

Healthcare Operations During the COVID-19 Pandemic

ASPR TRACIE Speaker Series

December 2020

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Technical Resources, Assistance Center, and Information Exchange (TRACIE) presents a speaker series focused on how the COVID-19 pandemic brought healthcare and public health, emergency medical services, and emergency management together to adjust healthcare operations. Topics in this series include the role of pharmacists in the pandemic, adjusting operations to manage patient surge, creating a COVID-19 task force, and meeting supply chain challenges.

[Dr. John Hick, Hennepin Healthcare—Welcome and Introduction to Speaker Series](#)

This short introduction features Dr. John Hick, Hennepin Healthcare, highlighting how the many fields and specialties affected by the COVID-19 pandemic came together to meet challenges associated with critical care, crisis standards of care, pharmacy, supply chain, and patient surge.

[Alfred L'Altrelli, PharmD, Administrative Director of Pharmacy, UPMC Presbyterian](#)

Dr. L'Altrelli discusses how the role of pharmacists in has evolved in general—beyond product dispensing to patient-centered care—and how this has manifested during the pandemic.

[Dr. Bonnie Arquilla, Dr. Pia Daniel, and Patricia Roblin, Emergency Preparedness Leadership Team from SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, and University Hospital of Brooklyn](#)

The speakers share how The University Hospital of Brooklyn, the primary teaching hospital for the State University of New York Downstate Health Sciences University, became the only COVID-19 designated hospital in Brooklyn and related operational adjustments.

[Eric Alberts, CEM, CHEP, CHPP, Corporate Director, Emergency Preparedness, Orlando Health, Inc.](#)

Mr. Alberts explains lessons learned by Orlando Health during the pandemic, including the role of safety officers, internal communications, adding negative air flow rooms, and redeploying staff.

[Jill Taylor, Ph.D., Senior Advisor for Scientific Affairs, Association of Public Health Laboratories \(APHL\)](#)

Dr. Taylor shares essential information regarding the use of point-of-care tests (including molecular and antigen) for COVID-19 diagnosis in this short video.

[James G. Hodge Jr., JD, LL.M. Peter Kiewit Foundation Professor of Law; Director, Center for Public Health Law and Policy; Director, Western Region Office - Network for Public Health Law, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law](#)

Mr. Hodge shares legal information specific to COVID-19 and emergency declarations, emergency powers and limitations, crisis standards of care, and liability protections.

Related Resources

[ASPR TRACIE Novel Coronavirus Resources Page](#)

[COVID-19: Healthcare System Operations Strategies and Experiences](#) (Webinar)

[COVID-19 Healthcare System Operations Resources Page](#)

For more information:

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