Home Care and Hospice
Emergency Preparedness

Is your Agency Prepared for an Emergency?

Colleen Bayard PT, MPA, COS-C
Director of Regulatory and Clinical Affairs
Home Care Alliance of Massachusetts

Suzanne Clark, PT, DPT, GCS, COS-C,
Staff Development Coordinator
NVNA & Hospice,

Andrea Foley, MSN, RN, CWCN
Director of PI/Education
NVNA and Hospice
SPONSOR

Partnership for the Enhancement of Regional Preparedness
OBJECTIVES

• Review the Home Health and Hospice Emergency Preparedness Workbook
• Describe Purpose and Steps of a tabletop exercise.
• Understand the communication & teamwork needs
• Table Top Drill Exercise
Emergency Plan Requirements

- Federal Register 12/27/13-
  Proposed Regulations For Disaster Preparedness
  - Addresses 17 types of Medicare providers
  - 4 Main Areas
    - Emergency plan
    - Policies and procedures
    - Communication
    - Training and testing

- Accrediting Agencies
Emergency
An unexpected or sudden event that significantly disrupts the organization’s ability to provide care or the “environment of care itself” or that results in the sudden, significantly changed or increase demand for the organizations services.

Disaster
Type of emergency that, due to complexity, scope, or duration threatens the agency’s capabilities and requires outside assistance to sustain patient care, safety, and security functions.
Be Prepared

- HHAs should have emergency management plan so that patient care can be continued effectively in the event of emergency situations.
- An Emergency Management Plan should be general and allow specific responses to the types of disasters likely to be encountered by the organization,
- Based on the priorities identified in the Hazardous Vulnerability Analysis
Home Health Care and Hospice Emergency Preparedness Workbook

The Workbook

• A guide and a template
• 4 Main Areas of the Proposed Regulation
• Agency Specific Planning
• Address your patient population
  • Consider your cultural population
  • Consider special needs
Chapter 1
The Role of the Home Health Care and Hospice Provider

More than just one role

- A home health care and/or hospice provider can/will:
  - Be a first responder;
  - Be an initial identifier;
  - Provide care of the worried well (both patients and staff);
  - Support the hospital;
  - Run immunization clinics;
  - Strengthen the public health structure;
  - Provide continuity of the infrastructure of health care;
  - Assist fatality management;
  - Staff triage centers/ first aid; and
  - Be part of a mobile unit traveling to assist other states.
Role of Home Health and Hospice Provider

• Home care and hospice industry part of the team responsible for the continuity and maintenance of the health care infrastructure.
• When hospitals reach surge capacity, patients will be discharged to the community agencies.
• If people are required to stay in their homes, home care personnel may be making home visits to administer vaccine, antibiotics, and other types of treatments.
Chapter 2
Emergency Disaster Planning

Developing the Plan…..

• Every agency’s plan is different, but the outcome should be the same.
  ➢ Outcome: the HHA can perform and respond as seamlessly as possible, performing at optimum level, meeting patient and community needs.

• Some disasters occur naturally and some are made at the hands of man.
  ➢ The disaster response should be the same no matter what the cause of the emergency.
Chapter 2
Steps to initiate and facilitate the planning process.

- Develop a Task Force
- Disaster Planning Research
- Task Force Education
- Identification of Potential Hazards and Vulnerabilities
- Review of Existing Plan and P&P
- Identify and Improve Areas
- Revise/Develop a New Plan
- Revise/Develop Polices and Procedures
- Management and Staff Education
- Drill
Chapter 3
Sample Emergency Plan

Key Components

• Continuity of operations
• Infection control and surveillance
• Communications
• Response
• Recovery
• Training, Testing and Evaluation
Chapter 3-Lists/Forms

- Employee roster
- Patient roster
- Vendor roster
- Off site inventory list
- Go kits
- Backup schedule
Chapter 4
Patient tools

- Emergency Supply Kit
- Evacuation Checklist
- Family Communication Plan
- Prepare for Emergencies Now
Chapter 5
Infection Control and Prevention

Sample Infection Prevention Program

Key Components

- Strong Surveillance
- Identification/Reporting
- Prevention of Transmission and Control of Spread
Sample Forms

• Surveillance
  • Symptom Identification Report
  • Tracking log

• Effectiveness of Various Antimicrobial Agents
Chapter 6
Biological, Chemical Agents Radiological Emergencies

Policy
• Biological Agents
  CDC categorizes in three priority segments
    ➢ Category-A agents highest risk to public and national security
    ➢ Category-B second highest priority, moderately easy to spread and moderate illness rates and low death
    ➢ Category-C are considered emerging threats for disease
• Chemical Events
  ➢ Poisonous vapors, aerosols, liquids, and solids
• Radiological Events
  ➢ Effects depend on amount absorbed by body, type, and duration of exposure

• Source www.bt.cdc.gov/agent/agentlist-category.asp
Nerve Agents

• All have neurological and respiratory symptoms. Identify in your plan the facilities that are designated decontamination centers.
• Have maps and directions to those facilities in your plan and make sure staff know where they are.
• Know facilities that have antidotes
Sheltering in Place

- Close air ducts
- Tape around windows and outlets.
- Shut off air conditioning
- Not open doors
- Lock down
Chemical Terrorism Preparedness and Response Card

4 Tables

• Recognizing and diagnosing health effects of chemical agents
• Decontamination and Treatment
• Nerve agent antidote recommendations
• Cyanide antidote recommendations
Chapter 7
Pandemic Influenza

• Policy and Procedure
• Estimate PPE
• How to don and doff PPE
• Policies on staff immunization
• Quarantine and isolation policies

• APIC Position on re-use of respiratory protection during and epidemic or pandemic
Chapter 8
National Incident Management System (NIMS) and Incident Command System (ICS)
Chapter 8  NIMS

National Incident Management System (NIMS)

• What? . . . NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template . . .

• Who? . . . to enable Federal, State, tribal, and local governments, the private sector, and nongovernmental organizations to work together . . .

• How? . . . to prepare for, prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of incidents regardless of cause, size, location, or complexity . . .

• Why? . . . in order to reduce the loss of life and property, and harm to the environment.
Chapter 8  ICS

The Incident Command System is a standardized, on-scene, all-hazards incident management approach that:

- Allows for the integration of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures and communications operating within a common organizational structure.
- Enables a coordinated response among various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private.
- Establishes common processes for planning and managing resources.
When is ICS Used

• ICS can be used to manage:
  • Natural hazards.
  • Technological hazards.
  • Human-caused hazards.
  • Planned events

(Source: www.fema.gov/nims).
Addendum

• Hazard Vulnerability Analysis
• Continuity of Operations Plan
Table Top Emergency Drill

Emergencies happen more often than you think. How prepared are you?
Conducting an Effective Table Top Emergency Drill

Your HHA has an Emergency Management Plan on paper…

Now what?

✓ Organizations must test their plans to assure that what was planned will work in real life.
✓ Organizations cannot wait until a real emergency occurs to test the plan.