

The New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH) will be conducting five (5) regional Interoperable Communications (IOC) drills between February – April 2020.. The drill is being conducted in conjunction with a Federal exercise entitled the Coalition Surge Test.

The drill is voluntary but can be used to fulfillFederal and/or State requirements foragencies to hold emergency preparedness exercises.

The objectives of the IOC drill are to:

* Demonstrate the ability to use a primary and back-up communication system (internet – including VOIP, radio, cellular and satellite phone) to communicate with coalition partners (local health departments, hospitals, EMS, emergency managers, and others);
* Complete a Health Commerce System (HCS) Health Emergency Response Data System (HERDS) survey within the timeframe outlined in an Integrated Health Alerting and Notification System (IHANS) alert that will be sent to you.

The drill is open to:

* Local Health Departments
* Nursing Homes
* Home Care and Hospice
* Adult Care Facilities
* Community Health Centers
* Hospitals (The focus for ***NYC*** hospitals is a communications check with the NYS DOH, so no HERDS Survey will be required for **hospitals in NYC**. Hospitals *outside* NYC will complete a HERDS survey as an element of completion for their deliverable).

On the day of the IOC drill, agencies will receive a notification via cell phone and text regarding an IHANS message that outlines the emergency scenario and directs recipients to their email to access, complete, and submit the HERDS survey.

NYS DOH will be holding two informational webinars to discuss the drill and answer questions from providers on **Wednesday, January 29, 2020 from 10:00-11:00 a.m.; the webinar will be repeated at 2:30-3:30 p.m. Both webinars will provide the same information. The webinar will also be recorded.**

There is no registration for either webinar.  You can access the webinar of your choice using the links below on the **day of the program**, approximately 15 minutes before the 10:00 a.m. start time in the morning, and 15 minutes before the 2:30 start time in the afternoon.

* **January 29, 2020**

<https://meetny.webex.com/meetny/k2/j.php?MTID=t0c2850948e31da07a9cdee4b7391a727>
**Time:** 10:00 a.m.

**Meeting Number**: 647 365 054

**Meeting Password**: welcome2

* **January 29, 2020** <https://meetny.webex.com/meetny/k2/j.php?MTID=tc0dc554318a5597234b6972cd39a68a2>
* **Time: 2:30 p.m.**
* **Meeting Number**: 640 417 419

**Meeting Password**: welcome2

Should you have additional questions, please feel free to email Pat Anders, Exercise Manager, Office of Health Emergency Preparedness, NYS DOH at:

 Patricia.anders@health.ny.gov