

Los Angeles County
2024 Medical Response and Surge Exercise (MRSE)
Exercise Objectives

How to use this document: The purpose of this document is to provide sample objectives and capabilities for exercise planners to select from in designing their coalition based Medical Response and Surge Exercise (MRSE). If you do not use all the objectives, remember to remove those objectives and corresponding capabilities that do not pertain to your chosen objectives. You may also replace or add objectives that are not given as examples. (This paragraph should be removed, only capabilities and objectives with sample tasks should be included)

2017-2022 ASPR Health Care Preparedness and Response Capabilities:

Capability 1: Foundation for Health Care and Medical Readiness

Goal of Capability 1: The community has a sustainable Health Care Coalition – comprised of members with strong relationships – that can identify hazards and risks and prioritize and address gaps through planning, training, exercising, and acquiring resources.

Capability 2. Health Care and Medical Response Coordination

Goal for Capability 2: Health Care and Medical Response Coordination Health care organizations, the HCC, their jurisdiction(s), and the ESF-8 lead agency plan and collaborate to share and analyze information, manage, and share resources, and coordinate strategies to deliver medical care to all populations during emergencies and planned events.

Capability 3: Continuity of Health Care Service Delivery

Goal of Capability 3: Health care organizations, with support from the HCC and the ESF-8 lead agency, provide uninterrupted, optimal medical care to all populations in the face of damaged or disabled health care infrastructure. Health care workers are well-trained, well-educated, and well-equipped to care for patients during emergencies. Simultaneous response and recovery operations result in a return to normal or, ideally, improved operations.

Capability 4. Medical Surge

Goal for Capability 4: Health care organizations – including hospitals, emergency medical services (EMS), and out-of-hospital providers – deliver timely and efficient care to their patients even when the demand for health care services exceeds available supply. The HCC, in collaboration with the Emergency Support Function-8 (ESF-8) lead agency, coordinates information and available resources for its members to maintain conventional surge response. When an emergency overwhelms the HCC's collective resources, the HCC supports the health care delivery system's transition to contingency and crisis surge response and promotes a timely return to conventional standards of care as soon as possible.

Ambulatory Surgery Center Objectives

Objective 1 - Maintain awareness of the common operating picture by gathering and sharing real-time information related to the emergency and situational awareness through coordination with the Medical and Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) within [insert timeframe]. (**Capability 2**)

Sample task(s): *[Remove those that you are not testing]*

- Develop information sharing procedures specific to the incident response and document these procedures for clinic staff within [XX] minutes of incident notification
- Identify and document information access and data protection procedures within [XX] minutes of incident notification

Objective 2 - Activate the Incident Command System (ICS) and the facility's Command Center (if applicable) within a reasonable timeframe as established by your Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). (**Capability 2**)

Sample task(s): *[Remove those that you are not testing]*

- Activate the facility's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP), and notify all staff of plan activation
- Identify immediate resource needs and communicate them to the MHOAC and/or other response partners
- Communicate with staff to notify them of Command Center activation and initiate response strategies, as appropriate including notifications to patients and visitors

Objective 3 - Determine the facility's priorities for ensuring key functions are maintained throughout the emergency, including the provision of care to existing and new patients. (**Capability 3**)

Sample task(s): *[Remove those that you are not testing]*

- Determine those services that are critical to patient care and those that could be suspended or transferred to a different facility, and report back to the Command Center
- Coordinate the provision of continued staff and resources for Administrative and Finance functions throughout response
- Activate Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) where applicable, and include COOP status updates within staff briefings and operational objectives
- Consider the need for sheltering-in-place, facility lockdown, or evacuation, and notify all internal staff within [insert timeframe] of the decision to initiate any such actions. If evacuation is required, hang facility closure signage
- Coordinate that business operations are sustainable for a potentially long-term event, and identify strategies for sustainability in a long-term recovery plan and/or objectives

Objective 4 - Evaluate capabilities and resources for a burn surge incident in accordance with the Health Care Coalition (HCC)'s medical surge, burn surge, and resource sharing plans and polices. (**Capability 4**)

Sample task(s): *[Remove those that you are not testing]*

- Complete any assigned functions for ambulatory surgical centers within the local health care coalition's burn surge plan
- Call back any clinical and non-clinical staff who may be used in non-traditional roles to assist in response efforts or to assist at other healthcare locations, and implement any HCC member staff sharing plans
- Implement emergency equipment, supplies, and stocking strategies, and HCC resource sharing agreements

Objective 5 - Plan for the activation of mental and behavioral health services for all staff members as part of incident response and recovery planning. (**Capability 3**)

Sample task(s): *[Remove those that you are not testing]*

- Coordinate with the MHOAC and HCC partners to determine the need for additional behavioral and mental health services, partners, and volunteers to provide an appropriate level of care to staff, patients, and family members
- Coordinate with administration and leadership to facilitate access to and promote availability of mental and behavioral health services for staff, patients, and family members, including briefings for staff on educating patients and families on available resources

Objective 6 - MHOAC Communications and Resource Requesting (**Capability 1**)

Sample task(s): *[Remove those that you are not testing]*

- Establish access to communication systems (e.g., ReddiNet, VMed-28, etc....)
- Respond to pertinent polls and/or surveys received from MHOAC
- Identify needs and submit appropriate ReddiNet resource request