

**Special Open Door Forum:  
Public Health & Medical Preparedness -- HSPD-21, Paragraph 40  
Enhancing Healthcare Provider Preparedness**

Friday, March 14, 2008

Time: 1pm-3pm

**(Conference Call Only)**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) will hold a Special Open Door Forum (ODF) to discuss ideas and suggestions for implementing Paragraph 40 from Homeland Security Presidential Directive 21 (HSPD-21), Public Health and Medical Preparedness: “. . .to create financial incentives to enhance private sector health care facility preparedness. . .” Paragraph 40 describes criteria for implementing such a plan, namely that it rely on current grant funding programs, private payer incentives, market forces, CMS requirements, and other identified means in such a manner as not to increase healthcare costs.

HSPD-21, Public Health and Medical Preparedness (published on October 18, 2007) (<http://www.fas.org/irp/offdocs/nspd/hspd-21.htm>) established a national strategy for public health and medical preparedness to transform our national approach to protecting the health of the American people against all disasters. This ODF will deal only with one aspect of mass casualty care issues, namely Paragraph 40.

Since Katrina, CMS and ASPR have engaged in many Emergency Preparedness stakeholder forums with providers, suppliers, beneficiaries, state survey agencies, credentialing agencies, and other relevant stakeholders. The ODF will be used to share ideas that have been previously gleaned from these and other discussions (especially under the auspices of CMS and ASPR) that may enhance ways for the Federal government to facilitate private sector healthcare facility preparedness without increasing healthcare costs. The ODF will solicit reactions to these ideas, collect new, innovative atypical or intuitive ideas and proposals, if applicable, especially those that are evidenced-based, historical or previously piloted, and identify, if possible, specific regulations, policy and procedures, or other official guidance which creates barriers to multi casualty preparedness. The purpose of the ODF is not to debate the merits of specific policies, procedures, requirements, or proposals. An E-Mailing List notice will be sent when materials summarizing relevant provider feedback to date are available on the CMS Special ODF website.

During this ODF, ASPR will provide: (1) an overview of HSPD-21, paragraph 40, (2) describe how input has been received to date, (3) moderate brief presentations from ODF participants, and (4) explain the next steps in the process.

Participants wishing to provide advanced materials that describe innovative new ideas for proposed solutions are encouraged to forward a one-page synopsis of their proposals, especially highlighting the extent to which these ideas are evidence-based, to [HSPD21-40\\_ndms@hhs.gov](mailto:HSPD21-40_ndms@hhs.gov) by no later than March 10, 2008. You may be contacted for more information if needed.

We look forward to your participation

**Open Door Forum Participation Instructions:**

To participate in this special forum, please register on the website at <http://registration.intercall.com/go/cms2> . Upon registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing further participation information. The deadline for registration is **2:00 PM EDT, March 12, 2008**. Note: Capacity is limited so register early. Registering via the web will ensure we can accommodate as many participants as possible.

For automatic emails of Open Door Forum schedule updates (E-Mailing list subscriptions) and to view Frequently Asked Questions please visit our website at: <http://www.cms.hhs.gov/opendoorforum/>

Thank you for your interest in CMS Open Door Forums.