

ASPR's Division of Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP)

The Division of Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) within the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) promotes resilience of the nation's health infrastructure by leading a dynamic public-private partnership, drawing from all aspects of the Healthcare and Public Health (HPH) Sector, to manage risk and coordinate effective response to 21st century health security threats.

Core Functions:

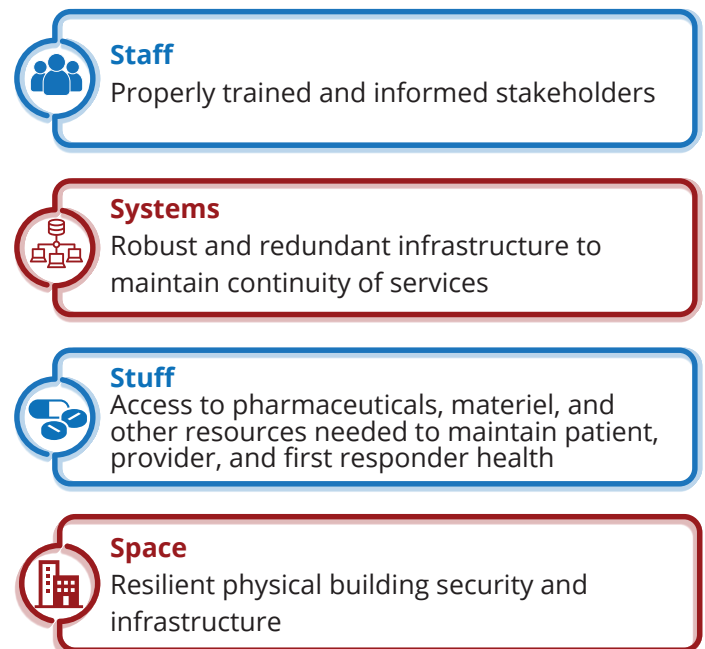
- **Network of Partners:** Fosters a collaborative partnership between federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial government partners and private sector critical infrastructure owners and operators
- **Readiness & Response:** Builds decision-support and response capacity to enable government and private sector to respond to incidents of all-hazards.
- **Risk Management:** Understands and supports mitigation of risks to Healthcare and Public Health critical infrastructure, including cyber and supply chain risks.

Healthcare and Public Health Sector

ASPR CIP leads the Healthcare and Public Health (HPH) Sector Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience Partnership, a public-private partnership working to jointly accomplish shared goals. The HPH Sector is one of the 16 Critical Infrastructure Sectors recognized by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

The Partnership consists of a Government Coordinating Council, containing federal, state, local, tribal, and territorial partners, and a Sector Coordinating Council, containing private sector partners including direct patient care; health IT; plans & payers; mass fatality management; medical materials; labs, blood & pharmaceuticals; EMS; and academia.

What is HPH Critical Infrastructure?



The Partnership is governed under DHS Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council (CIPAC), which provides an opportunity for meetings with the private sector to occur in a relatively private environment and obtain deliberative input, advice, recommendations, or policy guidance on discreet issues due to established Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) exemption status. Through collaboration with ASPR CIP and the Partnership, certain topic discussions can be facilitated for internal ASPR offices under this CIPAC coverage.

Response Roles

During response, ASPR CIP works across public and private sector partners to accomplish two primary roles:

- 1) Support senior leadership decision making by providing analysis and expertise on critical infrastructure and private sector concerns.
- 2) Provide information and decision support to private sector partners. CIP also provides amplification of private sector concerns and issues in impacted areas to federal partners, helping to field and direct requests for assistance.

In preparation for response, ASPR CIP facilitates regular exercises with private sector partners; coordinates a working group to address preparedness and response needs; collaborates with ASPR TRACIE for developing and sharing relevant information resources; and supports both SLTT and private sector partners obtaining clearances.

ASPR CIP hosts regular response calls with HPH public and private sector stakeholders, and sends bulletins of key information to maximize coordination and bi-directional information sharing.

During 2017 Hurricane Maria, ASPR CIP connected private sector with fuel contractors, advising government partners on critical needs.

Risk Mitigation

CIP work in risk mitigation can be divided into three main categories:

Cybersecurity Preparedness & Response

ASPR CIP leads public health cybersecurity efforts of the Partnership across critical infrastructure sectors, and jointly leads the Cyber Security Working Group in the Partnership. The cybersecurity work aligns security approaches to manage threats and protect patients. In partnership with government and private sector, ASPR CIP develops and analyzes work products, policies, and best practices; shares information; and responds to cyber incidents.

Supply Chain Coordination

ASPR CIP leads work on supply chain and disaster drug shortages. Working within ASPR and across the Partnership, CIP is working to identify potential courses of action to both better understand and address supply chain issues. ASPR CIP also works to identify how policy decisions would impact the healthcare supply chain.

Resources & Tools: Risk Identification and Site Criticality (RISC) Toolkit

The RISC Toolkit is an objective, data-driven, all-hazards risk assessment tool with the potential to inform emergency preparedness planning, risk management activities, and resource investments. Developed by ASPR CIP with the input of a team of healthcare partners and risk management subject matter experts, the RISC Toolkit is designed to help healthcare facility owners and operators identify risks in an easy-to-follow format using objective national-level data.

CIP distributes regular newsletters to public and private sector partners with topics including supply chain; cybersecurity; preparedness, resilience, & response; and infectious disease.

To sign up for our mailing lists, visit <https://www.PHE.gov/CIP>.