The New York State Department of Health – Office of Health Emergency Preparedness is planning to conduct a series of seven regional full-scale exercises in 2017. The exercise, entitled *Outbreak Unchecked Response Exercise*, will focus on response efforts to a highly infectious strain of influenza with international impact, and will be conducted across the entire State. The exercise dates are: February 27 (Long Island) and 28 (Lower Hudson Valley), and March 1 (Capital District), March 2 (North Country), March 6 (Central New York south and eastern counties), March 7 (Central New York west and northern counties), and March 8 (Western New York).

The *Outbreak Unchecked Response Exercise* will test public health and healthcare emergency preparedness capabilities in responding to an influenza pandemic. The 57 local health departments in New York State will focus on two areas of response: 1) conduct of Points of Dispensing (PODs), or 2) non-pharmaceutical interventions (isolation and quarantine, risk messaging, and strategies for social distancing). Capabilities, including Community Preparedness, Medical Surge, Information Sharing, Emergency Operations Coordination, Healthcare Systems Preparedness and Recovery, Medical Countermeasure Dispensing, Laboratory Testing, and Non-Pharmaceutical Interventions to reduce infection, will be exercised in a scenario that will further enhance planning efforts for highly infectious diseases and special pathogens. The exercise will be conducted at the Coalition level, and participants will include local health departments, hospitals, nursing homes, emergency medical services, and emergency managers, with integrated objectives and exchange of essential elements of information. Individuals with access and functional needs will be integrated into the local health department PODs and risk messaging objectives.