

STATEWIDE MEDICAL AND HEALTH EXERCISE

PUBLIC HEALTH 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. Select and modify as needed. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA),* ***ten or fewer objectives are recommended for a functional exercise****.*

## APPLICABLE CAPABILITIES

* PHEP Capability: Emergency Operations Coordination

Definition: Emergency operations coordination is the ability to direct and support an event or incident with public health or medical implications by establishing a standardized, scalable system of oversight, organization, and supervision consistent with jurisdictional standards and practices and with the National Incident Management System.

* PHEP Capability: Medical Surge

Definition: Medical surge is the ability to provide adequate medical evaluation and care during events that exceed the limits of the normal medical infrastructure of an affected community. It encompasses the ability of the healthcare system to survive a hazard impact and maintain or rapidly recover operations that were compromised.

* PHEP Capability: Community Preparedness

Definition: Community preparedness is the ability of communities to prepare for, withstand, and recover — in both the short and long terms — from public health incidents. By engaging and coordinating with emergency management, healthcare organizations (private and community-based), mental/behavioral health providers, community and faith-based partners, state, local, and territorial, public health’s role in community preparedness is to do the following:

* + Support the development of public health, medical, and mental/behavioral health systems that support recovery
  + Participate in awareness training with community and faith-based partners on how to prevent, respond to, and recover from public health incidents
  + Promote awareness of and access to medical and mental/behavioral health resources that help protect the community’s health and address the functional needs (i.e., communication, medical care, independence, supervision, transportation) of at-risk individuals
  + Engage public and private organizations in preparedness activities that represent the functional needs of at-risk individuals as well as the cultural and socio-economic, demographic components of the community
  + Identify those populations that may be at higher risk for adverse health outcomes
  + Receive and/or integrate the health needs of populations who have been displaced due to incidents that have occurred in their own or distant communities (e.g., improvised nuclear device or hurricane)

# PROPOSED OBJECTIVES

## OBJECTIVE ONE

Activate the Department Operations Center (DOC) within [insert number of minutes] of Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) notification per activation guidelines found in the emergency operations plan (EOP). *PHEP Capability 3: Emergency Operations Coordination*

Sample Task(s):

* Notify designated incident command staff of public health response.
* Assemble designated staff at the appropriate emergency operations center(s).

## OBJECTIVE TWO

Activate and support public health emergency operations. *PHEP Capability 10: Medical Surge, PHEP Capability 3: Operational Coordination*

Sample Task(s):

* Complete and submit the Medical and Health Situation Report provided by the Medical and Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) Program utilizing the most current edition of the California Public Health and Medical Emergency Operations Manual (EOM) format and process.
* Support situational awareness by utilizing the ongoing real-time exchange of information among response partners and coalitions*.*
* Assess resource requirements during each operational period based on the evolving situation and coordinate with partners to obtain necessary resources during surge operations.
* During an incident, assist in the expansion of the healthcare system (inclusive of healthcare coalitions), which includes hospitals and non-hospital entities (e.g., call centers, 911/emergency medical services, home health, ambulatory care providers, long-term care, and poison control centers).

## OBJECTIVE THREE

Implement the resource request process for mutual aid resources through existing agreements to support an MCI. *PHEP Capability 3: Emergency Operations Coordination*

Sample Task(s):

* Communicate resource needs to the RDMHC/S program.
* Utilize your Healthcare Coalition/clinical organization’s process for issuing resource requests.
* Coordinate with appropriate entities to request medical/health resources to the Region/State using established Medical Health Resource Requesting processes established in the Emergency Operations Manual.
* Track all resources received through OA mutual aid agreements and/or from out-of-county agencies from initial request through demobilization.
* Utilize your agency/organization’s pre-established list of vendors to request additional supplies and equipment.
* Implement the Healthcare Coalition’s process to allocate resources, if any, and coordinate with emergency management and other response partners.

## OBJECTIVE FOUR

Issue incident-specific guidelines to healthcare agencies and the public as information becomes available and is verified. *PHEP Capability 1: Community Preparedness, PHEP Capability 3: Emergency Operations Coordination, PHEP Capability 10: Medical Surge*

Sample Task(s):

* Provide guidance to community partners to assist them in educating their own constituency groups.
* Maintain situational awareness using information gathered from medical, public health and other health stakeholders.
* Coordinate and maintain communications throughout the incident to maintain situational awareness of the actions of all parties involved, determine needs and maintain continuity of services during response operations.

## OBJECTIVE FIVE

Procedures are in place to assess resource requirements for mental/behavioral health support and to provide such support during medical surge incidents to staff, patients, and families. *PHEP* *Capability 1: Community Preparedness and PHEP Capability 10: Medical Surge*

Sample Task(s):

* Ensure that public health, medical and mental/behavioral health service agencies that provide essential health services to the community are connected to jurisdictional public health preparedness plans and efforts.
* Assess resource requirements during each operational period based on the evolving situation and coordinate with partners, including those able to provide mental/behavioral health services to the community, to obtain necessary resources during surge operations.
* Ensure that a contact list is provided of pre-identified resources that could provide mental/behavioral health support to staff, patients, and family according to the incident.