



NWHRN RESOURCES

RESPONSE PLANS | TOOLS | MUTUAL AID AGREEMENTS | TRAINING & EXERCISES
COMMITTEES | SERVICES

August 2018

The Northwest Healthcare Response Network (The Network) serves a vital role in our community by leading healthcare organizations in a regional, collaborative effort to prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters. This is a compendium of resources we offer to help ensure the resiliency of the region's healthcare community. Many resources contribute toward organizations meeting healthcare CMS requirements and accreditation standards.

Response Plans

The Network facilitates system-wide planning with healthcare and other emergency response organizations to establish relationships, leverage expertise and develop plans and tools. These plans provide a framework for individual facilities to plug into a regional level.

Regional Healthcare System Emergency Response Plan*

Outlines how healthcare organizations will work together in an emergency response, and is a base plan to which all others are annexes.

Regional Healthcare Situational Awareness Procedure*

Outlines how information on the operations and needs of healthcare will be collected, analyzed and disseminated in an emergency response. CMS requires that healthcare organizations have a communications plan and mechanisms to share and gather information about healthcare operations during an incident. This plan provides the framework for individual facilities to plug into at a regional level.

Regional Scarce Resource Management and Crisis Standards of Care Concept of Operations

Provides a framework for a coordinated regional response in managing scarce resources during critical situations affecting our healthcare community.

Although not directly connected to healthcare CMS requirements, the concept of operations will be a vital addition to the region's preparedness.

Regional Acute Infectious Disease Response Plan*

Outlines how healthcare, EMS, Public Health, and the Network coordinate to respond to an infectious disease incident, and informs how individual facilities can plug into a regional healthcare response framework.

Regional Patient Movement Response Plan

Defines roles and responsibilities of regional response agencies and organizations for patient movement including the coordination of healthcare, the Network, Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs), and other regional and state partner response. It serves as a framework for patient movement in our region.

Regional Healthcare Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA)*

Provides a detailed analysis of the hazards affecting healthcare organizations in our region. The regional healthcare HVA will not take the place of the facility-specific HVA, but will support individual facilities completing their HVA to meet the CMS requirement of performing a risk assessment using an "all-hazards" approach.

Regional Patient Tracking Concept of Operations*

Defines the patient tracking process and responsibilities of healthcare, EMS, and other partners for the purposes of family reunification. Per CMS, most healthcare facilities are required to track the location of staff and patients in the facility's care during an emergency. The concept of operations outlines how patients will be tracked regionally and how patient tracking fits into regional structures for family reunifications.

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Tools

Guidelines for Writing an Emergency Preparedness Plan Workbook* (Sustaining Members only)

This workbook assists in the preparation of an Emergency Preparedness Plan that will establish responsibilities and procedures for staff to follow in preparation for and directly after a major emergency has impacted a non-hospital facility.

Clinical Guidance for NDMS Outbound Aeromedical Adult Patient Evacuation: A Toolkit for Civilian Hospitals*

Guides the clinical selection and preparation of adult patients for evacuation by air under the federal National Disaster Medical System (NDMS). While aeromedical patient evacuation by NDMS is only a small part of the greater mass patient movement concept, this toolkit provides vital information to civilian clinicians on patient selection and preparation.

Healthcare Resource Requesting Flow Chart and Process

Provides a coordinated regional approach to healthcare resource requesting when clinical and non-clinical resources are not available through normal means.

Hospital Guidelines of Management of Pediatric Patients in Disasters Toolkit* (update in progress)

Provides the step-by-step approach and templates to create a facility-specific internal response to managing pediatric patients in an incident. Per CMS, hospitals must have a plan to address vulnerable populations, including pediatrics.

Healthcare Scarce Resource Management Tools

These tools support the management of healthcare scarce resources during a disaster. Although not directly connected to healthcare CMS requirements, they will be a vital addition to the region's preparedness when managing scarce resources and patient care in a crisis situation.

WATrac

The Network is the regional administrator of WATrac, the statewide hospital bed, patient, and capability tracking system. We support its use with participating facilities, including on-call support and training.

Flash Drills (Sustaining Members only)

Supports staff and volunteer training and testing for emergency preparedness, communications plans and procedures.

Mutual Aid Agreements

The Network promotes and facilitates the development of cooperative agreements among local healthcare organizations. These agreements help standardize local preparedness and response activities and make it easier for organizations to support each other during disasters by sharing resources and staff or moving patients.

Mutual Aid Plan for Healthcare Resource Sharing*

Provides a regional framework for sharing between facilities. Per CMS, hospitals must have a plan to develop arrangements with other healthcare facilities to ensure sharing of resources.

Hospital Evacuation and Response Mutual Aid Agreement*

Provides a regional framework to share resources and receive other hospital's patients during an evacuation.

Long-term Care Mutual Aid Plan for Evacuation and Resources*

Provides a regional framework to share resources and receive other facility's patients during an evacuation.

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Training & Exercises

The Network develops innovative training and exercise opportunities tailored to the unique needs of Washington State’s healthcare community. Our partners—including the leading medical institutions in the region—contribute the latest knowledge to help ensure each training is relevant to our region’s healthcare organizations. In addition to the following items, the Network hosts workshops of interest and relevance for its Members throughout the year.

Business Resiliency Workshop*

An 8-hour interactive training course to introduce healthcare facility staff to business resiliency planning concepts. Business resiliency planning for healthcare addresses the need to remain open and functional during disaster and how that might be achieved from business, staff and patient perspectives. Participants are guided through a workbook designed to support facilities in developing their own business resiliency plan.

Pediatric Workshop*

A hands-on workshop designed specifically for non-pediatric clinicians to practice the principles of caring for pediatric patients in an emergency. The workshop helps meet CMS training requirements for hospitals and clinics, and is a valuable addition to the region’s preparedness.

Facility Emergency Preparedness Plan Activation Drill* (Sustaining Members only)

Instructions and tools to guide health care facilities in testing and assessing the activation of their Emergency Preparedness Plan.

Adding Value Through Exercise Design: Developing Exercises*

A 4-hour interactive workshop providing an overview of: regional exercise design; implementation and evaluation for healthcare coalitions; and exercise design for individual healthcare facilities. CMS requires facilities to develop and maintain training and testing programs that demonstrate knowledge of emergency plans and procedures, and an improvement plan process for incorporating exercise learnings that improve plans and procedures.

Health Support Team (HST) Disaster Behavioral Health Workshop*

Trains clinical and non-clinical healthcare providers in the provision of ongoing support services to families, friends and community members in the aftermath of natural or man-made disasters. The aim is to provide tools for coping with a crisis or disaster across the continuum of acute response and rebuilding. Participation in this workshop may help meet CMS requirements for staff and individual mental health training.

Online Training Videos

WATrac How-to Videos allow for consistency of training and familiarity with the system, as well as just-in-time training during an incident.

Clinic Disaster Preparedness Training provides basic preparedness training for clinic staff in a five-part series.

Plan Training Videos provide an overview of the regional healthcare response plans, including their purpose, structure and concept of operations.

Healthcare Medical Countermeasures Tabletop*

Healthcare organizations are considered “Private Medication Centers” within Public Health Medical Countermeasures plans. The mission of a private medication center is to dispense specific medications during disasters to the organization’s pre-identified population, which may include employees, employees families, patients/clients and/or others as identified by the healthcare organization.

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Committees

The Network turns competitors into collaborators by bringing together healthcare leaders to build collective preparedness and response capabilities in the Puget Sound region through a variety of critical advisory committees and work groups.

State Supply Chain Resiliency Workgroup

Guides the development of sourcing and delivery strategies to address statewide healthcare supply chain vulnerabilities and challenges. By invitation only.

Disaster Clinical Advisory Committee

This multi-disciplinary committee provides expert clinical advice on issues such as regional medical surge and crisis standards of care. It is an integral component of an ethical, transparent and clinically-responsible health emergency decision-making structure for King and Pierce counties. This committee also advises the local health officers and other policymakers during health emergencies. Meets quarterly; by invitation only.

Acute Infectious Disease Advisory Group

Assists in cooperatively prioritizing and implementing regional planning and response priorities for acute infectious disease incidents. By invitation only; contact us if you are interested in participating.

Training & Exercise Advisory Workgroup

Guides the planning and programming of regional trainings and exercises conducted by the Network. Meets quarterly or as-needed; participation is by invitation only.

Healthcare Executive Response Committee

Comprised of healthcare executives and local health jurisdictions, this committee is an advisory body of executive-level healthcare representatives. By invitation only.

Services

The Network provides the following services for its Sustaining Members.

Assist with **onsite support during healthcare accreditation visits**, subject to staff availability.

Consult with and/or support **exercise design, conduct and evaluation**.

Documentation of participation in the healthcare coalition to **support compliance of CMS and accreditation standards**, where applicable.

Participate in **Member-sponsored health events and disaster fairs**, subject to staff availability.

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