



2025-2026 CMS Exercise Series

Part 4 | Mid-Term Planning Meeting
Tuesday, January 27, 2026

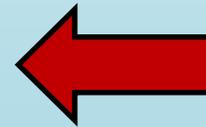
Mid-Term Planning Meeting

Welcome

- This meeting is being recorded.
- Please MUTE your audio when not addressing meeting participants.
- All participants should be logged in using a computer.
- If you have a question, please use the *Raise Hand* feature or submit it in the chat.
- Please take a moment in the chat to record your:
 - Name
 - Title
 - Organization

Exercise Series Calendar

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



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.

Exercise Types

Functional Exercise

HSEEP: An operations-based exercise that is designed to **validate and evaluate capabilities, multiple functions, and/or sub-functions, or interdependent groups of functions**. FE's are typically focused on exercising plans, policies, procedures, and staff members involved in management, direction, command and control functions.

<https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/Homeland-Security-Exercise-and-Evaluation-Program-Doctrine-2020-Revision-2-2-25.pdf>

Full Scale Exercise

HSEEP: An operations-based exercise that is typically the **most complex and resource-intensive of the exercise** types and often involves multiple agencies, jurisdictions/organizations, and real-time movement of resources.

<https://www.fema.gov/sites/default/files/2020-04/Homeland-Security-Exercise-and-Evaluation-Program-Doctrine-2020-Revision-2-2-25.pdf>

CMS Definition

A full-scale exercise is an operations-based exercise that typically involves multiple agencies, jurisdictions, and disciplines **performing functional** and integration of operational elements involved in response to a disaster event, i.e. “boots on the ground” response activities

- Key Takeaways:
 - Simulate your response by completing a set of tasks
 - Engage external stakeholders (COMMUNITY-BASED)

Example

- Tabletop
 - **Task:** Describe your plans for returning to normal operations following this disaster.
 - **Response:** we would designate a team to address all repercussions from the incident. That could include surveying the property, receiving approval from the authorities to return to business, notify all patients/families/staff of the return process in a gradual safe fashion, report claims to insurance, address any expenditures for overtime, food, etc.
- Functional:
 - **Task:** Assign tasks from your Emergency Operations plan, specifically as it pertains to returning to normal operations following this disaster.
 - **Response:** Stood up Command Team in our Emergency Operations Center (Conference Room) . Social services contacted 3 patient families; explained we were completing an exercise and shared with them that we sheltered in place, and everyone was fine, but we are still unsure if the building sustained any damage. Maintenance physically secured all items on the property in case of high winds and is now surveying the building to check for structural concerns. HR was assigned with reporting the claim to insurance, they spoke with AFLAC and their response was...
- Full Scale:
 - **Task:** Execute and complete your plans for post incident recovery
 - **Response:** During this exercise we sheltered in place. We physically moved all patients to the middle of the room/ into the hallway or away from windows. We locked and closed all windows. (outpatient). We are currently in the process of checking vitals and assessing each patient to ensure everyone's safety. Local, Regional, and State representatives are on site assessing the building with our maintenance department.

THEME: Cascading Failures

- Severe Weather
- Hurricane Helene After Action Report
- Three Priorities:
 - ✓ Life Safety
 - ✓ Incident Stabilization
 - ✓ Property Conservation



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.

Objectives

- Evaluate the ability of healthcare facilities and partners to maintain situational awareness and share timely, accurate information during a prolonged severe weather event.
- Evaluate how facilities prioritize critical services and make operational decisions during prolonged isolation and cascading system failures.
- Evaluate coordination and decision-making related to power, water, HVAC, and communications disruption as infrastructure failures compound.
- Evaluate the ability to sustain patient care operations and manage staffing and resources under extended operational stress.

Instructions

- Players will respond to the emergency by completing the list of tasks that will be provided on the day of the exercise.
- Your organization will record your answers to the list of tasks questions within the VHASS Event Log. This is how we will record your participation in the exercise.

This exercise will take place on-site at your organization.

Timeline

- Kick Off & Exercise Briefing: 10:00 AM
- Event Start: 10:10 AM
- Event End: 12:00 PM
- Hotwash: on your own at the facility

Exercise Briefing

- Your exercise briefing will go over:
 - The expectations for the exercise
 - The scenario
 - List of functions/tasks you will be asked to perform
- These details can be found within:
 - Exercise Plan: this will be emailed out to all registrants the day before the exercise (Monday, February 2nd)
 - VHASS Event Log: the day of the exercise

Functions/Tasks:

- After you perform those functions, you will be required to answer questions related to those functions in the Virginia Healthcare Alerting and Status System (VHASS).
- All participants must answer each question and record their responses in VHASS to receive participation credit for this exercise.
- This exercise will run for approximately two hours; if your organization completes the required functions and answers all the questions ahead of schedule your exercise will be complete for the day.

Things to Remember

- All players will receive an Exercise Plan on Monday, February 2nd, prior to the exercise. In this exercise plan you will receive all exercise details to include:
 - *Teams Meeting Details and other communication information*
 - *Exercise Scenario*
 - *Set list of functions/tasks*
- To record your attendance for the exercise, you must effectively comment your responses to the functions in VHASS.

Things to Remember

- Exercises cannot be conducted by a single individual for any facility; include your team. Consider involving your incident command staff / department heads.
- Maintain a sign in sheet.
- You will receive a set list of functions; however, if something specific is not covered that is listed in your policies/plans include that in your responses in VHASS.
- Although we will not be facilitating a hotwash after the exercise that day, your team should complete one following your participation. This process will help the completion of your After Action Report (AAR).
 - What was supposed to happen?
 - What actually happened?
 - What did you learn?
 - What is your plan for improvement

Questions?

VHASS

- The ***Virginia Healthcare Alerting and Status System (VHASS)*** enhances the distribution of critical emergency management information needed by Virginia hospitals and healthcare providers.
- Healthcare organizations across the Commonwealth can request an account. Account management is handled by the Virginia Healthcare Emergency Management Program (VHEMP), within each of the four healthcare coalitions.
- To request an account, go to www.vhass.org and click *Register Now*
- The critical components to understand and learn for the exercise are:
 - How to Log in to VHASS
 - Operating the Event Log



Connect With Us

- Website: <https://svhc.vhass.org/member-resources/2025exerciseseries/>
- Weekly Newsletter: <https://svhc.vhass.org/register/>
- VHASS: www.vhass.org
- RHCC Emergency Activation Number: **1-866-679-7422**

Event Website

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

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