National Health Security Strategy

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What is National Health Security?

National health security is a state in which the Nation and its people are prepared for, protected from, and resilient in the face of health threats or incidents with potentially negative health consequences.
What is the National Health Security Strategy (NHSS)?

Improves the Nation’s ability to protect people’s health in the case of incidents with potentially negative health consequences.

Creates an outline to guide the nation and facilitate collaboration among stakeholders to achieve national health security.

Informs policies, resources, programs, and activities to improve national health security.
The NHSS is required by federal law:

- **Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA) of 2006**
  Section 2802 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. § 300hh-1) requires the Secretary of the HHS to submit, every four years, a Strategy, an implementation document, and an evaluation of progress.

- **Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act Reauthorization (PAHPRA) of 2013**
  Reauthorized the NHSS program to strengthen national preparedness and response for public health emergencies.
Evolution of U.S. Policies that Shape the NHSS


- Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act (HHS)
- Presidential Policy Directive 8 National Preparedness: (White House) Calls for NPG
- National Security Strategy (White House): Stronger links between health & security


- HSPD-21 – Public Health and Medical Preparedness (White House): Links biosurveillance (both domestic and global) to security
- Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act
- National Security Strategy (White House)
- International Health Regulations (WHO): Public Health Emergencies of International Concern and building country core capacities
- Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness & Response Act

Inaugural NHSS & IP

- **Strategy**: National Health Security Strategy (NHSS, 2010-2014)
  - Defined national health security
  - Established a vision and two goals for national health security and ten strategic objectives
  - Suggested 50 draft operational capabilities

- **Implementation Plan**: NHSS Implementation Plan (IP, 2012-2014)
  - Specified activities to achieve desired outcomes consistent with goals and objectives identified in the NHSS
How Has the Nation Benefitted From the Current NHSS?

- Established a common approach to national health security.
- Reflected focus areas for improving the nation’s health security efforts.
- Through its implementation plan, focused federal action to achieve strategic objectives.
- Advanced the national discussion on health resilience.
- Raised attention to the recovery mission.
- Promoted the consideration of at-risk individuals from a functional perspective.
- Sharpened the purpose and understanding of situational awareness to support decision-making.
### Evolution of NHSS

#### 2010-2014 NHSS (2012 IP)

**Vision**
National health security is achieved when the nation and its people are prepared for, protected from, respond effectively to, and able to recover from incidents with potentially negative health consequences.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Goal 1</th>
<th>Goal 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Build community resilience</td>
<td>Strengthen and sustain health and emergency systems</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### 2015 – 2018 NHSS/IP

**Vision**
A nation that is secure and resilient in the face of diverse incidents with health consequences.

**Goal**
To strengthen and sustain communities’ abilities to prevent, protect against, mitigate the effects of, respond to, and recover from incidents with negative health consequences.

**Guiding Principles**
- Strategic alignment
- Fidelity to the evidence base
- Continuous quality improvement
- Community involvement
- Maximum benefit
## Similarities and Differences Between the First and Second Quadrennial NHSS/IP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication Year</th>
<th>2009 NHSS</th>
<th>2014 NHSS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cycle</strong></td>
<td>2010-2014</td>
<td>2015-2018</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Definition of National Health Security</strong></td>
<td>Same in both</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vision</strong></td>
<td>Present in both, updated for 2015-2018</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Goals</strong></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Guiding principles</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Objectives</strong></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Priorities</strong></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes (~3-6 per objective)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Implementation plan</strong></td>
<td>Federal-led activities</td>
<td>Multi-sector activities</td>
</tr>
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</table>
The Implementation Plan (IP) elaborates on the priorities introduced in the NHSS by describing specific implementation activities on which stakeholders might collaborate in order to address those priorities over the next four years.
NHSS Strategic Objectives

1. Build and sustain healthy, resilient communities.
2. Enhance the national capability to produce and effectively use both medical countermeasures and non-pharmaceutical interventions.
3. Ensure health situational awareness to support decision-making before, during, and after incidents.
4. Integrate public health, health care, and emergency management systems, based on a highly competent workforce, to improve system-wide scalability within communities.
5. Strengthen global health security.
Strategic Objective 1: Vision for Building and Sustaining Healthy, Resilient Communities

• The nation will create a robust culture of health resilience, promoting physical and behavioral health and well-being, connecting communities, and championing volunteers.

• Promoting community resilience is a multi-sector endeavor that leverages community and individual assets, such as infrastructure, talents, skills, relationships, technology, and natural resources.

Strategic Objective 1 Priorities

1.1 Encourage social connectedness through multiple mechanisms to promote community health resilience and emergency response, and recovery.

1.2 Enhance coordination of health and human services through partnerships and other sustained relationships.

1.3 Build a culture of resilience by promoting physical, behavioral health, and social health; leveraging health and community systems to support health resilience; and increasing access to information and training to empower individuals to assist their communities following incidents.
Strategic Objective 2: Vision for Enhancing the National Countermeasures Capability

- The nation will develop and deploy countermeasures that protect communities from and alleviate the effects of
  - chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) agents
  - infectious diseases, including pandemic influenza and anti-microbial resistant pathogens.

- The nation will create a comprehensive suite of countermeasures and a coordinated process for using them effectively.

Strategic Objective 2 Priorities

2.1 Create and/or refine decision-making frameworks and coordinated processes that consider both MCMs and NPIs when determining the best approaches to reducing adverse health effects of particular incidents of concern.

2.2 Increase non-federal stakeholder engagement within PHEMCE processes.

2.3 Focus research and translation on NPIs to ensure that evidence is accurate and actionable.

2.4 Expand and improve national capacity to distribute and dispense medical countermeasures.
Strategic Objective 3: Vision for Ensuring Health Situational Awareness to Support Decision-Making

- A robust capability for health situational awareness (HSA) would allow users at all levels and cross sectors to define and access the information most relevant to them.

- An HSA capability will leverage state of the art technology and information management systems while always ensuring privacy and security in accordance with the National Strategy for Information Sharing and Safeguarding.

Strategic Objective 3 Priorities

3.1 Improve HSA and data-sharing with respect to integrating human-health, environmental, zoonotic, and other relevant information to mitigate immediate, short, and long-term health effects.

3.2 Promote continuous improvement through use of state-of-the-art innovative systems, tools, and partnerships to assure improvement of HSA.

3.3 Determine and expand operational capabilities to meet the HSA needs for all relevant stakeholders so that data sourcing is both situationally- and user-defined.

3.4 Develop a voluntary, collaborative oversight body and management structure for HSA to promote and coordinate consistent approaches to HSA.

3.5 Address technology and policy challenges to ensure functional compatibility of systems to collect, integrate, analyze, visualize, and share information.
Strategic Objective 4:
Vision for Enhancing the Integration and Effectiveness of the Public Health, Healthcare, and Emergency Management Systems

- Integrated, scalable public health, healthcare, and emergency management systems will be dynamic, risk-informed, and flexible.

- The workforce supporting these systems will be highly skilled and will exhibit both the ability and the willingness to respond to complex incidents.
  - Competent
  - Sizeable

Strategic Objective 4 Priorities

4.1 Define and strengthen healthcare coalitions and regional planning alliances across all incident phases.

4.2 Build upon and improve routine systems and services as a foundation for incident response and risk reduction, focusing on common elements that leverage the alignment of routine capabilities with those needed during an incident.

4.3 Ensure that the integrated systems can scale to meet the access and functional needs of at-risk individuals, including children and senior citizens.

4.4 Strengthen competency- and capability-based health security workforce education

4.5 Expand outreach to increase the numbers of trained workers and volunteers with appropriate qualifications and competencies.

4.6 Effectively manage and use nonmedical volunteers and affiliated, credentialed, and licensed (when applicable) healthcare workers.
• The nation will strengthen global health security and, as a result, its own health security.

• The nation will collaborate with international partners to develop global capacities and operational capabilities to prevent epidemics, detect threats early, rapidly respond to incidents, and support integrated recovery efforts.

### Strategic Objective 5 Priorities

5.1 Support implementation of the WHO International Health Regulations (IHR 2005) and partner with the WHO, the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), and other inter-governmental organization and countries towards development of global public health capacities and capabilities.

5.2 Strengthen national capacities and capabilities globally to detect diseases in a timely manner.

5.3 Strengthen national capacities and capabilities globally to prevent the global spread of public health threats and diseases.

5.4 Strengthen national capacities and capabilities globally to respond to public health emergencies of international concern.
Incentivizing is a Challenge…HELP!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guidance</th>
<th>Incentives</th>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Capacity-Building</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Communicate vision and goals</td>
<td>• Issue grants</td>
<td>• Provide technical assistance</td>
<td>• Support system infrastructure and</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Develop/disseminate strategies and policies</td>
<td>• Enact taxes and tax credits</td>
<td>• Provide training</td>
<td>process improvement</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Articulate principles</td>
<td>• Offer prizes, awards</td>
<td>• Develop and run certification programs</td>
<td>• Provide public information</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Define objectives and priorities</td>
<td>• Create subsidies</td>
<td>• Develop and run credentialing programs</td>
<td>• Engage stakeholders</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Develop plans</td>
<td>• Support R&amp;D, tool development dissemination</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Create and sustain partnerships</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Develop and promote standards and measures</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Build and maintain coalitions</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Develop laws and regulations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Support communities of practice</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Partner effectively (e.g., MOUs)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
How Can We Reward You for Being a National Health Security Collaborator?

- Individual Awards (e.g.: NHS Healthcare Champion, NHS Educator Champion, etc.)
- Community Awards (e.g.: NHS State/Territory of the Year, NHS Rural Community of the Year, Academic Institution of the Year, Association and/or Coalition of the Year, etc.)
- Achievement Inclusion (e.g.: Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, School-required Community Service, etc.)

Do you have ideas on how to incentivize collaborators and/or volunteers in support of national health security?

TWEET YOUR IDEAS! #NHSS

NHS Communications & Action Plan

Purpose

• To provide a framework and detail an operational plan to engage and communicate the status, progress, and achievements of the NHSS with a wide range of federal and non-federal stakeholders through 2016.

Goals

• **Inform.** To increase awareness about national health security (NHS), NHSS, and the stakeholders’ role in supporting NHS.
• **Solicit.** To collect data by actively soliciting input from federal and non-federal stakeholders.
• **Action.** To encourage coordinated action in the implementation of NHS activities that has a direct impact on the NHSS’ priorities.

Objectives

• **Increase awareness** of the background and purpose of the NHSS
• **Define a call to action** for stakeholders about advancing NHS
• **Establish new and reinforce existing partnerships** with federal and non-federal stakeholders to gain insights and/or input to NHS efforts

Activities

• Outlines quarterly activities that directly support the plan’s objectives and align with the national health security quarterly themes and events calendar.
# NHS Communications and Outreach Activities

## Social media

- ASPR blog article on building and sustaining healthy, resilient communities.
  
  Read more: [http://www.phe.gov/aspriblog/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.phe.gov/aspriblog/Pages/default.aspx)

- IdeaScale campaign on increasing social connectedness to improve community resilience.
  

- Google Hangout on the role of faith-based leaders in supporting health security through community resilience.
  
  View the archive: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OGPclUih1LI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OGPclUih1LI)

## Meetings and Events

- NHSS promotion at HHS Inaugural Preparedness Fair and Department of State Annual Preparedness Fair (Sep 2014)

- Opening keynote on the NHSS at Learning in Disaster Health Workshop hosted by National Center for Disaster Medicine & Public Health (Sept 2014)

- NHSS Policy Townhall at 2015 Public Health Preparedness Summit (Apr 2015)

- NHSS engagement with HHS regional emergency coordinators (pending)
How Can **YOU** Use the NHSS?

- Promote a culture of resilience
- Help inform policies and programs, including those that fund state and community efforts
- Prioritize investments at all levels of government and across sectors
- Coordinate health security initiatives across sectors
- Encourage routine evaluation and reporting of progress through an annual and quadrennial process
- Communicate a commitment to quality improvement

*ASPR: Resilient People. Healthy Communities. A Nation Prepared.*
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