

SCENARIO FOR DRILL PLANNING WORKSHOPS-February 2003

GENERAL INFORMATION

You are the members of the Emergency Management Committee for a 200- bed hospital, located in upstate New York. The hospital has about 200,000 outpatient visits annually, with about 9,000 admissions. The hospital is a full service facility, offering primary and specialty care. The emergency department has separate adult, pediatric and fast track services. New York State has designated the hospital as a Level 1-trauma service. The hospital serves a year-round population of 75,000 people, however this number increases significantly in the summer months.

In addition to the primary hospital, there are several smaller outpatient facilities and a small 50-bed nursing home situated on the hospital grounds. The hospital grounds are approximately one mile from a large lake.

The hospital has approximately 1000 professional and support staff members, of which 72% are unionized.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The primary hospital site is a 45 year old, six-story building, with patient care floors occupying the top four floors. In addition, the building has a basement and a sub-basement, which houses most of the major utility controls. A regional distribution company supplies the main hospital's electrical power. Regional distributors also supply other utilities, such as gas, water and sewer. Major renovations were completed to the ED approximately 2 years ago. Included in these renovations, was the addition of a back-up generator, which specifically services the ED. Two external generators back up the primary hospital, however they are over 7 years old, and require frequent maintenance. Off-site locations do not have any back-up systems.

POTENTIAL HAZARDS

There are several areas/businesses, which are close enough to the hospital, that they require attention. Included are:

- Several interstate highways less than ½ mile away
- Medium sized chemical processing plant located 10 miles from the hospital
- Small airport which services business jets and regional airlines, 15 miles from the hospital
- Minor league baseball stadium located 7 miles from the hospital
- The town is home to several sports related museums, which attract a significant number of visitors, especially during the summer months.

EXERCISE (Part II-small group breakout)

Based on the results of the hazard vulnerability survey, the Committee decides to conduct an emergency drill for a major power failure. The drill will evaluate specific functions of the hospital's emergency management plan, as it relates to Incident Command. Each group has been assigned one of the following specific functional areas:

- Communications
- Logistics
- Operations
- Security and Safety
- Planning
- Off-site coordination

As directed by your facilitator, and by using the information learned in the earlier sessions, each group will design a drill, which evaluates the specific functional area assigned. Your drill should include the specific objectives of what you are looking at, and how these objectives will be evaluated.

At the conclusion of this exercise, the entire class will reconvene to share the results of their work.

HAZARD VULNERABILITY ANALYSIS

INSTRUCTIONS:

Evaluate every potential event in each of the three categories of probability, risk, and preparedness. Add additional events as necessary.

Issues to consider for probability include, but are not limited to:

1. Known risk
2. Historical data
3. Manufacturer/vendor statistics

Issues to consider for risk include, but are not limited to:

1. Threat to life and/or health
2. Disruption of services
3. Damage/failure possibilities
4. Loss of community trust
5. Financial impact
6. Legal issues

Issues to consider for preparedness include, but are not limited to:

1. Status of current plans
2. Training status
3. Insurance
4. Availability of back-up systems
5. Community resources

Multiply the ratings for each event in the area of probability, risk and preparedness. The total values, in descending order, will represent the events most in need of organization focus and resources for emergency planning. Determine a value below which no action is necessary. Acceptance of risk is at the discretion of the organization.

