

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.

Urgent Care 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 to provide a structured and successful emergency response. (**Capability 2**)

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

- Complete HICS forms
- Review Emergency Operations Plan and Job Action Sheets with staff
- Communicate with clinical and non-clinical staff, patients, and visitors to notify them of ICS activation.

Objective 3 - Determine the urgent care's priorities for ensuring key functions are maintained throughout the emergency, including the provision of care to existing and new patients within [insert timeframe]. (**Capability 2**)

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 (e.g., closing a clinic's school-based site to preserve staff to manage an increased walk-in patient population at a primary site, or reallocating dental suites to accommodate walk-in use) and report back to the Command Center within [insert timeframe]
- Activate the facility's Emergency Operations Plan (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
- 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

- Ensure 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 - Ensure processes and procedures are in place throughout response to provide the following to all clinical and non-clinical staff and their families: 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 2**)

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

- Conduct a safety briefing 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 FAQs, and recommended PPE guidelines.
- Routinely evaluate the facility and workplace environment for any potential hazards or additional resources needs.

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