



April 3, 2026

Weekly Situational Awareness Brief

Awareness Topics

Increases in Kratom-Related Reports to Poison Centers — National Poison Data System, United States, 2015–2025

“Kratom (*Mitragyna speciosa*), a plant used for its psychoactive properties, is widely available in the United States. The recent shift from traditional leaf preparations to high-potency alkaloid extracts has raised safety concerns.”

CMS Rule Phases Out Fax Machines, Snail Mail to Save Taxpayers \$781.98 Million a Year

“The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) is slashing wasteful spending and antiquated paperwork by swapping out faxing and mailing for streamlined electronic transactions. This action lets providers spend less time on administrative hassle and more time caring for patients.”

Kids’ cognitive skills declined during COVID-19 pandemic, studies show

“A growing body of research suggests that the COVID-19 pandemic delayed the development of key cognitive skills that help children make plans, control their impulses, and adapt to new situations.”

ASPR Releases the Fiscal Year 2026 / Budget Period 3 Hospital Preparedness Program Continuation Guidance

“The new guidance includes important updates and clarifications to support recipients in conducting HPP activities during the upcoming budget period, as they work to increase state and local readiness to get patients the right care, at the right place, and at the right time during disasters and emergencies.”

Beyond the Classroom: Building a Survivor-Centered Workforce

“Victim services and mental and behavioral healthcare must be included in planning and training for a mass violence incident response. The true measure of success in such a response is how effectively the jurisdiction supports victims, survivors, families, responders, and the broader community in the immediate aftermath and during long-term recovery.”

Are fungal storms becoming more common? What they are, when they strike

“Fungi are taking the U.S. by storm — and not in the good way. What’s being described as “fungal storms” isn’t a new kind of weather, experts say, but a dangerous mix of conditions where airborne spores hitch a ride on dust, winds and flooding.”

Upcoming MESH Educational Offerings

Emergency Preparedness & Resilience Coach

It doesn’t take a hurricane to disrupt a life. When resources are already limited, even small disruptions can have big consequences. This course helps you understand where real needs begin—with everyday vulnerabilities—and how to meet them through simple, powerful steps. **This isn’t just disaster training. It’s people training—practical, human-centered, & real.**

Limited seats open in April & June 2026 Cohorts | 4-week program | One 3-hour session per week | Virtual via Zoom | Free, Grant Funded

—

VIRTUAL Naloxone Administration Opioid Overdose Death Prevention Training

You can learn how to save a life in just one hour!

April 21, 2026 | 6 pm EST | Live via Zoom | Free

—

MESH Grand Rounds Quarter 2
Bruised, but Better: A Cyberattack Survival Story
with Justin Mast, MA, BSN, RN, NREMT, CEM, CFN, FAWM, and Eric W. Schmidt, MST

This presentation will:

- Highlight the critical role of collaboration with the FBI and third-party experts in accelerating cyberattack response and recovery.
- Examine the communication barriers faced during a cyber incident and explore strategies to maintain effective internal messaging.
- Identify operational and organizational challenges in transitioning from crisis response to a new normal post-cyberattack.

April 7, 2026 | 1 pm EST | Live via Zoom | Free

—

Talk Saves Lives TM: An Introduction to Suicide Prevention

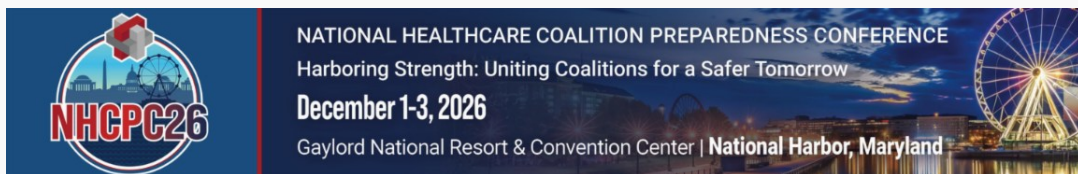
Because starting the conversation can save a life.

May 13, 2026 | 3-4pm EST | Virtual via Zoom | Free

[Visit our Website](#)

Upcoming MESH Conference Presentations

Coming Soon.



Events

[Click Here for Current and Upcoming Events List](#)

MESH does not assume any liability for the content, materials, information, and opinions provided within this communication. Further, MESH disclaims any liability resulting from use of any content within this communication. Information contained in this communication is provided "as is," with all faults. Neither MESH, nor any person associated with MESH, makes any warranty or representation with respect to the quality, accuracy, or availability of this information.

MESH serves as the designated Medical Multi-Agency Coordination Center for Marion County, Indiana. The MESH Intelligence Program is a joint-effort between the City of Indianapolis Emergency Management Agency and the Marion County Public Health Department designed to provide real-time information and support to the healthcare sector in the Indianapolis area. Assistance with info or questions at: MESHintel@meshcoalition.org

To sign up for MESH Coalition Weekly Situational Awareness Briefs, subscribe at the bottom of our homepage at meshcoalition.org

