

# ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Request

**Request Receipt Date (by ASPR TRACIE):** 11 September 2019

**Response Date:** 25 September 2019

**Type of TA Request:** Standard

## Request:

The requestor asked ASPR TRACIE for technical assistance in identifying resources for mobile medical units specifically for hospitals to utilize during events requiring surge.

## Response:

The ASPR TRACIE Team reviewed our existing resources; namely the [Alternate Care Sites](#), [Epidemic/ Pandemic Flu](#), and [Hospital Surge Capacity and Immediate Bed Availability](#) Topic Collections; and resources from previous [technical assistance requests](#). We also conducted a search online for relevant materials.

A list of comprehensively developed Topic Collections can be found here:

<https://asprtracie.hhs.gov/technical-resources/topic-collection>.

Section I in this document provides resources specific to mobile medical units geared towards hospitals. Section II provides additional mobile medical unit resources primarily related to inventory cache supplies for pre-hospital agencies (e.g., emergency medical services [EMS], and medical response field teams). Finally, Section III includes additional relevant materials that may be helpful for this request.

## I. Mobile Medical Unit Resources Specific to Hospitals

Appleton, L. (2011). [BC's Mobile Medical Unit- An Innovative Health Sector Resource](#). [Provincial Health Services Authority](#).

This presentation provides an overview of the mobile medical unit for British Columbia (Canada) and how it was used during real events. This presentation also includes lessons learned, roles during disaster response/ recovery, and deployment criteria.

ASPR TRACIE. (2018). [Considerations for the Use of Temporary Surge Sites for Managing Seasonal Patient Surge](#).

This document describes the major considerations healthcare facility emergency planners must account for when determining patient surge management solutions for longer-duration events, such as weeks to months of managing seasonal illness surge. The term "surge site" is used to describe a non-patient care area either inside the walls of the facility or a site immediately adjacent such as a tent, trailer, or other mobile and temporary facility.

ASPR TRACIE. (2018). [Patient Surge Strategies: 2018 Lehigh Valley Health System](#).

In this interview with ASPR TRACIE, Ryan Hay, Director of Emergency Preparedness for Lehigh Valley Health System, describes their surge management strategies for the 2018 seasonal illness surge.

ASPR TRACIE (2018). [Patient Surge Strategies: NYC Health and Hospitals 2018](#).

In this interview with ASPR TRACIE, Drs. Madad and Studer discuss the development of surge sites, tents, and mobile medical units to help decompress their emergency departments during a seasonal illness surge.

Foothills Regional Emergency Medical and Trauma Advisory Council. (2017). [Regional Multiple Casualty Incident Plan](#).

This plan was developed by pre-hospital, hospital-based, emergency management and public health professionals to provide a regional framework on how to prepare for mass casualty incidents. It identifies the roles for hospitals/ healthcare facilities, and other participating organizations.

Joint Commission. (2006). [Surge Hospitals: Providing Safe Care in Emergencies](#).

This document provides an overview of different types of surge hospitals and discusses how they are managed and operated. Surge hospitals can include mobile medical facilities and portable facilities. Case studies from real events are also included.

Pennsylvania Department of Health. (2013). [Medical Surge Systems](#).

This document provides an overview of the following medical surge system components in Pennsylvania: Medical Surge Equipment Cache, Casualty Collection Point, Mobile Medical Surge System, and State Medical Assistance Team.

## **II. Mobile Medical Unit Cache Resources (Specific for EMS and Medical Response Field Teams)**

Duncan, E., Colver, K., Dougall, N., et al. (2014). [Consensus on Items and Quantities of Clinical Equipment Required to Deal with a Mass Casualties Big Bang Incident: A National Delphi Study](#). BMC Emergency Medicine. 14:5.

This paper provides the results of a study aimed at developing expert consensus opinion of the essential items and minimum quantities of clinical equipment required to treat 100 people at the scene of a mass casualty event.

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). (2012). [Operational Templates and Guidance for EMS Mass Incident Deployment](#).

This guidance includes specific mass care coordination recommendations for different types of events such as county fairs, large college sporting events, and weather-related

disaster declarations. It also includes case studies and guidance for mass gatherings. Sample list of supplies can be found under each mass care scenario.

Napa County Emergency Medical Services. (2019). [Multi-Casualty Incident Management Plan](#).

This mass casualty management plan includes a medical cache trailer inventory checklist that can be found in Appendix B, starting on page 54.

Northern New England Metropolitan Medical Response System. (2011). [Mobile Medical Unit Field Operations Guide](#). (Must contact [necep@dartmouth.edu](mailto:necep@dartmouth.edu) for guide.)

This pocket guide provides field teams with the following information regarding mobile medical units: preparing (for deployment), deploying (personnel), setup, operations, demobilization, safety, and treatments.

Puget Sound Region. (2014). [Pre-Hospital Emergency Triage and Treatment Annex](#).

This plan provides a regional cache inventory list starting on page 73.

Texas Department of State Health Service, Emergency Medical Task Force. (2012). [Mobile Medical Unit Standard Operating Guideline](#).

This Standard Operating Guidelines (SOG) focuses on operations, staffing, requirements, scope of care, activation procedures, and safety considerations for mobile medical units. It also includes detailed appendices of supply and pharmacy caches and deployment guide for personnel.

Wisconsin Disaster Medical Response Team. (2012). [Wisconsin Disaster Medical Response Team Field Operations Guide](#).

This state-specific pocket guide provides field teams with the following information regarding mobile medical units: preparing (for deployment), deploying (personnel), setup, operations, demobilization, safety, and treatments.

### III. Additional Relevant Resources

Knickerbocker, D. (2014). Federal Medical Station (FMS). US Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. (Document attached).

This document provides an overview of the Federal Medical Station (FMS), including what is included in the FMS cache and examples of how they have been deployed during events. Also included are a fact sheet and staffing model for the 50-bed FMS, a FMS Wrap Around Checklist, and FMS Site Survey Checklist. Please note that the descriptions provided in this resource are specific to federal FMS operations only.

Minnesota Department of Health. (2013). [Minnesota's Mobile Medical Resources: About the Mobile Medical Unit \(MMU\)](#).

This 4-minute video (hosted on YouTube) provides an overview of Minnesota's Mobile Medical Unit, how it is set up, used, and managed.

Minnesota Department of Health. (2013). [Minnesota's Mobile Medical Resources Training Aid: Alternate Care Sites](#).

This 2-minute video (hosted on YouTube) shows how mobile medical team members set up and work inside of an alternate care site. This video is designed to enhance instructor-led classroom training.

Stanford, C. (2010). [Post-Earthquake Medicine in Haiti: Disaster Relief at a Field Hospital](#). (Requires free registration.) University of Washington, Northwest Center for Public Health Practice.

This one-hour webinar showcases the lessons learned and operations of a field hospital set up in the aftermath of the 2010 Haiti Earthquake. Dr. Christopher Sanford served as a medical officer on a U.S. Federal disaster response team deployed to the field hospital.

Taylor, M., Stokes, W., et al. (2007). [Mobilizing Mobile Medical Units for Hurricane Relief: The United States Public Health Service and Broward County Health Department Response to Hurricane Wilma, Broward County, Florida](#). (Full, free text available for download). *Journal of Public Health Management and Practice*. 13(5):447-52.

This article describes the lessons learned from the nine mobile medical vans deployed during Hurricane Wilma. It includes data from the type of medical evaluations provided, other services (e.g., syndromic surveillance), and common presenting complaints by patients. Of particular interest may be the types of treatment services provided and a list of key lessons learned such as using the Incident Command System (ICS), using redundant communications, developing a protocol for credentialing prior to deployment, and the different responders in addition to medical providers involved.

US Department of Health and Human Services, Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. [Medical Assistance: Federal Medical Stations](#).

This website provides a brief overview and description of a Federal Medical Station.