

HERC News

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PROGRAMMATIC UPDATES

Current Projects:

- Surveyed all EMS agencies in the region to distribute [First Line Technology](#) dry decontamination kits for 100 ambulances to agencies most in need and with interest in the product; developing a training package to coincide with the distribution
 - If you missed the survey deadline and are still interested, email herc.coordinator@ncw-herc.org
- Created a CHEMPACK [fact sheet](#) and [template process map](#) that was shared with public health to be used in local CHEMPACK planning
 - CHEMPACK is a federally supplied cache of nerve agent antidotes and supplies that can quickly be accessed by first responders and medical professionals in a chemical incident
 - **It's critical that local EMS, emergency management, public health, and dispatch collaborate on a local activation plan for these caches;** the activation may be different for each county as there are four cache locations in our region – how the medications get to the incident depends on distance of travel and who will transport (most antidotes need to be given within 60 minutes of exposure)
 - **To activate CHEMPACK and find location of caches and contact info, call the NCW HERC's 24/7 call center at Aspirus MedEvac at 800-888-8056**
 - The antidotes and supplies in CHEMPACK are used to treat chemical nerve agents used in terrorist attacks, as well as certain organophosphate pesticide exposures seen in rural farming operations or transportation accidents; medications in CHEMPACK work by treating the symptoms of nerve agent exposure, by inhalation, ingestion, or skin absorption, and can therefore be used even when the actual agent is unknown
- Developing the 2024-25 workplan; this year's deliverables include:

BP1 Activities	Submission Deadline
Governance Document	January 31, 2025
Jurisdiction Information	January 31, 2025
HVA	January 31, 2025
Readiness Assessment	January 31, 2025
Strategic Plan	March 31, 2025
Readiness Plan	March 31, 2025
Training and Exercise Plan	January 31, 2025
Cybersecurity Assessment	June 30, 2025
Extended Downtime Health Care Delivery Impact Assessment	June 30, 2025
Response Plan: Information Sharing Plan	June 30, 2025
Response Plan: Resource Management Plan	June 30, 2025
Response Plan: Medical Surge Support Plan	June 30, 2025
Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)	June 30, 2025
Medical Response and Surge Exercise (MRSE)	June 30, 2025

Budgetary Updates:

- Preparations on the 2024-2025 budget are underway; contracts were signed in early September, with the final budget due in early October

Upcoming/Recent Exercises:

- CMS Exercise was held June 12, 2024 and addressed an active shooter threat; the AAR can be found [here](#)

Regional Updates:

- Thank you to Sarah Rothmeyer, former CMS representative, for her time on the NCW HERC Board, and welcome Ryan Hanson with Pine Crest Nursing Home, who has been voted in as her replacement
- Welcome [PAM Rehabilitation Center](#) to our Coalition; this 42 bed rehabilitation hospital is located in Wausau
- Hospitals need to report any exercise or real-life incident in the [MATCH survey](#)

SITUATIONAL AWARENESS	LOGISTICS	RESOURCES
<p>Health Alerts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ciprofloxacin-Resistant Meningococcal Disease Cases in Wisconsin (DHS, September)▪ Increased Oropouche Virus Activity and Associated Risk to Travelers (CDC, August)▪ Increase in Human Parvovirus B19 Activity in the United States (CDC, August)▪ Mpox Caused by Human-to-Human Transmission of <i>Monkeypox Virus</i> in the Democratic Republic of the Congo with Spread to Neighboring Countries (CDC, August)▪ Disruptions in Availability of Becton Dickinson (BD) BACTEC™ Blood Culture Bottles (CDC, July)▪ Increased risk of dengue virus (DENV) infections (transmitted by bites from infected mosquito vectors) in the US. Many countries are reporting higher-than-usual cases, and countries in the Americas have reported record-breaking number of cases. (CDC, June) <p>Noteworthy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Wisconsin is seeing an increase in cyclospora infection reports (18 cases reported); cyclosporiasis is associated with produce imported from other countries where the parasite is endemic (July)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ DHS is inviting health care organizations, local and Tribal health departments, nonprofits, and government agencies to fill out a survey to request any of the following items: respirators, masks, KN95's, coveralls, gowns, face shields, gloves, shoe covers, needles, bandages, thermometer, body bags, and sharps containers▪ DHS is inviting health care and EMS to order ventilators; complete this survey if interested▪ Free COVID test kits are available through ASPR; to order, an account needs to be created through HPOP, if your agency doesn't have one already, click here; for questions, contact dhsoperations@dhs.wiscconsin.gov▪ If your EMS agency is interested in dry decontamination kits and have not yet completed the HERC survey, please email herc.coordinator@ncw-herc.org▪ NCW HERC currently has the following available to loan out:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Moulage kits for training and exercises○ EZ-Up tents○ Portable ultra-cold freezer○ Portable standard freezer/coolers○ Generators○ Decedent pouches○ Bioseal unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ ASPR's healthcare and public health cyber security website▪ CDC/ATSDR's Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) uses 15 U.S. census variables to help local officials identify communities that may need support before, during, or after disasters▪ HHS emPOWER program has innovative data and tools to inform response efforts of at-risk individuals that are power dependent for their medical equipment and devices (temporarily down)▪ Current Health Alerts in WI▪ NCW HERC orientation brochure & PowerPoint▪ Numerous resources, training opportunities, meeting minutes, and other info can be found on the NCW HERC website

- Wisconsin (as well as other states) is reporting increasing rates of pertussis; many cases seen in high school aged individuals (DHS, June)

If you have a logistic need related to the HERC, contact PJ Monday at philip.monday@aspirus.org or 715-574-6451.

TRAININGS

<p><u>Wisconsin Emergency Management Association (WEMA) Conference</u> September 25-26, 2024 Stevens Point</p>	<p><u>Governor’s Conference on Emergency Management & Homeland Security</u> March 10-12, 2025 Green Bay</p>
<p><u>Type 3 All Hazards Incident Management Training</u> October 14-18, 2024 Eau Claire</p>	<p><u>Basic Inland SAR Course</u> February 11-13, 2025 Wausau</p>
<p>ICS 300 October 23-25, 2024 Oneida County Health Department To register click <u>here</u></p>	<p>Additional self-paced courses found in the PCA Portal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nuclear and Radiation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Center for Radiological Nuclear Training</u> <u>Texas A & M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX)</u> <p>Hazmat DECON First Receiver Awareness - upon request</p>
<p>Radiation Training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Radiological Emergency Preparedness in WI</u> Looking for easy access to an informative overview of dangers associated with radiological emergencies and our preparedness for them? Watch the recorded session from the NCRTAC Trauma Conference 2023 on "Radiological Emergency Preparedness in Wisconsin" by DJ LeClear. The session is about an hour long and is free. No CEUs are available. <u>Radiation Basics Made Simple</u> - 8 short segments broken down by topic <u>Radiation Detection Wand Quick Start Guide</u> (these wands were provided by the HERC to each County EM and Hospital ED last spring) (~3 min) <u>Radiation Emergency Training, Education, and Tools</u> (CDC) – includes a TTX simulation tool, webinars, guidelines, videos, etc. <u>Myths of Radiation</u> – short videos <u>Just in Time Training for Hospital Clinicians</u> – 17 min. video <u>How to Use Handheld Survey Equipment</u> – 18 min. video <u>Radiation Toolkit</u> (NACCHO) – resources to help you prepare for a radiation emergency 	
<p>Crisis Emergency Risk Communication (CERC) Virtual – self-paced</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Intro to CERC</u> <u>Webinars for specific threats</u> 	<p>Upcoming PIO Trainings (further details in link):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> October 15-17, 2024 Vilas County November 12-14, 2024 Green Bay
<p>Equity Trainings: Prioritizing Equity video series: <u>Advancing Equity Through Quality & Safety Peer Network</u> (AMA)</p>	<p>ICS Courses: Virtual – self-paced <u>100</u>, <u>200</u>, <u>700</u>, and <u>800</u></p>

<p>From Concepts to Practice: Health Equity, Health Inequities, Health Disparities, and Social Determinants of Health</p>	<p>FEMA National Incident Management System</p> <p>NCW HERC ICS Trainings:</p> <p>Hospital ICS</p> <p>Public Health ICS</p> <p>Nursing Home ICS</p>
<p>Case Studies</p> <p>Various case studies regarding the region’s top HVA threats are posted to the NCW HERC website, and can be used as quick preparedness reviews with staff</p>	<p>Comprehensive Schedule of Trainings (DHS & HERC)</p> <p>https://www.trainingwisconsin.org/Schedule.aspx</p>

****For 24/7 response needs contact Aspirus MedEvac 800-888-8056, and they will contact NCW HERC leadership.***