

STATEWIDE MEDICAL AND HEALTH EXERCISE

LONG TERM CARE FACILITY 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 Statewide Medical and Health Exercise (SWMHE). These capabilities and their supporting objectives were identified based on the Multi-Year Training and Exercise Plan developed by CDPH. To access this document, please visit www.californiamedicalhealthexercise.com*

*To use this document, insert your agency/organization’s name in the bracketed text in the header that reads “INSERT NAME OF AGENCY/ORGANIZATION HERE”. Review the suggested capabilities and objectives and* ***consider them as options to create an Exercise Plan that is tailored to the unique characteristics of your organization*** *and community. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA),* ***ten or fewer objectives are recommended for a functional exercise.***

## APPLICABLE CAPABILITIES

* HPP Capability: Emergency Operations Coordination

Definition: Emergency operations coordination regarding healthcare is the ability for healthcare organizations to engage with incident management at the Emergency Operations Center or with on-scene incident management during an incident to coordinate information and resource allocation for affected healthcare organizations. This is done through multi-agency coordination representing healthcare organizations or by integrating this coordination into plans and protocols that guide incident management to make the appropriate decisions. Coordination ensures that the healthcare organizations, incident management, and the public have relevant and timely information about the status and needs of the healthcare delivery system in the community. This enables healthcare organizations to coordinate their response with that of the community response and according to the framework of the National Incident Management System (NIMS).

* HPP Capability: Medical Surge

Definition: The Medical surge capability is the ability to provide adequate medical evaluation and care during incidents that exceed the limits of the normal medical infrastructure within the community. This encompasses the ability of healthcare organizations to survive an all-hazards incident, and maintain or rapidly recover operations that were compromised.

* HPP Capability: Healthcare System Preparedness

Definition: Healthcare system preparedness is the ability of a community’s healthcare system to prepare, respond and recover from incidents that have a public health and medical impact in the short and long term. The healthcare system role in community preparedness involves coordination with emergency management, public health, mental/behavioral health providers, community and faith-based partners, state, local, and territorial governments to do the following:

* Provide and sustain a tiered, scalable, and flexible approach to attain needed disaster response and recovery capabilities while not jeopardizing services to individuals in the community
* Provide timely monitoring and management of resources
* Coordinate the allocation of emergency medical care resources

Provide timely and relevant information on the status of the incident and healthcare system to key stakeholders

# PROPOSED OBJECTIVES

## OBJECTIVE ONE

Activate the Nursing Home Incident Command System (NHICS) and relevant plans and policies within [insert amount of time] minutes upon notification of incident information that may affect normal operations. *HPP Capability 1: Healthcare System Preparedness, HPP Capability 3: Emergency Operations Coordination*

Sample Task(s):

* Activate the emergency operations plan (EOP).
* Identify staffing needs and activate staff members as needed within [insert amount of time] of notification of a Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) and begin call-down procedures.
* Implement the Healthcare Coalition’s process to allocate resources, if any, and coordinate with emergency management and other response partners.
* Develop an Incident Action Plan (IAP), including operational periods, and conduct associated IAP meetings.

## OBJECTIVE TWO

Gather, organize, and document incident situation and resource information to maintain situational awareness, and share information horizontally and vertically with stakeholders. *HPP Capability 3: Emergency Operations Coordination*

Sample Task(s):

* Implement information sharing processes that supports ongoing communication to inform [insert agency/organization] partners of operational status and resource needs.
* The Long Term Care Facility (LTCF) Incident Commander/Administrator submits a facility status report to [Insert relevant local emergency management authorities] within [Insert amount of time] hours of the start of the emergency.
* The healthcare facility, if appropriate, notifies local emergency authorities of available bed capacity and, if appropriate and allowable, surge bed capacity within [insert amount of time] of request.

## OBJECTIVE THREE

If the decision is made to evacuate or shelter in place, provide patients with at least a minimum standard of care according to internal protocols and procedures. *HPP Capability 10: Medical Surge*

Sample Task(s):

* Identify the guidelines for crisis standards of care, including the effective allocation of scarce resources.
* Identify the appropriate legal authorities and protections for healthcare providers and institutions for implementation of crisis standards of care.

## OBJECTIVE FOUR

In the event of an evacuation or shelter in place order, provide operational assistance to healthcare organizations located within the identified perimeter of the order. *HPP Capability 10: Medical Surge*

Sample Task(s):

* Activate existing agreements or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with healthcare organizations.
* During the MCI, provide resource assistance to healthcare organizations and providers for evacuation and shelter in place operations.

## OBJECTIVE FIVE

Ensure that procedures are in place to request mental/behavioral health support during medical surge incidents to staff, patients, and families. *HPP Capability 10: Medical Surge*

Sample Task(s):

* Ensure that staff, patients, and family are provided a mental health screening and psychological first aid in the event of observable signs of compassion fatigue or trauma.
* Ensure that a contact list is provided of pre-identified resources that could provide mental/behavioral health support to staff, survivors, and family according to the incident.