



## Healthcare and Public Health Sector Critical Infrastructure Highlight- Edition III

### 21st Century Challenges in Critical Health Infrastructure



As recognition of [National Infrastructure Security Month](#) continues, the ASPR Division of Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) is also continuing to provide a weekly "Critical Infrastructure Highlight" throughout November. This week's Highlight focuses on existing and emerging threats and risk to the healthcare and public health (HPH) sector. Below you can find a summary and recording of Monday's session of the Healthcare and Public Health Sector 2020 Fall Virtual Engagement Series – *21st Century Challenges in Critical Health Infrastructure* and additional resources.

### 2020 Fall Virtual Engagement Series: 21st Century Challenges in Critical Health Infrastructure

In [this week's session](#), the National Risk Management Center (NRMC) highlighted different ways to prepare the health sector as the nation moves forward, including the importance of using lessons learned to inform perspectives on infrastructure. In regards to the current COVID-19 crisis, the NRMC noted the criticality of looking closer at the National Critical Functions, continuing partnership with HHS and other agencies to address risks, and continuing to invest in health information technology. As 2021 approaches, HPH Sector partners were encouraged to continue to think critically about the importance of data (and data sharing), supply chain, and underlying infrastructure.

Participants also heard from industry leaders from the American Association of Blood Banks, America's Health Insurance Plans, the Health Industry Distributors Association, and the Healthcare Supply Chain Association on topics such as critical partnerships within the HPH Sector, suggestions for better patient management, and 2021 aspirations for development and growth within the health sector.

### Additional Resources

[The Healthcare and Public Health Sector](#) protects all sectors of the economy from hazards such as terrorism, infectious disease outbreaks, and natural disasters. Because the vast majority of the sector's assets are privately owned and operated, collaboration and information sharing between the public and private sectors is essential to increasing resilience of the nation's HPH critical infrastructure.

[The Building Resilient Health Infrastructure with ASPR Podcast](#) discusses ways that your hospital or healthcare facility can plan to protect critical infrastructure so you are ready to ensure continuity of care in a disaster.

[ASPR TRACIE's Partnering with the Healthcare Supply Chain During Disasters](#) is intended to provide an overview of the emergency planning and response considerations of healthcare supply chain owners, operators, and end users, as well as insights for healthcare coalitions working with healthcare supply chain partners on preparedness, response, and recovery. It is not intended to be a comprehensive listing but aims to capture key changes during serious or catastrophic events, compared to normal supply chain operations, as well as planning and response contingencies.

**Traffic Light Protocol (TLP) Designation: WHITE**



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*This email has been prepared by the [HHS ASPR Division of Critical Infrastructure Protection](#) (CIP) for its Healthcare and Public Health Sector and Government Coordinating Council Partners*

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