

ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Request

Requestor: [REDACTED]
Requestor Phone:
Requestor Email:
Request Receipt Date (by ASPR TRACIE): 18 August 2016
Response Date: 26 August 2016
Type of TA Request: Standard

Request:

[REDACTED] is requesting resources on how to plan a decontamination exercise for new Emergency Department staff. One of the hospitals she works with is conducting a full scale exercise.

Response:

Section I includes a few After Action Reports (AARs) from hospitals that have conducted a decontamination exercise. ASPR TRACIE has comprehensively developed two relevant Topic Collections: [Hospital Victim Decontamination](#) and [Pre-Hospital Victim Decontamination](#). For Sections II and III, we pulled relevant resources from each collection below that can help hospital planners design a full-scale exercise (FSE).

Though these are not FSE templates, we hope that these resources are helpful in developing your FSE or can be used during the FSE (e.g., scenarios and lessons learned from AARs, guidance documents, and trainings).

In Section IV, we include case studies and resources on developing an FSE, including information on how to ensure your FSE is complaint with the [Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program](#) (HSEEP).

I. Hospital Decontamination Exercise Examples/AARs

Community Memorial Hospital. (2009). [After Action Report](#).

This AAR is from a functional exercise testing the ability of the hospital to perform mass decontamination for an influx of chemically contaminated patients. They tested six primary objectives: communications, safety and security, resource mobilization, staff roles, utilities, and patient care.

Grant County. (2005). [Exercise After Action Report](#).

This AAR is from a functional exercise testing the hospital staff understanding of how to respond to a situation involving chemical, biological, or HAZMAT incident. It is part of a hospital decontamination training.

Green County Homeland Security Response Team. (2007). [After Action Report](#). Missouri Emergency Response Commission.

This AAR is from a full scale exercise that tested the capabilities of the Homeland Security Response Team (HSRT), EMS, Special Weapons and Tactics Team, and Health Department. One of the HSRT goals was to identify the need to decontaminate and decontaminate law enforcement officers.

Newport Hospital. (2012). [Seaside Decontamination Functional Drill](#).

This document provides an overview of the objectives, scenario, and capabilities tested during the decontamination functional drill. This exercise focused on two primary capabilities: management of staff and patients.

II. Hospital Victim Decontamination

Center for Domestic Preparedness. (n.d.). [Hospital Emergency Response Training for Mass Casualty Incidents](#). (Accessed 5/1/2015.)

In addition to providing an overview of the Hospital Incident Command System, START and JumpSTART, this course teaches participants step-by-step decontamination procedures and the proper personal protective equipment to use in mass casualty incidents.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2013). [Radiological Terrorism - Just in Time Training for Hospital Clinicians](#).

This brief video presents just-in-time training on recognition and management of radiation contaminated patients. It uses patient care scenarios to demonstrate key procedures.

Children's Hospital Boston. (2005). [Decontamination of Children](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Chemical Hazards Emergency Medical Management.

This scenario-based video shares specific considerations for caring for pediatric patients who require decontamination.

Emergency Film Group. (n.d.). [Patient Decontamination DVD](#). (Accessed 5/26/2015.)

This video emphasizes the need for hospital decontamination plans in the event of a major terrorist or other disaster resulting in contaminated patients. It covers patient decontamination techniques, issues related to weather and modesty, equipment and supplies, integrating decontamination and triage, and post-decontamination.

Harvard School of Public Health. (2013). [Hospital Decontamination Self-Assessment Tool](#). Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Emergency Preparedness Bureau.

This resource assists hospitals in evaluating their decontamination plans and capabilities. It is designed to walk the user through the emergency management cycle of a hospital response to a hazardous materials incident requiring decontamination of patients.

Harvard School of Public Health. (2014). [Proposed minimum decontamination capabilities for hospitals in Massachusetts](#). Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Emergency Preparedness Bureau.

In an attempt to ensure a minimum level of preparedness and response across the state, this capabilities document was developed for hospitals and their partners. There are three categories of capabilities: early incident recognition, decontamination practice, and evaluating the effectiveness of decontamination program.

Harvard School of Public Health. (2014). [Strategies for First Receiver Decontamination](#). Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Emergency Preparedness Bureau.

This collection of tactics aims to assist hospitals address challenges associated with all-hazards decontamination of patients. There are multiple strategies listed under the preparedness and response categories.

Hennepin County Medical Center. (n.d.). [Hazardous Materials Exposure Guide: A Step-by-Step Medical Response Guide](#). (Accessed 6/7/2015.)

This quick-reference cardset is intended for use by pre-hospital and hospital personnel and groups the exposure by class rather than agent (corrosives, asphyxiants, cholinergics) for easier initial assessment and treatment.

Hick, J. (2014). [HCMC Hospital HAZMAT Curriculum](#). Hennepin County Medical Center.

This series of five videos developed by Hennepin County Medical Center is part of the facility's eight-hour hazardous materials decontamination team training. Hands-on training follows completion of on-line video training.

Hick, J., Penn, P., and Hanfling, D. (2003). [Establishing and Training Healthcare Facility Decontamination Teams](#). (Abstract only.) *Annals of Emergency Medicine*. 42(3):381-90.

The authors of this article review Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) training requirements for healthcare personnel involved with decontamination responses. They discuss team selection and training and highlight relevant sample OSHA operations-level training curricula.

Pye, S. (n.d.). [Mass Casualty Decontamination for Hospitals: Instructor's Guide](#). (Accessed 5/1/2015.) County of Los Angeles, Emergency Medical Services Agency, Disaster Management Unit.

The Los Angeles County Emergency Medical Services Agency created this training to prepare hospital personnel to safely manage a mass casualty mass decontamination event.

This instructor guide can be supplemented by a DVD that includes five separate video programs. Section 5 provides some recommendations when conducting a decontamination exercise.

Ron Blank and Associates. (2008). [Principles & Design Considerations for Sterile Processes. An American Institute of Architects \(AIA\) Continuing Education Program.](#)

Training participants can learn more about the importance of a sterile processing department and the concepts of decontamination and sterilization. They will also learn how to identify the type of equipment found in these departments and better understand the related nature of the workflow and design factors.

III. Pre-Hospital Victim Decontamination

Center for Domestic Preparedness. (n.d.). [Hands on Training for CBRNE Incidents.](#) (Accessed 9/25/2015.) Federal Emergency Management Agency.

This training is focused on personal protective equipment, survey and monitoring equipment, evidence collection and preservation, mass-casualty triage, and explosive devices/searches. It culminates in an in-person training exercise.

Center for Domestic Preparedness. (n.d.). [Hazardous Materials Technician for CBRNE Incidents.](#) (Accessed 9/25/2015.) Federal Emergency Management Agency.

This course provides responders with operations- and technician-level knowledge, skills, and abilities in the critical response requirements necessary to conduct sampling and monitoring for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosives hazards and incidents. Includes an in-person 8-hour sampling and monitoring exercise.

Center for Domestic Preparedness. (n.d.). [Hospital Emergency Response Training for Mass Casualty Incidents.](#) (Accessed 9/25/2015.) Federal Emergency Management Agency.

This course prepares healthcare personnel (emergency and hospital-based) to conduct a safe and effective emergency medical response to a mass-casualty incident. Participants will learn how to recognize the procedures for ambulatory and nonambulatory decontamination and select and use appropriate levels of personal protective equipment, among other skills.

Center for Domestic Preparedness. (n.d.). [Technical Emergency Response Training for CBRNE Incidents.](#) (Accessed 9/25/2015.) Federal Emergency Management Agency.

In this training, responders will learn about potential terrorist targets and chemical, biological, radiological, and explosive hazards that may be used in all emergency incidents. The training includes hands-on exercises in decontamination, mass-casualty triage, and survey and monitoring.

Cook, L. (2010). [Teaching Hazmat Decontamination](#). Journal of Emergency Medical Services.

The author discusses contamination, the different types of decontamination typically performed on an incident scene, and special challenges that might arise (e.g., patient refusal of decontamination) and how to manage them.

EnMagine, Inc. (2015). [Hazardous Materials](#).

EnMagine provides hospital hazardous materials training. While ASPR TRACIE does not endorse specific vendors, the resources available for public download on the website (including slide decks from trainings) may be valuable to healthcare emergency planners and others responsible for preparing their own curricula/training.

Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education. (2015). [Radiation Emergency Assistance Center/Training Site](#).

This webpage links to the Radiation Emergency Assistance Center/Training Site (REAC/TS), which offers several resources to prepare medical professionals to respond to radiological emergencies. There are links to books, live training courses, online trainings, and assessment and treatment guidance documents. REAC/TS staff are available for deployment to provide medical consultation during emergencies, upon request.

IV. Case Studies and HSEEP Guidance

County of Los Angeles Department of Health Services Emergency Medical Services Agency, Disaster Services. (n.d.). [Conducting Drills and Exercises: A Guide for Hospitals](#).

This guide contains information specific to hospital drills and exercises. Tips for planning and designing exercises are included, along with templates that can be printed and used by hospital emergency exercise planners.

Harvard School of Public Health. (2014). [Hazardous Material Tabletop Exercise Master scenario events list \(MSEL\)](#).

This Master Scenario Events List (MSEL) Package provides provide central exercise facilitation team members a complete edition of the MSEL, including the summary listing and detailed inject forms that will be delivered to players.

Massachusetts Office of Health and Human Services. (2009). [EDS Full Scale Exercise \(FSE\)](#).

This webpage contains links to resources that comprise a toolkit on developing, running, and evaluating a full scale exercise. The toolkit includes instructions, MSEL, evaluation guides, and other related documents that can be tailored by healthcare exercise planners.

U.S. Department of Homeland Security. (2013). [Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program \(HSEEP\)](#).

The Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) provides a set of guiding principles for exercise programs, based on common approach to exercise program management, design and development, conduct, evaluation, and improvement planning.