



Welcome to the Healthcare Ready April newsletter.

We are currently at ENGAGED status for the [COVID-19 Pandemic](#).

## HIGHLIGHTS

SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19, has now infected over [2.5 million people worldwide and killed approximately 178,000](#). Healthcare Ready has been activated since January 2020 for nearly 100 days, responding to over 550 requests for assistance.

We have been working closely with federal, state, and local governments, end-to-end members of the medical-surgical and pharmaceutical supply chains, healthcare and public health systems, and community organizations to facilitate and support the US planning and response coordination.

## IN-DEPTH

Since the beginning of 2020, the Healthcare Ready Support Team has been dedicated to the COVID-19 response, working closely with private sector partners, federal, state, and local governments, and humanitarian efforts to coordinate support for the US health system and understand community impacts.

The impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have pushed emergency managers to lean into partnerships like never before, challenging the healthcare and public health sector to manage

## Looking Back

Healthcare Ready Executive Director, Dr. Nicolette Louissaint, spoke with C-SPAN about Healthcare Ready's efforts to meet the needs of patients during outbreaks such as SARS-CoV-2. The full interview can be viewed [here](#).

In March 2020, the Federal Healthcare Resilience Task Force released an [Alternate Care Site Toolkit](#). The Toolkit provides guidance to help state, local, tribal, and territorial entities address potential capacity and capability gaps in healthcare systems during the COVID-19

the response in a cohesive and holistic way. Below is a snapshot of how Healthcare Ready has approached the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Health System Supply Chain**

The Healthcare Ready Support Team is focused on resolving immediate and anticipated supply chain impacts by working with end-to-end members of the supply chain, federal partners, and strengthening the partnerships between the two.

Some of the areas we continue to track include access and re-entry plans and policies, workforce disruptions, logistical or transportation disruptions, and business continuity.

We provide recommendations for government action that can better facilitate supply chain operations and disseminate information and best practices to manufacturers, distributors, and providers to strengthen their response.

For routine updates on how the federal government is responding to support the health system supply chain, please refer to the following resources:

- [FDA Daily Roundup](#): The [most recent](#) roundup announced the Food & Drug Administration's (FDA) authorization for the [first diagnostic test with an at-home sample collection option](#) for COVID-19.
- [FEMA News Releases](#): Releases include fact sheets by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regions such as the [latest update from Region 7](#), and [guidance for addressing PPE needs](#) to ensure workforce protection.
- [CMS Newsroom](#): Summaries of recent Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) actions taken in response to COVID-19 as part of the ongoing White House Task Force efforts, including the [recent alert](#) that

pandemic.

In early April 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) released guidance on the [rational use of personal protective equipment for coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) and considerations during severe shortages](#). The document summarizes WHO's recommendations in health care and home care settings, as well as during the handling of cargo and assess the current disruption of the global supply chain and considerations for decision making during severe shortages of PPE.

## *Looking Ahead*

[Hurricane Season begins on June 1](#). According to The Weather Company, an IBM Business, the 2020 hurricane season is [predicted to be more active than usual](#).

[National Hurricane Preparedness Week](#) is May 3 - 9. Each year, this nationwide effort helps inform the public about hurricane hazards by disseminating information and resources that can be used to prepare and take action.

[Summer Safety and Extreme Heat month is in June](#). The Extreme Heat Safety Toolkit has safety and preparedness messages individuals can share to help spread awareness about heat impacts.

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

*Please note: due to COVID-19, many events for the sector have been cancelled or are in the process of being rescheduled.*

### **Challenges in Transplant Program Operations in the COVID-19 Pandemic: Implications for Patients & Referring Providers**

April 23

Online

[Register Here](#)

issued recommendations for re-opening health care systems in certain areas.

### **Public Health and Community Engagement**

Healthcare Ready is dedicated to building the resilience of healthcare systems at the community level. The COVID-19 pandemic has reinforced the invaluable impact that community centered approaches have on strengthening the overall US health system.

We have been supporting community leaders and coordinating with local groups to share resources for patients. Thanks to the support of our partners, Healthcare Ready has built resources, toolkits, and offered technical assistance to groups on health preparedness and response, including:

- [COVID-19 for Pharmacists and Patients FAQ](#): Created in partnership with the [American Society of Health-System Pharmacists \(ASHP\)](#) and the [National Association of Chain Drug Stores \(NACDS\)](#), this document provides resources to pharmacists and their patients on prescription medications.
- [Pandemics and Disease Outbreaks Disaster Tip Sheet](#) shares tips to help patients protect their health during an outbreak including how to plan if you have a chronic condition.

Additionally, many of our partners are also creating resources to inform individuals on ways they may access their medicines conveniently and reliably through home delivery and what patients can expect if their maintenance medicine is in shortage, such as the [Pharmaceutical Care Management Association's \(PCMA\) COVID-19 FAQ](#).

### **Donation Coordination**

Healthcare Ready has leveraged our trusted partnerships with organizations across sectors to coordinate inventory needs and donations across the US. Through these partnerships, we've

### **Protecting Our Frontline Health Facilities from Evolving Security Threats during COVID-19**

April 24

Online

[Register Here](#)

### **2020 Distribution Management Webinar Series**

May 5 - 6

Online

[Register Here](#)

### **Mental Health and COVID-19: How the Pandemic Complicates Current Gaps in Care and What Can Be Done**

May 6

Online

[Register Here](#)

### **Wildfire Management Summit 2020**

June 3 - 5

Online

[Register Here](#)

### **Joint Civil & DoD CBRN**

June 10 - 11

Alexandria, VA

[Register Here](#)

### **NACCHO Raising the Reach of Public Health**

July 7 - 9

Denver, Colorado

[Register Here](#)

### **2020 Preparedness Summit**

August 23 - 26

Dallas, TX

[Register Here](#)

### **2020 Pharmaceutical Cargo Security Coalition (PCSC) Educational Seminar**

October 6 - 7

East Hanover, NJ

[Register Here](#)

### **IAEM 2020: Visioning the Future of Emergency Management**

November 13 - 18

connected over 60 supply needs and donation offers to help health systems get the inventory they need to test and treat patients. A few of our donation coordination accomplishments include:

- Partnering with BIO to manage supply offers and donations through the [BIO Coronavirus Hub](#).
- Establishing a partnership with Business Roundtable and Project HOPE to [facilitate the coordination of donated protective equipment](#) to states and ancillary care facilities in hot spot regions, in coordination with FEMA.
- Assisting with the delivery of a donation of almost 2 million medical supplies.

### **Information Sharing**

Our COVID-19 resources and tools share information to diverse audiences on topics ranging from patient resources and tools for community organizations to critical information on supply chain and logistics. An summary of our COVID-19 resources are listed below.

#### *Maps*

- [Prescription Rules and Emergency Measures Map](#): Individuals and patients can find information regarding changes to prescription medication rules and laws for all US states.
- [US Movement Measures Map](#): This interactive map tracks stay-at-home orders, business closures, and travel restrictions.
- [International Travel and Transportation Restrictions Map](#): The tracker provides a global overview of measures taken by countries and businesses in response to COVID-19 impacting the movement of people and goods across countries.

#### *Other Resources*

- [COVID-19 webpage](#): Current resources include all Healthcare Ready COVID-19

Long Beach, CA

[Register Here](#)

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## **IN CASE YOU MISSED IT**

### **COVID-19**

- [The Chance for Sustained Bipartisanship for Emergency Preparedness and Response](#) (Morning Consult)
- [Pharmacies to White House, Congress, and Governors: Remove barriers to care so we can be fully prepared to help those affected by COVID-19](#) (NACDS)
- [Guidelines for Opening Up America Again](#) (White House)
- [Securing the Healthcare Supply Chain during COVID-19](#) (PhRMA: THE Catalyst)
- [FEMA Supply Chain Task Force: Stabilizing the Supply Chain for COVID-19 Response](#) (Youtube)
- [COVID-19: 90-Day Refills May Strain Supply Chain](#) (Specialty Pharmacy Continuum)
- [Preparing for Outbreaks like Coronavirus is Always Difficult. For Marginalized Communities, It's Critical](#) (The Root)
- [COVID-19 Preparedness: How ready is your county?](#) (Stat News)

### **Preparedness**

- [Coronavirus and Hurricanes: How to Prepare](#) (Vox)
- [Natural disasters will push the US further into crisis mode](#) (Popular Science)
- [What Happens When Other Disasters Hit During a Pandemic?](#) (Scientific America)

Situation Reports and resources for supply chain owners and operators.

- [COVID-19 Resources for Patients and Individuals](#): Individuals and patients can find tip sheets, condition-specific guidance, and insurance resources.
- [Business Continuity Resources for the Supply Chain](#): Healthcare Ready has developed or identified resources for manufacturers, distributors, and other supply chain components.

*This is a quickly moving response. As the situation continues to develop, the Healthcare Ready Support Team will continue to track and share information and updates in future newsletters and threat briefings.*



- [How to Prepare for a Natural Disaster during the Coronavirus Pandemic](#) (Insider)
- [How Families can Prepare for a Disaster](#) (The New York Times)

## Disaster Response & Recovery

- [Looking Beyond Supply Chains to Assess Health System's Response to Outbreaks](#) (Morning Consult)
- [Pharma management during a crisis: lessons learned for COVID-19](#) (Stat News)
- [How COVID-19 must transform US global health strategy](#) (The Hill)
- [What happens when natural disasters strike during a pandemic?](#) (National Geographic)
- [Three months in: A timeline of how COVID-19 has unfolded in the US](#) (USA Today)

