CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule
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This presentation is current as of November 15, 2017. Please check asprtracie.hhs.gov/cmsrule for the most current version of this presentation.
CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule

- First published in the *Federal Register* for comment on December 27, 2013.
- Increases patient safety during emergencies.
- Establishes consistent emergency preparedness requirements across provider and supplier types.
- Establishes a more coordinated response to natural and man-made disasters.
- Applies to 17 Medicare and Medicaid providers and suppliers.
- Final rule published in the *Federal Register* on September 16, 2016.
- Rule is effective as of November 15, 2016.
- Rule must be implemented November 15, 2017.
Goals for the Rule

- Address systemic gaps
- Establish consistency
- Encourage coordination
Conditions of Participation

- Conditions of Participation (CoPs) and Conditions for Coverage (CfCs) are health and safety regulations which must be met by Medicare and Medicaid-participating providers and suppliers.

- They serve to protect all individuals receiving services from those organizations.

- Emergency Preparedness under this Final Rule is just one new CoP/CfC of many that providers/suppliers must meet for Medicare Participation.
Four Provisions for All Provider Types

- Risk Assessment and Planning
- Communication Plan
- Policies and Procedures
- Training and Testing

Emergency Preparedness Program
## Who is Affected?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inpatient</th>
<th>Outpatient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Critical Access Hospitals (CAHs)</td>
<td>Ambulatory Surgical Centers (ASCs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospices</td>
<td>Clinics, Rehabilitation Agencies, and Public Health Agencies as Providers of Outpatient Physical Therapy and Speech-Language Pathology Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospitals</td>
<td>Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intermediate Care Facilities for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities (ICF/IID)</td>
<td>Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facilities (CORFs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Term Care (LTC)</td>
<td>End-Stage Renal Disease (ESRD) Facilities</td>
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<tr>
<td>Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities (PRTFs)</td>
<td>Home Health Agencies (HHAs)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Religious Nonmedical Health Care Institutions (RNHCIs)</td>
<td>Hospices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transplant Centers</td>
<td>Organ Procurement Organizations (OPOs)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Programs of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Rural Health Clinics (RHCs) and Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Risk Assessment and Planning

• Develop an emergency plan based on a risk assessment.
• Perform risk assessment using an “all-hazards” approach, focusing on capacities and capabilities.
• Update emergency plan at least annually.
Policies and Procedures

• Develop and implement policies and procedures based on the emergency plan and risk assessment.
• Policies and procedures must address a range of issues including subsistence needs, evacuation plans, procedures for sheltering in place, tracking patients and staff during an emergency.
• Review and update policies and procedures at least annually.
Communication Plan

• Develop a communication plan that complies with both Federal and State laws.

• Coordinate patient care within the facility, across health care providers, and with state and local public health departments and emergency management systems.

• Review and update plan annually.
Training and Testing Program

- Develop and maintain training and testing programs, including initial training in policies and procedures.
- Demonstrate knowledge of emergency procedures and provide training at least annually.
- Conduct drills and exercises to test the emergency plan.
Training and Testing Requirements

• Facilities are expected to meet all Training and Testing Requirements by the implementation date (11/15/17).
  – Participation in a full-scale exercise that is community-based or when a community-based exercise is not accessible, an individual, facility-based exercise.

• Conduct an additional exercise that may include, but is not limited to the following:
  – A second full-scale exercise that is individual, facility-based.
  – A tabletop exercise that includes a group discussion led by a facilitator, using a narrated, clinically-relevant emergency scenario, and a set of problem statements, directed messages, or prepared questions designed to challenge an emergency plan.
Requirements Vary by Provider Type

• Outpatient providers would not be required to have policies and procedures for the provision of subsistence needs.
• Home health agencies and hospices required to inform officials of patients in need of evacuation.
• Long-term care and psychiatric residential treatment facilities must share information from the emergency plan with residents and family members or representatives.
Temperature Controls and Emergency and Standby Power Systems

- Additional requirements for hospitals, critical access hospitals, and long-term care facilities.
- Locate generators in accordance with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) guidelines.
- Conduct generator testing, inspection, and maintenance as required by NFPA.
- Maintain sufficient fuel to sustain power during an emergency.
Where Are We Now?

• Interpretive Guidelines and State Operations Manual has been developed and published by CMS.

• In September, 2017, the surveyor training for emergency preparedness requirements was launched. Available at [https://surveyortraining.cms.hhs.gov/](https://surveyortraining.cms.hhs.gov/)

• Training through the Integrated Surveyor Training Website is available for providers/suppliers.

• As of November 15, 2017, in conjunction with their regularly scheduled survey, these conditions of participation will now be assessed.
Compliance

- Facilities are expected to be in compliance with the requirements by 11/15/2017.
- Surveys for Emergency Preparedness will be in conjunction with the regular survey cycles.
- In the event facilities are non-compliant, the same general enforcement procedures will occur as is currently in place for any other conditions or requirements cited for non-compliance.
Where Can I Get More Information or Technical Assistance?

• CMS
• ASPR TRACIE
• Healthcare Coalitions
CMS Survey and Certification Group

- Developing the Interpretive Guidelines
- Train the surveyors
- Resources and FAQs on their website
- Email
  - SCGEmergencyPrep@cms.hhs.gov
ASPR TRACIE

- Self-service collection of audience-tailored materials
- Subject-specific, SME-reviewed “Topic Collections”
- Unpublished and SME peer-reviewed materials highlighting real-life tools and experiences

- Personalized support and responses to requests for information and technical assistance
- Accessible by toll-free number (1844-5-TRACIE), email (askasprtracie@hhs.gov), or web form (ASPRtracie.hhs.gov)

- Area for password-protected discussion among vetted users in near real-time
- Ability to support chats and the peer-to-peer exchange of user-developed templates, plans, and other materials

Dedicated CMS Resources Page: ASPRtracie.hhs.gov/CMSrule
Hospital Preparedness Program

• The Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) enables the health care system to save lives during emergencies that exceed day-to-day capacity of the health and emergency response systems.

• This is accomplished through the development of regional healthcare coalitions (HCCs) that incentivize diverse and often competitive health care organizations with differing priorities and objectives to work together.
HPP Invests in Regional Health Care Preparedness, Response, and Recovery Capabilities through Health Care Coalitions
CMS Rule and HPP: Opportunities for Engaging Community Partners

• HPP anticipates that health care entities that have not previously engaged in community preparedness will seek to do so through participation in HCCs.

• The CMS rule offers HCCs and newly engaged providers a tremendous opportunity to achieve greater organizational and community effectiveness and financial sustainability through a more inclusive preparedness community.

• Although the over 26,000 health care organizations already engaged in community preparedness through HCCs may already meet or exceed the baseline level of preparedness in the CMS rule, HCCs will also function as an accessible source of preparedness and response best practices as newly engaged provider types adapt to the new requirements.
Final Rule Implementation

• Timeline – Don’t wait until the last minute!
  – Effective November 15, 2016
  – Implementation November 15, 2017
Link to the Final Rule

• View the final rule at:

Resources for More Information

• ASPR TRACIE
  – asprtracie.hhs.gov/cmsrule
  – askasprtracie@hhs.gov

• CMS SCG
  – SCGEmergencyPrep@cms.hhs.gov