - 17, 2022, 08:00 - 17:00

Glacier Conference Center, 1375 US 93, Kalispell

[View Flyer and Registration](#)

CISA Region 8 Securing Public Gatherings Webinar

November 17, 1000 - 1200

[Register](#)

K0428 Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Train-the-Trainer (Virtual)

Multiple dates beginning December 2022

[View Flyer](#)

Colorado Wildland Fire & Incident Management Academy

January 7 - 12

Colorado College, Colorado Springs

February 20 - 24

Marriott, Colorado Springs

[Register](#)

Tribal Nations Training Week

March 11 - 18, 2023

Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) in Anniston, AL

CDP training is completely funded for state, local, and tribal emergency responders to include travel, meals, and lodging.

[Register](#) through CDP

ICS449 Train-the-Trainer for FEMA ICS Courses

March 27 - 31, 2023

Fort Harrison, instructed by TEEX

Registration coming soon

| Engagement & Other News

CISA Cyber Update

Click [here](#) to view the most recent CISA Cyber Update.

No-Cost Cybersecurity Courses Available

Course Name: [Cybersecurity for Everyone](#)

Course Name: [Detecting and Responding to a Cyber Attack](#)

Questions?

We are committed to supporting you and answering questions as quickly as possible. Please send any questions or comments to hppcoordinators@mtha.org.

Visit the [Montana Regional Health Care Coalitions](#) website for additional information and resources.



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