

HPP Capabilities Summary

Capability 1: Healthcare System Preparedness

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:

- 1) 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
- 2) Provide timely monitoring and management of resources
- 3) Coordinate the allocation of emergency medical care resources
- 4) Provide timely and relevant information on the status of the incident and healthcare system to key stakeholders

Healthcare system preparedness is achieved through a continuous cycle of planning, organizing and equipping, training, exercises, evaluations and corrective actions.

This capability consists of the ability to perform the following functions:

Function 1: Develop, refine, or sustain Healthcare Coalitions.

Function 2: Coordinate healthcare planning to prepare the healthcare system for a disaster.

Function 3: Identify and prioritize essential healthcare assets and services.

Function 4: Determine gaps in the healthcare preparedness and identify resources for mitigation of these gaps.

Function 5: Coordinate training to assist healthcare responders to develop the necessary skills in order to respond.

Function 6: Improve healthcare response capabilities through coordinated exercise and evaluation.

Function 7: Coordinate with planning for at-risk individuals and those with special medical needs.

Capability 2: Healthcare System Recovery

Healthcare system recovery involves the collaboration with Emergency Management and other community partners, (e.g., public health, business, and education) to develop efficient processes and advocate for the rebuilding of public health, medical, and mental/behavioral health systems to at least a level of functioning comparable to pre-incident levels and improved levels where possible. The focus is an effective and efficient return to normalcy or a new standard of normalcy for the provision of healthcare delivery to the community.

This capability consists of the ability to perform the following functions:

Function 1: Develop recovery processes for the healthcare delivery system.

Function 2: Assist healthcare organizations to implement Continuity of Operations (COOP).

Capability 3: Emergency Operations Coordination

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).

This capability consists of the ability to perform the following functions:

Function 1: Healthcare organization multi-agency representation and coordination with emergency operations

Function 2: Assess and notify stakeholders of healthcare delivery status.

Function 3: Support healthcare response efforts through coordination of resources.

Function 4: Demobilize and evaluate healthcare operations.

Capability 5: Fatality Management

Fatality management is the ability to coordinate with organizations (e.g., law enforcement, healthcare, emergency management, and medical examiner/coroner) to ensure the proper recovery, handling, identification, transportation, tracking, storage, and disposal of human remains and personal effects; certify cause of death; and facilitate access to mental/behavioral health services for family members, responders, and survivors of an incident. Coordination also includes the proper and culturally sensitive storage of human remains during periods of increased deaths at healthcare organizations during an incident.

This capability consists of the ability to perform the following functions:

Function 1: Coordinate surges of deaths and human remains at healthcare organizations with fatality management operations.

Function 2: Coordinate surges of concerned citizens with community agencies responsible for family assistance.

Function 3: Mental/behavioral health support at the healthcare organization level.

Capability 6: Information Sharing

Information sharing is the ability to conduct multijurisdictional, multidisciplinary exchange of public health and medical related information and situational awareness between the healthcare system and local, state, Federal, tribal, and territorial levels of government and the private sector. This includes the sharing of healthcare information through routine coordination with the Joint Information System for dissemination to the local, state, and Federal levels of government and the community in preparation for and response to events or incidents of public health and medical significance.

This capability consists of the ability to perform the following functions:

Function 1: Provide healthcare situational awareness that contributes to the incident common operating picture.

Function 2: Develop, refine, and sustain redundant, interoperable communication systems.

Capability 10: Medical Surge

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.

This capability consists of the ability to perform the following functions:

Function 1: The Healthcare Coalition assists with the coordination of the healthcare organization response during incidents that require medical surge.

Function 2: Coordinate integrated healthcare surge operations with pre-hospital Emergency Medical Services (EMS) operations.

Function 3: Assist healthcare organizations with surge capacity and capability.

Function 4: Develop Crisis Standards of Care guidance.

Function 5: Provide assistance to healthcare organizations regarding evacuation and shelter in place operations.

Capability 14: Responder Safety & Health

The responder safety and health capability describes the ability of healthcare organizations to protect the safety and health of healthcare workers from a variety of hazards during emergencies and disasters. This includes processes to equip, train, and provide other resources needed to ensure healthcare workers at the highest risk for adverse exposure, illness, and injury are adequately protected from all hazards during response and recovery operations.

This capability consists of the ability to perform the following functions:

Function 1: Assist healthcare organizations with additional pharmaceutical protection for healthcare workers.

Function 2: Provide assistance to healthcare organizations with access to additional Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for healthcare workers during response.

Capability 15: Volunteer Management

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Volunteer management is the ability to coordinate the identification, recruitment, registration, credential verification, training, engagement, and retention of volunteers to support healthcare organizations with the medical preparedness and response to incidents and events.

This capability consists of the ability to perform the following functions:

Function 1: Participate with volunteer planning processes to determine the need for volunteers in healthcare organizations.

Function 2: Volunteer notification for healthcare response needs.

Function 3: Organization and assignment of volunteers.

Function 4: Coordinate the demobilization of volunteers.