

ASPR TRACIE Technical Assistance Request

Request Receipt Date (by ASPR TRACIE): 29 March 2019

Response Date: 29 March 2019

Type of TA Request: Standard

Request:

The requestor asked ASPR TRACIE if we had any emergency operations plans (EOPs) for small rural hospitals.

Response:

The ASPR TRACIE Team reviewed existing materials, namely the [Rural Disaster Health](#) and [Emergency Operations Plans/ Emergency Management Program](#) Topic Collections. We also conducted a search online for rural hospital EOPs.

Section I includes hospital and healthcare facility EOPs. Although not all are specific to rural hospitals, these plans may be modified and adapted for use by rural hospitals. Section II includes links to additional relevant resources that will be helpful in developing an EOP.

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

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

I. Emergency Operations Plans

California Emergency Medical Services Authority. (2015). [Emergency Operations Plan](#).

This emergency operations plan template is designed for Skilled Nursing Facilities and can be customized by the user. It includes rapid response guides, a response concept of operations, and appendices that can help ensure continuity of operations.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment. (2008). [Emergency Operations Plan](#).

This document is a template for a hospital Emergency Operations Plan with departmental sections as well as incident-specific annexes. Facility personnel will likely need to add operational detail to this outline.

Mississippi State Department of Health. (n.d.). [Mississippi State Department of Health-Facilities Preparedness](#). (Accessed 3/29/2019.)

This webpage links to emergency operations plan templates for: home health; hospice; hospitals; long-term care; and personal home care.

National Association of Rural Health Clinics. (2017). [Rural Health Clinic: Example Emergency Operations Plan](#).

This template can be used by rural health clinics and other healthcare facilities to assist in developing an EOP, and identifying the roles and responsibilities of staff during an emergency or exercise to ensure the safety of patients, staff, and visitors.

University of Toledo Medical Center. (2015). [University of Toledo Medical Center Emergency Operations Plan](#).

This is an emergency operations plan for an academic medical center that may be referenced and adapted for use by other facilities.

USA Center for Rural Public Health Preparedness, Texas A&M Health Science Center School for Rural Public Health. (2007). [Partnering to Achieve Rural Emergency Preparedness: A Workbook for Healthcare Providers in Rural Communities](#).

This workbook provides an interactive, user-friendly tool to assist rural health clinics and rural-based hospitals, community health centers, and migrant health centers create/update all-hazards emergency response plans.

II. Additional Planning and Rural-Specific Resources

ASPR TRACIE. (2019). [Hospital-Based Incident Command Systems: Small and Rural Hospitals](#).

This webinar features speakers from small and rural hospitals who have experienced a recent emergency and activated their hospital-based incident command systems. They provided an overview of the incident, described how they implemented their incident command system, discussed tools and shared lessons learned for small and rural hospitals, and shared how they have incorporated these lessons into their current systems and plans.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. (2013). [Emergency Preparedness Checklist](#).

This checklist can be utilized by healthcare emergency planners to help aid in the development of emergency plans.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2014). [Emergency Preparedness and Response: Preparation & Planning](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website provides links to planning resources for healthcare facilities and specific types of emergencies.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2016). [Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response: Planning Resources by Setting](#). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

This website includes links to resources that can help healthcare and hospital systems staff plan for and respond to public health emergencies.

Dvorak, G. and Williamson, B. (Eds.). (2011). [All-Hazards Preparedness for Rural Communities](#).

This guide can help emergency planners, families, and individuals who live in rural communities prepare businesses take the necessary steps to prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural disaster and human-caused events. While not geared towards healthcare practitioners, it does include threat-specific information templates, checklists, and links to related resources for families and businesses.

Ware County Board of Health. (2011). [Risk Communication in Rural Settings](#). National Association of County and City Health Officials.

Healthcare practitioners in rural areas can use the strategies in this toolkit to communicate with their community during a variety of disasters including natural, biological, chemical, radiological, and mass vaccination/medical events.

Wisconsin Department of Health Services. (2018). [CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule Toolkits](#).

This webpage includes links to toolkits and other resources designed to help select healthcare facilities better understand the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Emergency Preparedness Rule. Each toolkit includes sample templates and planning worksheets that can help facilities develop compliant plans, policies, and procedures.

World Health Organization, Regional Office for Europe. (2011) [Hospital Emergency Response Checklist: An All-Hazards Tool for Hospital Administrators and Emergency Managers](#).

Healthcare emergency response planners may use the checklists found in this document to inform the development of their Emergency Operations Plans.