



**Southwest Virginia**

**HEALTHCARE COALITION**

**2025-2026 CMS Exercise Series:**

***Cascading Failures***

**Part 3 | Tabletop Exercise**

**Tabletop Exercise (TTX)**

# AGENDA

- Welcome and Introductions
- Housekeeping
- Today's Setup
- Schedule
- Rules and Expectations



# ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Funding for this exercise series is provided by a grant from the Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR), Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Hospital Preparedness Program in Virginia is administered by the Virginia Healthcare Emergency Management Program (VHEMP), a partnership between the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and the Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association (VHHA).

# DISCLAIMER

Any recommendations provided by SVHC are provided strictly as recommendations, and facilities are under no obligation to comply with said recommendations.

Participation in this exercise series does not guarantee approval by certification/licensing agencies or the ability of a facility to adequately respond to an emergency and should not be construed as being approved by CMS, VDH Office of Licensure and Certification, or other licensing, certifying, or governing body.

**It is the responsibility of the healthcare facility to ensure that they are adequately prepared to respond to an emergency and have met all provisions of licensing and certifying agencies.**

# HOUSEKEEPING

- Emergency Exits
- Restrooms
- Breaks
- Network
- HAVE FUN

# TODAY'S SETUP

- Situation Manual
- Binders
- Pen and Paper
- Refreshments
- Sign In Sheets

# BINDERS

- 1 per building
  - Situation Manual
- Additional items to be added throughout the remainder of the series:
  - Face Sheet Letter
  - Healthcare Coalition Member MOU
  - Sign In Sheets
  - Participation List
  - After Action Report Templates
- Finalized documentation for the series will be available on the website by February 20<sup>th</sup>

# TODAY'S SCHEDULE

TIME	ACTIVITY
12:30-1:00pm	Registration
1:00-1:20pm	Welcome & Exercise Briefing
1:20-4:00pm	Module Discussions & Report Outs
4:00-5:00pm	Hot Wash & Closeout



# RULES AND EXPECTATIONS

- This is a no-fault learning environment used for the evaluation of plans and processes
- This exercise scenario is plausible, and the events occur as they are presented. (Don't fight the scenario)
- The scenario is presented with enough detail to allow players to react to information and situations as presented
- Everyone is expected to participate. Feedback and discussion is vital as are the questions you will generate about your plans

# EXERCISE OBJECTIVES

- Objective 1: Assess the effectiveness and timeliness of internal and external notification procedures during an emergency scenario.
- Objective 2: Demonstrate the facility's ability to make informed decisions regarding emergency plan activation based on situational awareness, risk assessment, and organizational thresholds.
- Objective 3: Practice coordination with local, regional, and state partners, including public health, emergency management, and other healthcare entities.
- Objective 4: Validate the facility's readiness measures, including staffing plans, resource allocation, patient care continuity, and safety protocols.

# Questions?

# INTRODUCTION



**Tabletop Exercise (TTX)**

# SCENARIO

The remnants of a tropical storm system are forecasted to stall over the region, bringing 12–18 inches of rain over a 48-hour period. Although the system has weakened since making landfall, it still carries significant moisture. As the storm system moves into the region, the mountainous terrain intensifies rainfall, leading to widespread concerns about flash flooding and landslides. The National Weather Service (NWS) issues a Flash Flood Watch, followed by Flood Warnings for multiple counties as rainfall rates exceed projections.

# MODULE 1

- Approximately 24 hours before expected landfall, The National Weather Service (NWS) issues a Flash Flood Watch as the remnants of the tropical storm approach. Within hours, rainfall intensifies due to the mountainous terrain, and Flood Warnings are issued for multiple counties. Your facility must initiate internal and external notifications to prepare for potential impacts.
- KEY ISSUES
  - Timely Dissemination of Weather Alerts
  - Communication with External Partners
  - Reliability of Notification Systems

**YOU HAVE 30 MINUTES**

# Module 1 Report Out

# MODULE 2

- With the storm now 12 hours from landfall, rainfall exceeds projections and flash flooding begins in nearby areas. Roads become impassable, and landslides are reported. Your facility must assess the situation and determine whether to activate its emergency operations plan.
- Key Issues
  - Situational Awareness and Risk Assessment
  - Decision Authority and Activation Thresholds
  - Communication of Activation Status

**YOU HAVE 35 MINUTES**

# Module 2 Report Out

# MODULE 3

- Flooding is now impacting multiple healthcare facilities in the region. Emergency management initiates coordination efforts for sheltering, medical surge, and transportation support. Your facility must implement preparedness actions and coordinate with partners.
- Key Issues
  - Regional Coordination and Information Sharing
  - Implementation of Preparedness Measures
  - Vendor Agreements and Resource Requests

**YOU HAVE 35 MINUTES**

# Module 3 Report Out

# HOTWASH

“A facilitated discussion on strengths, and areas for improvement.”

- Questions to consider:
  - What was supposed to happen?
  - What actually happened?
  - What did we learn?
  - What is our plan for improvement?
- Each group will report on:
  - What went well?
  - Any gaps you discovered

# NEXT STEPS

- ~~Part 1 | Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (optional)~~
  - ~~Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10 am (virtual)~~
- ~~Part 2 | Initial Planning Meeting~~
  - ~~Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at 10 am (virtual)~~
- **Part 3 | Tabletop Exercises**
  - Tuesday, January 13<sup>th</sup> (Roanoke) at 1 pm
  - Wednesday, January 14<sup>th</sup> (Roanoke) at 1 pm
  - Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup> (Abingdon) at 1 pm
- **Part 4 | Mid-Term Planning Meeting**
  - Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup> at 10 am (virtual)
- **Part 5 | Full-Scale Exercise**
  - Tuesday, February 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10 am (virtual)
- **Part 6 | After Action Review**
  - Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> at 10 am (virtual)





# EVENT WEBSITE

<https://svhc.vhass.org/member-resources/2025exerciseseries/>

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# STAY CONNECTED

- **Website:** <https://svhc.vhass.org/member-resources/2025exerciseries/>
- **Weekly Newsletter:** <https://svhc.vhass.org/register/>
- **VHASS:** [www.vhass.org](http://www.vhass.org)
- **NWS:**
  - <https://www.weather.gov/rnk/emer>
  - <https://www.weather.gov/mrx>

**RHCC Emergency Activation Number**

**1-866-679-7422**

**Tabletop Exercise (TTX)**

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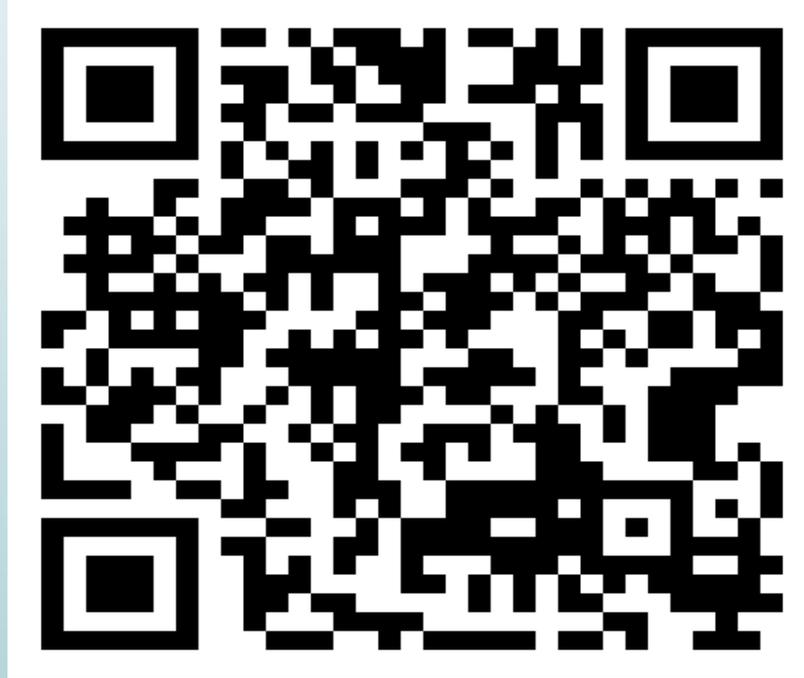
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# CONTACT US

**RHCC ACTIVATION LINE: 1-866-679-7422**

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# PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK SURVEY



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