

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.

Dialysis Centers 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 organization's Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) and integrate into the Local Incident Command System (ICS) within [insert timeframe] of incident notification to provide a structured and successful emergency response. (**Capability 2**)

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

- Identify immediate resource needs and communicate them to the MHOAC and/or other response partners within [insert timeframe]
- Communicate with staff, patients, and visitors to notify them of Command Center activation and incident response strategies, as appropriate, within [XX] minutes of activation

Objective 3 – Determine the organization's priorities for ensuring key functions are maintained throughout the emergency (**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 within [insert timeframe]
- Activate the facility's EOP, and notify all staff of plan activation within [insert timeframe]
- Ensure the provision of continued staff and resources for Administrative and Finance functions throughout response
- 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
- Activate Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) where applicable, and include COOP status updates within staff briefings and operational objectives
- Put in place succession planning to maintain operations if primary positions become vacant due to the implications of the event

Objective 4 - Ensure processes and procedures are in place throughout response to provide the following to all clinical and non-clinical staff and their families within [insert timeframe]: appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), psychological first aid, just-in-time training, and other interventions specific to the emergency to protect health care workers from illness or injury. (**Capability 3**)

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

- Conduct a safety briefing within [XX] minutes of incident notification that addresses the availability and appropriate use of PPE, psychological first aid, and other available resources
- Distribute just-in-time training materials to staff, such as job action sheets, Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) sheets, resource documents, and recommended PPE guidelines within [XX] minutes of incident notification
- Routinely (every [insert timeframe: e.g., 1 hour]) evaluate the facility and the workplace environment for any potential hazards or additional resource needs, and report back to the [insert position, e.g., Incident Commander]

Objective 5 - 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 resource demobilization procedures [e.g., through the local Medical Alert Center (MAC) and/or MHOAC]