THE NEED
Healthcare workers will play a critical role in slowing or limiting the spread of a pandemic influenza and are a key part of the healthcare infrastructure that will be vital to caring for the vast numbers of sick patients who will seek help from healthcare delivery organizations. Recognizing this, the federal Department of Health and Human Services Pandemic Influenza Strategic Plan calls for the development and implementation of educational materials for healthcare workers on pandemic influenza preparedness and response. Planning and Response to a Pandemic Influenza for Healthcare Workers (EM 180) provides important information about pandemic influenza including recommendations for personal, community and facility preparedness and response.

TARGET AUDIENCE
- Recommended for healthcare workers and volunteers in acute care hospitals, community health centers, home health agencies, urgent care centers, skilled nursing facilities and public health agencies
- Introductory-level

MODALITY
- Instructor-led
- Online

EM 180 TOPICS INCLUDE:
- Identify the origin of pandemic influenza and appreciate the risk of an outbreak
- Distinguish the difference between seasonal influenza, epidemic influenza and pandemic influenza
- Recognize the impact of an outbreak
- List ways to protect yourself and your family in the event of a pandemic influenza, to limit your exposure, and to protect yourself from becoming infected by correctly using personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Assess coping strategies to deal with the stress of a pandemic outbreak

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The need for educational materials is clear, and this course is designed to fill that gap.