

# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COORDINATING COUNCIL

May 21, 2020

**GREATER NEW YORK HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION**

*Over 100 years of helping hospitals deliver the  
finest patient care in the most cost-effective way.*

# Welcome & Agenda

- COVID-19 Hot Wash Activities
- Reopening
- Summer Hazards Planning
- Agency Updates

# COVID-19 Hot Wash Activities

- Maintenance phase presents ideal time to reflect on the initial response and make mid-course corrections in preparation for future COVID waves
- Numerous after action and hot wash strategies being employed at various levels
  - Hospitals and health systems
  - Associations
  - Local public health and emergency response agencies
  - State level public health and emergency response agencies
  - Federal agencies and partners
- Understanding the full landscape of activities is critical to aligning efforts and making cohesive change

# COVID-19 Hot Wash Activities

- *What actions is your institution / agency taking to identify lessons learned and better prepare for additional COVID waves and future events?*
- *Who at your institution / agency is leading these efforts?*
- *How do these efforts involve external partners? Are your efforts aligned?*



# GNYHA Lessons Learned/Recommendations

- Series of papers outlining lessons learned from the response to date and recommendations for short- and long-term improvements
- Focusing on aspects of coordination from the perspective of the hospital sector
- Purpose is to share with response partners at all levels to facilitate collaborative planning
- Papers on the following topics are in the works:
  - Data collection and information sharing
  - Surge Spaces including Alternate Care Sites
  - Fatality Management
  - PPE and equipment
  - Staffing
- Feedback from members: email, phone, etc.
  - May schedule a small group interview for each topic dependent on interest

# COVID-19 Reopening Activities

**What is the emergency management role as hospitals and health systems transition to the “new normal” while maintaining the ability to surge for potential future surges?**

## Transitioning to the New Normal

- *How are you recovering clinics and/or business sites that were closed or transformed during the initial response?*
- *How are you transitioning staff back to their primary roles and bringing remote staff back into work?*

## Maintaining Surge Capacity

- *What strategies are you using to maintain surge capacity?*
- *Moving forward, what will your triggers be for reactivating use of these surge spaces and/or alternate care sites? Will you use internal triggers or rely on government triggers?*

## 7 Summer Hazards and COVID-19



Given the unique challenges presented by the ongoing COVID-19 response, existing plans and procedures meant to address these hazards should be revisited and adapted as needed.

# Coastal Storm Bulletin

- **June 1<sup>st</sup>** marks the beginning of North Atlantic hurricane season
- NYS DOH extends CAS/FEPA deadline to **May 30<sup>th</sup>**
- Key resources
  - Facility Guidance Document
  - Community Evacuation & Sheltering Operations Guide
  - Patient Evacuation Toolkit
  - Guide to Developing a Surge Plan to Accommodate Medically Vulnerable Community Members
- Sit Stat 2.0
  - Standardized bed definitions and operational surveys
  - Alignment with HEC operations

## **GNYHA** EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS BULLETIN

FROM:  
Jenna Mandel-Ricci  
Vice President, Regulatory and  
Professional Affairs

### Coastal Storm Catalog

June 1 marks the beginning of the North Atlantic hurricane season, with the highest probability for storms in the New York region falling between early August and late November. While much effort remains focused on the COVID-19 response, GNYHA members are urged to prepare for this threat.

We anticipate hospitals still will be experiencing impacts of COVID-19 during coastal storm season, including the need to maintain social distancing measures and the use of strict infection prevention and control processes. We ask hospitals and health care facilities to consider these expected impacts while reviewing their coastal storm plans and the resources outlined below.

#### **DOH Facility Evacuation Planning Application and Critical Asset Survey**

The New York State Department of Health (DOH) has [extended the deadline](#) for completing the Facility Evacuation Planning Application (FEPA) and the Critical Asset Survey to May 31. All hospitals, nursing homes, and adult care facilities in New York City are asked to complete these planning activities by the new deadline. Your responses will inform coastal storm planning efforts by enabling DOH, GNYHA, and other regional response partners to prepare for patient and resident movement when needed and better understand the region's receiving capacity.



# Summer Hazards and COVID-19

- Many hospitals are still in emergency mode for COVID-19, but have begun to identify a number of focus areas:
  - Discharge / transfer locations for COVID patients
    - Shelters for patients who can't be discharged home?
    - Nursing homes not an option
  - Transport of patients
    - Challenges presented when transporting intubated and severely ill patients
    - EMS staffing and transportation resources
  - Additional strain on the supply chain
  - Consider potential for hazards to coincide with second COVID peak
  - Others...

**How are these issues being addressed internally and regionally and what are the anticipated contingency plans?**

# Additional Agency Updates

- NYS DOH
- NYC DOHMH
- NYCEM

# Emotional and Mental Health Support for Healthcare Staff

## Recognition of enormous current and future needs

- Many efforts at facility and health system level already happening
- GNYHA activities:
  - Dedicated website section within COVID-19 area
  - Conducting lit review
  - HERO-NY Train-the-Trainer initiative launching first week of June
  - Collaborating with partners on Project Hope
  - In discussion with US Veterans Health Administration about crisis counseling program
  - Considering how best to support hospitals/health systems interested in surveying their workforce to understand mental health impacts

Thank you for your extraordinary work.

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