IN THIS ISSUE
Caring for chronic disease during a disaster

MORE ABOUT THESE PRACTICES

According to CDC, approximately half of all Americans live with one or more chronic disease. Conditions like diabetes, kidney disease, or heart disease can place affected people at greater risk during a disaster, owing to issues such as:

- Decreased availability of services and medications
- Physical hazards
- Susceptibility to secondary infections.

In this edition of PHP UPDATE, we'll focus on practices that address the needs of those with

KIDNEY DISEASE

Dialysis machine: Wisconsin's Technical Colleges

DIET PLANS
Missouri developed diet plans, checklists, and preparedness resources for people who can't access dialysis during a disaster. View details.

COMMUNICATION WITH RESPONDERS
Florida created a guide to help first responders understand the needs of people with kidney disease and other chronic conditions. View details.

ALTERNATIVES TO DIALYSIS
The Trans-Atlantic Renal Council in New Jersey assembled a comprehensive plan for functioning without dialysis during an emergency. View details.

DIABETES
chronic disease during disasters with strategies such as education about dialysis alternatives, home care training, and geographic risk assessment.

**NEW PRACTICES**

**SHELTER COMMUNICATIONS**
Massachusetts created a visual guide to shelter needs and services.
[View practice.](#)

**DARK SITES**
Florida developed emergency information to activate online quickly during a disaster.
[View practice.](#)

**TRIBAL PARTNERSHIPS**
The Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians worked with North Carolina to define emergency roles.
[View practice.](#)

**RURAL PODS**
A New Hampshire region mapped rural town characteristics to determine POD suitability.
[View practice.](#)

**SUPPLIES AND GUIDANCE**
A New Jersey healthcare system developed supply lists and tip sheets for diabetes safety and foot care during a disaster. [View details.](#)

**VACCINE ALLOCATION**
The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe in Minnesota allocated scarce H1N1 vaccine to assure that people with diabetes were immunized. [View details.](#)

**CLIMATE CHANGE**

**ASSESSING EFFECTS**
An Alaska tribal health group developed an assessment for monitoring changes in chronic disease prevalence and severity as a result of climate change. [View details.](#)

**MAPPING RISK**
A Texas county created a climate change evaluation that links maps to chronic disease indicators. [View details.](#)

**CARE AT HOME**

**AVAILABLE IN NINE LANGUAGES**
Massachusetts created a multi-language flu home care guide useful for monitoring and rehydrating people with chronic conditions. [View details.](#)
Mt. Monadnock: Lance Warren

VIRTUAL JIC
Florida developed a virtual space to ensure communications continuity during a disaster. View practice.

SERVICE PROVIDERS AND PHARMACEUTICALS

Vaccine scientist: Army Medicine

For more in-depth discussion on issues affecting people with chronic conditions during disasters, take a look at PHP's and ASTHO's "At-Risk Populations and Pandemic Influenza" guidance.

Chapter 4 describes problems and strategies related to:
- Pharmaceutical scarcity
- Care for people with diabetes and Alzheimer's
- Blood supply concerns
- Clinical partners

ABOUT US

PublicHealthPractices.org is a joint project between the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) in Washington, DC, and the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy (CIDRAP) at the University of Minnesota.

The Web site is a one-stop shop for concrete tools and strategies to respond to the health consequences of disasters and emergencies. Learn more about us here.

UPDATE is prepared and published by the project staff at CIDRAP, and past issues are available on the site.

We're on Twitter and Facebook! Join us.

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Want to learn about new practices?

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Questions or comments? PHTools@umn.edu

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