



The Express

November 2016

In many parts of the country, the fall season gives us a chance to stop and take notice of the brilliant colors, the chill in the air, and the other changes that accompany cooler weather. But one thing remains constant: [ASPR TRACIE](#)'s sincere appreciation for you: our stakeholders, subscribers, and Subject Matter Expert Cadre members. Another thing that remains the same: our need to continue preparing our nation's healthcare system for any type of challenge, regardless of the amount of warning received. In that spirit, ASPR TRACIE is distributing this Express to help our customers and stakeholders have access to the best and most relevant information to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Emergency Preparedness (EP) rule.

[ASPR TRACIE's CMS EP Rule: Resources at Your Fingertips](#)

CMS issued the [Emergency Preparedness Requirements for Medicare and Medicaid Participating Providers and Suppliers Final Rule](#) to establish consistent emergency preparedness requirements for healthcare providers participating in Medicare and Medicaid, increase patient safety during emergencies, and establish a more coordinated response to natural and human-caused disasters. CMS and ASPR TRACIE are partnering to provide technical assistance and share resources and promising practices to help affected providers and suppliers start or update the documents mandated by the CMS EP Rule.

For your ease, ASPR TRACIE developed the [CMS EP Rule: Resources at Your Fingertips](#) document so all related materials can be accessed with one click. Within this document are links to key resources:

- CMS' recently developed [frequently asked questions \(FAQ\) document](#) that synthesizes answers to commonly asked inquiries about the CMS EP Rule.

- The FAQs, in combination with the CMS [at-a-glance chart](#) and [Provider and Supplier Type Definitions Fact Sheet](#), can help planners identify and address planning gaps and facilitate compliance with the regulations.
- Interested in learning more about your local healthcare coalition? [This chart](#) can help you identify the preparedness office of your state public health agency. Remember: the release of the CMS EP Rule provides healthcare coalitions a tremendous opportunity to strengthen relationships and leverage a broader group of personnel and resources to provide for the medical needs of the whole community during a disaster.
- If you missed the Medicare Learning Network National Call on the EP Rule, you can access the PowerPoint [slides, transcript, and audio recording here](#). This is a phenomenal way to understand what the EP Rule entails (from the CMS expert perspective) and learn more from ASPR's NHPP Division Director, Melissa Harvey, and ASPR TRACIE's Director, Shayne Brannman.
- ASPR TRACIE staff has responded to nearly 100 CMS EP Rule-specific TA requests since the rule was announced. [Appendix A](#) of the Resources at Your Fingertips document provides two sample CMS TA requests.
- We will continue to work closely with CMS to update the page and support technical assistance requests; be sure to check back frequently. These resources and others can be found on ASPR TRACIE's [dedicated CMS Resources page](#).

Coming Soon: Issue 3 of the ASPR TRACIE Exchange

Be on the lookout for Issue 3 of *The Exchange* in November—this issue focuses on preparing for and responding to no-notice events.

Domain Updates



There are currently 40 complete Topic Collections in the [Technical Resources](#) domain. ASPR TRACIE just released the comprehensively developed [Zika](#) and [Ambulatory Care](#) Topic Collections. Up next: Alternate Care Sites. Follow [this link](#) to access all comprehensively developed collections. Don't forget to [log in](#) and rate and comment on resources in Topic Collections or the Resource Library!



The [Assistance Center](#) has processed more than 850 TTA requests from a variety of stakeholders. We maintain [a summary of many of the TTA requests received](#) and we encourage you to [reach out](#) if you need assistance.



Have you visited the [Information Exchange](#) (IE) domain lately? Join nearly 2000 of your colleagues in the IE and check out the latest threads on [hospital emergency preparedness and business continuity program budgeting](#) and hospital management of [prophylaxis medications](#). [Register for the IE now](#) to join the conversation. Need help navigating the IE? Check out this quick [how-to video](#)!

Upcoming Events

Registration is now open for the [National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference](#) (NHCCPC) in Washington, DC on December 13-14, 2016. Join us for the joint ASPR TRACIE-CMS presentation on Wednesday, December 14 from 10:15-11:30am discussing the new CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule.

Also, the [National Pediatric Disaster Coalition](#) (NPDC) has joined with NHCCPC this year and will be providing pediatric-specific presentations and an NPDC “meet and greet session” scheduled for Tuesday, December 13, from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Interested in joining the NPDC? [This letter](#) provides more information.

Is there a topic you would like to see covered in a future webinar? [Let us know!](#)



[Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness & Response](#)

[U.S. Department of Health & Human Services](#)

200 Independence Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20201