



AUGUST 2021, ISSUE 2

The Bridge

A Healthcare Community Connection

MSEPC Update

Well, here we are back again. But this time we're older, we're wiser, we're overworked and tired, but, hopefully, we're more prepared. Just as it's always been, your attention is on patient care and managing the obstacles that are present each day. I continue to admire your commitment to our community and please know that we are here for anything you might need.

Jennifer and I are continuing to work on the After-Action Reports from both COVID-19 for 2020 and the Ice Storm for 2021, although our focus is often pulled back to the local COVID response. We're trying our best to produce the documents you all need to satisfy survey requirements, but please let us know if you need a participation letter in place of a completed AAR. We can issue a participation letter to any facility that has already submitted their evaluation documents for the respective event.

As we discussed during the July Coalition meeting, we'd like to adjust our meeting schedules to meet with and address issues associated more appropriately with the different industries represented through our membership and bring all Coalition members together at least quarterly. Please be on the lookout for more information from Jennifer or me as we start to explore options. We'd still like to keep meetings on the third Thursday of each month but will likely be establishing new meeting times to accommodate more groups. We appreciate your flexibility and feedback through this process.

August's newsletter provides you with some updates, but mainly a lot of resources. Please let us know if you have questions or need additional information or clarification.

Your work is admirable. You are appreciated. You're doing a great job. We couldn't do this without you.

THANK YOU!

Respectfully,
Heather Fortner
hfortner@midsouthepec.org
865-679-4608

FIND THE
MSEPC
WEBSITE LINK
[HERE](#)



COVID Resources

Click the links below

[Executive Order 83](#)

[3rd Dose Information](#)

[TDH COVID Vaccine Program Provider](#)

[Monoclonal Antibody Therapeutics FAQs](#)

The Pfizer Vaccine expiration dates have been updated. See below. You can also find more information about the FDA approval [HERE](#).

Printed Expiry Date	Updated Expiry Date
August 2021	November 2021
September 2021	December 2021
October 2021	January 2022
November 2021	February 2022
December 2021	March 2022
January 2022	April 2022
February 2022	May 2022

COVID Vaccine News

- Finding a ride
- Locations/Dates/Times
- Homebound Residents
- Volunteering
- Dashboards

All of this information can be found [here](#).

First confirmed U.S. case:
January 21, 2020



COVID Data

The highest COVID + inpatient numbers for the Memphis Region to date were at 717 on 8/28/2021. The highest ICU patient number to date was on 8/27 and 8/28/2020 at 199. As of this publication on 8/29/2021, there are 700 total COVID in-patients with 198 ICU COVID patients.

Source: USAfacts.org

CMS Updated Emergency Preparedness Guidance

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, is a federal agency within the United States Department of Health and Human Services that administers the Medicare program and works in partnership with state governments to administer Medicaid, the Children's Health Insurance Program, and health insurance portability standards. In addition to these programs, CMS has other responsibilities, including the administrative simplification standards from the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, quality standards in long-term care facilities through its survey and certification process, clinical laboratory quality standards under the Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments, and oversight of HealthCare.gov. CMS was previously known as the Health Care Financing Administration until 2001. (Wikipedia)



Useful Links



There are several CMS links that may be useful to your organization.

- [Updated Emergency Preparedness Guidance](#)
- [Core EP Rule Elements](#)
- [Emergency Planning Checklist for LTC facilities](#)
- [CMS Rulings](#)



Let us know what you want to see in next month's newsletter. Email suggestions/ideas to:
jskelton@midsouthepc.org

Mobile Field Medical Tent



The Mobile Field Medical Tent was set up at the WGC- FedEx St. Jude Invitational August 4th - 8th. We treated a total of 11 patients thus reducing the strain on the local EMS and hospital systems. This could not have happened without the support of the medical volunteers, City of Memphis Fire/OEM, and the coalition partners.



Photos by Matthew Koyak and Jason Wommack

50 medical and non-medical volunteers worked a combined total of over 450 hours in 5 days!

The tent was also deployed for the **Elvis Candlelight Vigil** on 8/15. One physician volunteer along with Memphis Fire/EMS provided the medical support.

The next event is for the Cooper Young Festival on 9/18! We need volunteers!

Incident Command

Using Incident Command will help manage events- no matter the size or complexity. The structure is scalable to fit the needs at any given time. The only position that is required to establish Incident Command is Incident Commander. In a small event, the IC could also serve as the PIO, Safety Officer, Operations Chief, etc. In larger events, it may be necessary to have more people filling the roles.

ICS can be used for any type of event and is not limited to use in disasters. Wedding planners, graduation planners and others have been known to use the Incident Command System. Using the system on smaller events like loss of power, water shortages, or even for drills at your facilities could help people feel more confident with using ICS during larger events, exercises, and disasters.

The more Incident Command is utilized at your facilities, the better your staff and associates will become working within the system until it eventually becomes second nature.



- 9/6 Labor Day Holiday
- 9/16 September Coalition Meeting
- 9/18 Cooper Young Festival- Mobile Field Medical Tent



We want to hear from you! Upcoming editions of this newsletter will include highlights of members or facilities. Use the link [here](#) to nominate a person or facility of interest! Let us know why they are being nominated so we can all get to know each other better!

We also want to make this newsletter something useful. It can be as informative as you wish it to be. Send ideas of what to include next month to:
jskelton@midsouthepc.org.

Volunteers Needed

MSEPC is currently recruiting medical professionals to serve in the Mobile Field Medical Tent as part of the on-site medical support for the Cooper Young Festival. The event will be held on September 18th from 9:00 AM until 7:00 PM. Shifts can vary in length and we appreciate any time you can volunteer. If interested, please email Heather Fortner at hfortner@midsouthepc.org

Contact Us:

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