



PRESS RELEASE FROM HEALTHCARE READY

Healthcare Ready Rebuilds RxOpen in time for Hurricane Season 2024

Free online, interactive tool activated during disasters now features mobile-friendly map, and exportable table of facilities for emergency managers

WASHINGTON (July 30, 2024) With experts predicting that the 2024 Atlantic hurricane season could be [among the most active on record](#), [Healthcare Ready](#) — the D.C.-based nonprofit organization that works to help ensure patient access to healthcare in times of disasters — is ready to respond.

[RxOpen](#)— the essential tool for emergency managers and planners and the nation’s only available database that enables users to search for open pharmacies and dialysis centers in disaster-affected areas— has released a pivotal rebuild to expand and enhance its ability to map the operating status of critical healthcare infrastructure in disaster-affected areas. This newly rebuilt RxOpen, made possible through the generous support of the Cencora Impact Foundation, was undertaken to better serve its over 300,000 unique annual visitors and to enhance support for all the healthcare facilities, partners, and centers featured. RxOpen has been redesigned from the ground up to provide a more robust and user-friendly experience, ensuring seamless access to critical information during emergencies.

Tom Cotter, executive director, emphasized the significance of this advancement: “This is the first of a multi-phase release to make RxOpen nimbler and more robust in being able to display the operating status of not only pharmacies and dialysis centers, but other critical healthcare facilities in the future as well.”

RxOpen's latest enhancements provide users with a mobile-friendly interactive map, empowering anyone to easily navigate and find the operational status of nearby pharmacies and dialysis centers, all from the convenience of their handheld devices. Additionally, emergency managers can request access to a downloaded version of the data, furnishing crucial data on national impacts to essential healthcare facilities.

“Given current disaster trends and what we understand about where individuals from vulnerable communities go most often to receive care during and following a disaster, the enhanced functionality of RxOpen ensures that emergency managers can allocate resources more effectively across multiple jurisdictions, including counties, states, and regions,” continued Tom

Cotter. “With RxOpen, we aim to bridge the gap between individuals and the healthcare services they require. This tool empowers individuals to stay informed, stay safe and take proactive steps toward maintaining their well-being. Implementing the latest in technology and design ensures maximum accessibility to finding healthcare for people who need it, when they need it.”

Healthcare Ready's three capabilities pillars are crucial in times of disaster like hurricanes. **Crisis response** offers comprehensive support during emergencies, including natural disasters and disease outbreaks. **Research and policy** monitors shifts in public opinion and policy, focusing on healthcare supply chains and preparedness. **Resilience activities** promote community and individual resilience year-round, with a unique emphasis on supporting ancillary care and community networks. These pillars form a robust framework for supporting communities during crises.

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Special note to journalists: Tom Cotter, executive director of Healthcare Ready, is available for comment. Please contact Alexis Wing to request an interview at awing@healthcareready.org. Journalists may sign up [here](#) for the latest situational alerts from Healthcare Ready in preparation for hurricane season 2024.

About Healthcare Ready

[Healthcare Ready](#) is a nonprofit organization that serves as a public-private nexus to prevent patient care disruptions amid crises. We do this by forging partnerships and serving as the linkage point between the healthcare supply chain and government. By working with supply chain stakeholders, emergency management, patient advocacy groups, and community-based organizations, we help safeguard patients before, during, and after crises by leveraging our core capabilities. For more information, visit healthcareready.org or @HC_Ready.

About the Cencora Impact Foundation

The Cencora Impact Foundation aims to improve the health and well-being of its patient populations – both human and animal – by investing in its communities. Through strategic partnerships and community collaboration, the Foundation works to expand access to quality healthcare, and provide resources to ensure prescription drug safety. For more information, visit <https://www.cencora.com/our-impact/cencora-impact-foundation>