

- PURPOSE:** To define the role of the Disaster Resource Center (DRC) in Los Angeles County emergency medical services system and to provide guidelines for the activation and mobilization of DRC resources during disasters.
- AUTHORITY:** Public Health Services Act, 42 U.S.C.247d, Section 319, Public Health and Social Security Emergency Funds  
Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Recovery Form and Response to Terrorist Attacks on the United States Act, 2002, Public Law 107-117  
Hospital Preparedness Program Disaster Resource Center Agreement  
California Code of Regulations Title 22 (22 CCR), §70805
- DEFINITION:** A DRC is one of a limited number of volunteer hospitals that is responsible for developing plans, relationships and procedures to enhance hospital surge capacity for responding to a terrorist/disaster event in a geographical area. A DRC shall:
1. Be licensed by the State Department of Health Services as a general acute care hospital.
  2. Have a special permit for basic or comprehensive emergency medicine service.
  3. Be designated by the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency upon execution of the Disaster Resource Center Agreement.

**PRINCIPLES:**

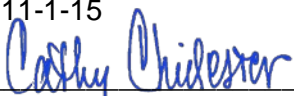
1. As a recipient of the Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) Grant, the County of Los Angeles must work with healthcare entities to ready hospitals and supporting healthcare systems to deliver coordinated and effective care to victims of terrorism and other public health emergencies. The DRC program was developed to enhance surge capacity through:
  - a. The provision of ventilators, pharmaceuticals, medical/surgical supplies and large tent shelters to provide treatment to victims of a terrorist event, natural disaster or other public health emergency.
  - b. Hospital planning and cooperation in a geographical area regarding the use of non-hospital space to shelter and treat mass casualties, and incorporate the role of local community health centers, clinics and other healthcare partners.
2. DRC resources or portions of its contents shall be deployed to care for disaster victims when the local healthcare system is overwhelmed. The use and deployment of DRC resources to the field and/or local hospitals shall be under the direction of the EMS

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PAGE 1 OF 4

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APPROVED:   
Director, EMS Agency

  
Medical Director, EMS Agency

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Agency as the Medical and Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) for the County of Los Angeles.

3. If any or all of the DRC equipment and supplies are needed outside of the DRC's geographical area, the EMS Agency will coordinate the necessary transportation ensuring delivery to the impacted area.
4. Each DRC is responsible for maintaining the pharmaceutical cache and medical/surgical cache in a constant state of readiness. Replacement of the outdated items is the responsibility of each DRC.
5. The County of Los Angeles has designated the following thirteen (13) hospitals as DRCs:
  - A. California Hospital Medical Center
  - B. Cedars Sinai Medical Center
  - C. Children's Hospital Los Angeles
  - D. Henry Mayo Newhall Memorial Hospital
  - E. Kaiser Foundation Hospital- Los Angeles
  - F. LAC Harbor/UCLA Medical Center
  - G. LAC+USC Medical Center
  - H. Long Beach Memorial Medical Center
  - I. Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center
  - J. PIH Health Hospital- Whittier
  - K. Providence Saint Joseph Medical Center
  - L. Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center
  - M. Saint Mary Medical Center

**POLICY:**

- I. DRC Responsibilities:
  - A. Identify a hospital DRC Coordinator who shall be responsible for the functions of the DRC and serve as a liaison by maintaining effective lines of communication with DRC personnel, the local EMS Agency, assigned umbrella hospitals, local clinics, EMS provider agencies and other healthcare entities.
  - B. Establish policies and procedures for the use of tent shelters and related equipment and ensure staff training in the set-up of the tents and equipment.
  - C. Maintain ongoing participation with community wide planning activities, to include cooperation with other hospitals, clinics and EMS provider agencies within geographical area. Planning will have an emphasis on responding to mass casualty events.
  - D. Other provisions set forth in the Hospital Preparedness Program Disaster Resource Center Agreement (Trauma/Non-Trauma).
- II. DRC Supplies and Equipment

- A. Tent structure and other support equipment: (Reference No. 1102.1)
- B. Local Pharmaceutical cache (Reference No.1106)
- C. Medical/Surgical Supply cache (Reference No. 1107)
- D. At least one EMS and one hospital Chempack (Reference No. 1108)
- E. Stockpile of ventilators
- F. Other provisions set forth in the Hospital Preparedness Program Disaster Resource Center Agreement (Trauma/Non-Trauma)

III. Activation and Mobilization of DRC resources

A. Requests for the activation and mobilization of DRC resources shall be made to the County by contacting the EMS Agency's Medical Alert Center or DOC via the ReddiNet or by telephone at (866) 940-4401. Hospital administration of the DRC and the EMS Agency will work collaboratively to accomplish this and make the site operational.

B. DRC activation to expand bed capacity in the DRC's geographic area

1. The DRC shall:

- a. Identify location of the area on or adjacent to hospital site for the mobilization of tent structures.
- b. Ensure tent is approved for set-up by local fire authority and Licensing and Certification district office
- c. Identify hospital staff to set-up the tent structure and support equipment.
- d. Identify services being provided (level and type) of the tent site (triage, patient treatment, expanded isolation capacity, patient holding).
- e. Identify and designate available hospital staff to perform the following duties:
  - i. Clinical care
  - ii. Management
  - iii. Security
- f. Identify additional medical resources needed from the County to support medical operations using the Resource Request Medical and Health Form.

2. The EMS Agency shall:

- a. Assist in providing medical and paramedical staff, as needed, to support medical operation.
- b. Coordinate acquisition of additional medical equipment and supplies needed by the DRC that is not available through the

medical facility.

- c. Assist with the placement and transport of patients from the DRC site to other healthcare locations.

C. DRC activation to mobilize DRC resources to another geographic area

1. The DRC shall:

- a. Receive a list of requested supplies and equipment to be transported to the designated site.
- b. Prepare the requested supplies and equipment for deployment.
- c. Provide access to the equipment trailer/storage area.

2. The EMS Agency shall:

- a. Coordinate transportation of requested supplies and equipment to designated site.
- b. Coordinate recovery of requested supplies and equipment from designated site to the DRC.

**CROSS REFERENCE:**

Prehospital Care Manual:

- Ref. No. 1102.1, **Disaster Resource Centers in Los Angeles County**
- Ref. No. 1102.2, **DRC Equipment Checklist for Items Deployed to Other Facilities**
- Ref. No. 1106, **Mobilization of Local Pharmaceutical Caches (LPCs)**
- Ref. No. 1107, **Mobilization of Medical/Surgical Supply (M/SS) Caches**
- Ref. No. 1108, **Chempack Deployment for Nerve Agent Release**