

Disaster and Emergency Response for Hospitals

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Objectives

- Discuss general hospital plans in Alaska for disaster and emergency response
- Explain the process of hospital response with the state and local emergency response
- Discuss how the ANAS volunteers could be utilized as support staff in hospitals
- Name aspects of the Medical Emergency Preparedness-Pediatric project and its impact on Alaska's care of children



Stages of Emergency Planning

- Mitigation: lessen the severity & impact
- Preparedness: build capacity with resources in case of...
- Response: work together to save lives
- Recovery: getting back to normal



Hazard Vulnerability Assessment

- List of hazards, ranked by number
 - Could occur or high = 1
 - Might occur or moderate = 2
 - Would never occur or not likely = 3
- Rank hazards by impact
 - What resources do you have?
 - What affects the organization?



Types of Events

- Natural: earthquake, tsunami, flood
- Technological: generator or electrical failure, fuel shortage
- Human events: fire, explosion, infectious disease outbreak
- Hazardous Materials: chemical exposure, internal spill
- Risk = probability x severity



Hazard Vulnerability Assessment

- Every community needs an HVA
- Every hospital needs an HVA
- They should be consistent
- Collaboration is critical



Hospital Disaster Planning

- Built on HVA
- Internal and external disasters
- Joint Commission Standards
 - communication
 - resources and assets
 - safety and security
 - staff responsibilities
 - utilities management
 - patient clinical and support activities



Hospital Preparedness Program

- Funding to healthcare facilities to improve preparedness
- Covers planning, training, exercises, supplies, equipment, pharmaceuticals, PPE
- Alaska funding this year: \$1.3 million
- Guidelines for all hospitals



National Incident Management System

- Incident Command
 - Incident Commander
 - Operations Section
 - Planning Section
 - Logistics
 - Finance/Administration
 - Public Information
 - Safety officer
 - Liaison Officer
 - Medical/Technical Specialist

Business Continuity Program

- May also be called Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)
- Identify impact of potential losses
- Formulate & implement recovery strategies
- Develop recovery plans to ensure continuity of services in the event of an extreme emergency, incident and/or crisis
- Deliver a comprehensive training, testing and maintenance program



Goals of a COOP

- Preserve:
 - Capability of the organization to achieve its business mission
 - Assets
 - Operational capacity
 - Reputation and image
 - Market share
 - Customer base
 - profitability



Disaster Response

- All disasters are local!
- Medical assets are part of community response
- Local government in charge
- Local government can request state support if local resources exhausted or anticipate they will be exhausted



Disaster Response

- State can request resources from other states (Emergency Management Assistance Compact or EMAC)
- State can request resources from federal government (Emergency Support Function 8)
- Per National Response Framework: locals maintain control of response



Glennallen Crash



9 June Glennallen

- 54-seat passenger bus crashed at mile 151 of Richardson Highway
- 13 Korean nationals aged 3 to 70 years old.
- Only 2 spoke any English
- Witnesses to crash called 911



Coordination

- Cross Road Medical, EMS, and AST
- MAST Blackhawk helicopters transported 4 most critically injured to Gulkana Airport
- Fixed wing aircraft from (3) medevac services transported to Providence, Alaska Regional and ANMC.
- All 13 patients transported within 2.5 hrs



ANAS Volunteers

- How will you be used to support disaster response?
- What are barriers?
- What are we to facilitate including ANAS volunteers?
- How will this all work?



Medical Emergency Preparedness Pediatrics

- Result of increase in RSV at Samuel Simmonds Hospital, Barrow in 2007
- Healthcare Facilities Partnership grant \$743,000
- Collaboration with All Alaska Pediatric Partnership



Key Components

- Steering Committee
- Curriculum
- Community
- Ethics
- Equipment
- Exercise



Next Steps

- Continue training for non-pediatric providers
- Continue exercises
- Continue partnerships



