

ASPR TRACIE Training and Technical Assistance

Requestor:

Requestor Phone:

Requestor Email:

Request Receipt Date (by ASPR TRACIE): 22 September 2016

Response Date: 26 September 2016

Type of TTA Request: Standard

Request:

The requestor asked if ASPR TRACIE could help him obtain the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Emergency Preparedness Rule checklists in a modifiable document so that his medical coalition could tailor them for partners in order to meet the rule requirements.

Response:

The ASPR TRACIE Team worked with CMS partners to provide the requestor with this [table of the CMS Emergency Preparedness Requirements by provider type](#).

The response below was also provided to the requestor:

Although healthcare coalitions (HCCs) themselves are not included in the [17 provider and supplier types](#) covered under the newly released Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) [Emergency Preparedness Rule](#), the rule offers HCCs and newly engaged providers a ***tremendous opportunity*** to achieve greater organizational and community effectiveness and financial sustainability. HCCs will function as an accessible source of preparedness and response best practices as newly engaged provider types adapt to the new requirements.

Covered entities have a range of requirements under the new rule that are specific to their type of facility or service. A chart is attached that provides an overview of these requirements by provider type, but in general they cover 4 broad categories:

- Develop an Emergency Plan
- Develop policies and procedures
- Develop a communications plan
- Conduct Training and Testing of the plans and policies and procedures

HCCs should expect covered healthcare entities to contact them asking for the following (list not exhaustive)

- Copies of the coalition or regionally conducted hazard vulnerability analysis or risk assessments (or to be included in future assessments),
- Examples of plans or policies and procedures that are frequently used or accepted by other entities within those coalitions

- To participate in training and exercises conducted by coalitions or coalition members, and
- To discuss ways to participate in or leverage shared services, such as communications systems, patient tracking systems and other jointly used equipment and supplies.

In addition, HCCs may be asked to support covered entities with technical assistance or to provide basic information on emergency preparedness and healthcare system preparedness. HCCs should also play a role in assisting members with closing planning gaps once plans are developed. HCCs have an opportunity to enhance their financial sustainability and revenue by providing technical assistance to HCC members to meet the CMS conditions of participation.

In the coming months, CMS will issue more specific interpretive guidance and resources to support covered entities in achieving compliance. In the meantime, ASPR TRACIE recommends the following resources:

- To start, we strongly recommend that you begin by checking out the CMS Survey and Certification link (<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertEmergPrep/Emergency-Prep-Rule.html>). They also offer a page on Templates and Checklists (<https://www.cms.gov/Medicare/Provider-Enrollment-and-Certification/SurveyCertEmergPrep/Templates-Checklists.html>).
- Second, check out this link (<https://asprtracie.hhs.gov/cmsrule>) to see the ASPR TRACIE resources and templates to help healthcare entities meet the requirements of the new rule. Resources are available to help conduct hazard vulnerability assessments; develop emergency plans, policies and procedures, communications plans, trainings, and testing; and conduct corrective action planning. ASPR TRACIE's Topic Collections and provider- and supplier-specific resources can help organizations involved in implementing the CMS requirements with resources tailored to their specific needs.
- Third, register TODAY (<https://blh.ier.intercall.com/details/d4e7a2cd3a1245f5b20fa6e053e215fe>) for the CMS Webinar on October 5 from 1:30-3:00 pm Eastern Time. ASPR staff will be on this call, as well as CMS staff, to answer questions. If you cannot make that date-time, a recording of the event will be made available.

Finally, if you still have questions after reviewing the CMS and ASPR TRACIE resources, and listening to the webinar, let us know and we will try to help.

Engagement of new partners into HCC activities offers a tremendous opportunity to strengthen relationships and communication enables us to leverage a much broader group of personnel and resources to provide for the medical needs of the whole community during a disaster.