

STATEWIDE MEDICAL AND HEALTH EXERCISE

PUBLIC HEALTH OBJECTIVES – Pandemic Influenza

*How To Use This Document: The purpose of this document is to provide sample objectives and core capabilities[[1]](#footnote-1) for exercise planners to select from in designing their Statewide Medical and Health Exercise (SWMHE). These core capabilities and their supporting objectives were identified based on previous exercises, incidents, and your feedback. 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 core 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 core capabilities and exercise objectives for your organization based on prior incidents, exercises, and requirements. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA),* ***ten or fewer objectives are recommended for a functional exercise****. Additional agency/discipline specific objectives have also been developed to encourage participation by partner agencies and aid with the design of a multi-agency/discipline exercise. To access these documents, please visit www.californiamedicalhealthexercise.com.*

CAPABILITY: OPERATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

| **Objective 1:** | **Exercise communications PROCESS internally and externally in accordance with local policies and procedures within the exercise timeframe** |
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| **Objective 2:** | **Test REDUNDANT communications modalities within and across response partners in accordance with local policies and procedures** |
| Activity | Provide command center communications support |
| **Task** | **Description** |
| ComC 4.2.1 | Communicate internal incident response information |
| ComC 4.2 | Implement response communications interoperability plans and protocols |
| Res.B1a 4.2.1 | Establish communications with Emergency Operations Center/Multi-Agency Coordination Center (EOC/MACC) |
| Res.B1c 5.2.3 | Coordinate with non-government agencies and/or private sector to collect/share data on incident situation |
| **Objective Comments** |
| This section addresses the communication process both internally and externally, and the use of redundant communication modalities. These communication processes may include evaluating policies and procedures in communications utilizing alerting and notification systems such as ReddiNet, WebEOC, LiveProcess, EMResources, or other communication systems, email, phone, ham radio, etc. A continuous flow of critical information is maintained as needed among multi-jurisdictional and multi-disciplinary emergency responders, command posts, agencies, and the governmental officials for the duration of the emergency response operation in compliance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and the Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS). |

CAPABILITY: OPERATIONAL COORDINATION AND ON-SITE INCIDENT MANAGEMENT

| **Objective 3:** | **Activate the Incident Command System (ICS)** |
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| **Objective 4:** | **Develop the Incident Action Plan (IAP) and conduct associated meetings** |
| **Objective 5:** | **Exercise the completion and submission of the Medical and Health Situation Report 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** |
| **Objective 6:** | **Test the ability to respond and manage the incident based on the specific hazard, threat, and event** |
| **Activity** | Activate ICS |
| **Task** | **Description** |
| Res.B1a 4.2 | Initiate and implement ICS |
| Res.B1a 5.1.2 | Establish the command structure to manage the incident and meet objectives |
| Res.B1c 5.2.4 | Make appropriate notifications |
| **Activity** | Develop an IAP |
| **Task** | **Description** |
| ResB1a 6.2 | Develop an IAP that identifies objectives, priorities, and the operational period  |
| Res.B1a 6.2.1.1 | Obtain the Department Operations Center (DOC)/EOC Manager’s approval of the IAP |
| ResB1a 7.1.1 | Disseminate the IAP, to include the sharing of IAP information in incident briefings and dissemination of the IAP with other programs, agencies, and organizations  |
| ResB1a 7.5.1 | Evaluate and revise processes in response to incident developments |
| ComC 4.2.3 | Report and document the incident by completing and submitting required forms, reports, documentation, and follow-up notations on immediate response communications |
|  | **Other Suggested Tasks:** |
|  | Provide situation information as requested by the MHOAC Program for situation reporting |
|  | Test the ability of the MHOAC to consolidate and disseminate the epidemiological surveillance information received within the Operational Area |
| **Objective Comments** |
| This section looks at incident management and information sharing from the on-site location to the command centers across the state at the various levels.  |

CAPABILITY: PUBLIC HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES

| **Objective 7:** | **Provide support for other key response partners and organizations in activating Continuity of Operations Plans (COOPs)** |
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| **Objective 8:** | **Test the request, receipt and management of medical countermeasures and materiel through established plans, procedures, and protocols** |
| **Objective 9:** | **Exercise the activation of the local disaster medical volunteer system**  |
| **Objective 10:** | **Identify the process for epidemiological surveillance information communication and coordination among Medical Health partners, such as:*** **California Department of Public Health (CDPH)**
* **Local Health Department**
* **Hospitals (specifically between infection prevention and Local Health Department personnel)**
* **Other healthcare facilities and providers**
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| **Objective 11:** | **Test the ability to conduct surveillance and subsequent epidemiological investigations to identify potential exposure and disease** |
| **Objective 12:** | **Identify measures to mitigate further cases of illness or disease in accordance with established policies** |
| **Objective 13:** | **Identify and coordinate government-sponsored alternative care site options, transportation, and patient tracking methods in support of hospitals and healthcare facilities inundated by the worried well** |
| **Activity** | Direct and coordinate medical and health surge operations |
| **Task** | **Description** |
| Res.B1d 3.2.2 | Identify existing internal, jurisdiction-specific resources available to support response and recovery operations |
| Pro.A2a 1.1.4 | Implement surge capacity plans to increase Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP) capacity during a crisis |
| Res.C1b 4.6 | Activate plans, procedures, and protocols to ensure surge capabilities for treatment of people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs |
| **Activity** | Support and coordinate response |
| **Task** | **Description** |
| Res.B1a 5.2 | Implement processes to order, track, assign and release incident resources |
| Res.B1a 4.2.4 | Request additional resources as necessary for operations and on-site incident management |
| Res.B1d 3.1.1 | Establish communication between the DOC/EOC and appropriate response entities to determine resource needs to support incident response and operations |
| Res.C2a 3.1.1 | Coordinate distribution of stockpile assets |
| Res.B1d 3.2.2 | Identify existing internal resources available to support response and recovery operations |
| Res.B1d 4.3 | Implement resource-tracking system |
| Res.B1d 5.1 | Determine additional human and material resources needed to support response |
| Res.B1c 8.3.1 | Coordinate activation of mutual aid agreements to obtain resources |

| **Activity** | Direct epidemiological surveillance and investigation operations |
| --- | --- |
| **Task** | **Description** |
| Pro.B1a 3.3.2 | Identify applicable laws, policies, and implementation procedures for public health reporting and notification |
| Pro.B1a 3.2.2 | Identify all stakeholders and agency representatives or liaisons for public health response |
| Res.B1c 5.2.3 | Coordinate with non-government agencies and/or private sector to collect/share data on incident situation |
| **Activity** | Surveillance and detection |
| **Task** | **Description** |
| Pro.B1a 4.2.1 | Detect illness through pattern recognition |
| **Activity** | Conduct epidemiological investigation |
| **Task** | **Description** |
| Pro.B1a 5.2 | Conduct epidemiological investigations to identify potential exposure and disease |
| Pro.B1a 5.2.1 | Define case characteristics |
| Pro.B1a 5.3.1 | Search actively for cases |
| Pro.B1a 5.4 | Conduct contact tracing |
| Pro.B1a 5.5.1 | Recommend control measures for outbreak |
| **Activity** | Direct isolation and quarantine tactical operations |
| **Task** | **Description** |
| Res.B3b 3.1.2 | Identify applicable isolation and quarantine laws, policies, implementation procedures |
| **Activity** | Implement surge patient transfer procedures |
| **Task** | **Description** |
| Res.C1b 5.2 | Activate alternative care sites and overflow emergency medical care facilities to support hospital surge capacity |
| Res.C1b 5.3 | Provide knowledge or visibility of available destination medical care facilities/services and tracking for mass movement of patients, ensuring patients are matched with transportation and destinations that provide appropriate levels of medical care |
|  | **Other Suggested Tasks:** |
| See Res. B1d 3.1.2 and Res C1b.3.4.1 | Assess near and long-term capacity to provide necessary public health services and implement plans and practices, to include resource requests and mutual aid agreements, to obtain necessary supplies and equipment |
|  | Activate contingency plans in anticipation of possible staff absenteeism and a decreased workforce |
| **Objective Comments** |
| This section includes evaluating the organization’s medical and health surge plans to include the accommodation of people with disabilities and others with access and functional needs. These objectives also target resource requesting and tracking, use of the local disaster medical volunteer system, the sharing of situational information, the ability to conduct surveillance and epidemiological investigation for potential exposure or disease, and the ability to implement control measures. This tests the format and process of (1) coordination and information dissemination between Epidemiology and the MHOAC Program in accordance with the EOM, and (2) notification and dissemination by the MHOAC Program to public health agency representatives and stakeholders, including non-government agencies and/or the private sector.  |

CAPABILITY: ON-SCENE SECURITY AND PROTECTION

| **Objective 14:** | **Test the ability to request and coordinate security in support of public health response activities** |
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| **Activity** | Activate public safety and security response |
| **Task** | **Description** |
| Res.B3d 4.1.3 | Establish or integrate public safety and security into Incident Command/Unified Command |
| **Activity** | Control traffic, crowd, and scene |
| **Task** | **Description** |
| Res.B3d 6.1.2 | Identify and secure critical sites, including hospitals, shelters, Point of Dispensing (POD) sites, etc. |
| **Objective Comments** |
| Ensure a safe and secure environment through law enforcement and related security and protection operations for people and communities located within affected areas and for traditional and atypical response personnel engaged in lifesaving and life-sustaining operations. |

CAPABILITY: EMERGENCY PUBLIC INFORMATION AND WARNING

| **Objective 15:** | **Test risk communications in response to a health emergency** |
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| **Activity** | Activate emergency public information, alert/warning, and notification plans |
| **Task** | **Description** |
| Res.Blf 4.4 | Activate and establish the Joint Information System (JIS) |
| Res.Blf 4.2.6 | Activate and deploy public information/affairs personnel |
| **Activity** | Issue public information, alerts/warnings, and notifications |
| **Task** | **Description** |
| Res.Blf 5.1 | Disseminate crisis and emergency risk communication (CERC) information to the public and stakeholders |
| Res.Blf 5.2 | Provide emergency public information to populations with access and functional needs |
| **Objective Comments** |
| This objective targets the policies and procedures in place to handle an increased demand for public information from other agencies, the media, and the public, including information-sharing, alerts, warnings, notifications, and risk communication messaging. |

1. These are selected based on the National Preparedness Goal and Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) core capabilities (2013). The numbers used to enumerate the tasks are based on the 2007 Target Capabilities List as the 2013 core capabilities list does not provide numbered tasks. Tasks are amended/added to align with the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Program, HSEEP, and the Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP). [↑](#footnote-ref-1)