

2014
Polk County
ESF #8
Public Health and Medical Services

Public Version

DRAFT

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of ESF #8 Public Health and Medical Services

The purpose of the plan is to establish a framework by which Polk County Emergency Management Agency can coordinate the Emergency Support Function#8 Public Health and Medical Services. This response may consist of federal, state, and local government agencies and private industries.

The public version of ESF #8 Public Health and Medical Services "FOR PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION" is designed to provide the public with the following information regarding the plan:

- **Section 1** provides the introduction and purpose of the emergency support function.
- **Section 2** is a description of the roles and responsibilities of the agencies that will respond.
- **Section 3** contains information you should know and what actions you can take after a disaster
- **Section 4** contains important contact numbers.

Please note that the ESF #8 Public Health and Medical Services is a living document. It may undergo a major revision every three years and can be updated annually from submitted and committee approved changes.

For more general information please contact Polk County Emergency Management Agency at 515-286-2107 or your local emergency manager.

1. Participating Agencies-Disaster Mental Health

ESF COORDINATOR:

Polk County Emergency Management

PRIMARY AGENCIES:

Polk County Emergency Management

SUPPORT AGENCIES:

American Red Cross – Greater Iowa Regional Office

Polk County Health Services

Polk County Disaster Mental Health Response Team

Mobile Crisis Response Team

Iowa Disaster Behavioral Health Response Team (DBHRT)

Clergy

1.1 Concept of Operations

Upon notification, the Disaster Mental Health team may be asked to perform tasks/services such as:

- A. Provide presence, support, and counseling for emergency responders, disaster victims, victims' families and friends, and/or witnesses of the traumatic event
- B. Provide staffing for designated facilities to include, but not limited to family assistance centers, reunification centers, disaster site, and/or other facilities as requested by the Incident Commander
- C. When requested, assist in the notification of the next of kin regarding death or injury
- D. Offer comfort and support to families/friends of injured or diseased

1.2 Activities of participating agencies

A. Disaster Mental Health Task Force Leader

Activities:

Coordinate the efforts of the Disaster Mental Health Task Force

Tasks:

- Provide critical incident stress management services to the community and to first responders. These services may include on-scene support, individual consults, defusing, and individual/community briefings
- Refer individuals to local Mental Health Professional upon determination of the need for further psychological assessment and/or Mental Health therapy
- Coordinate the deployment of CISM trained staff to conduct defusing at work sites upon the completion of operational period
- Ensure that Disaster Mental Health staff themselves participate in defusing upon the completion of operational period

2. Participating Agencies-Mass Fatality

ESF COORDINATOR:

Polk County Emergency Management

PRIMARY AGENCIES:

Polk County Medical Examiner

SUPPORT AGENCIES:

Polk County Health Department

The Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner

Local Funeral Homes

Iowa Funeral Directors Association

Iowa Mortuary Operational Response Team (IMORT)

FEMA Region VII Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team (DMORT)

Iowa Department of Public Health

American Red Cross

Salvation Army

Polk County Health Services

Disaster Mental Health professionals

Clergy

2.1 Concept of Operations

Complete documentation and recovery of human remains and items of evidence (except in cases where the health risks posed to personnel outweigh the benefits of recovery of remains. Remains receive surface decontamination (if indicated) and, unless catastrophic circumstances dictate otherwise, are examined, identified, and released to the next-of-kin's funeral home with a complete certified death certificate. Reports of missing persons and ante mortem data are efficiently collected. Victims' family members receive updated information prior to the media release. All

hazardous material regulations are reviewed and any restrictions on the transportation and disposition of remains are made clear by those with the authority and responsibility to establish the standards. Law enforcement agencies are given all information needed to investigate and prosecute the case successfully, if necessary. Families are provided incident-specific support services.

2.2 Activities of participating agencies

It's Polk County Medical Examiner's responsibility for the management of human remains in all mass fatalities incidents. Other duties include evidence collection, identification and return of human remains, notification of positive identification and return of personal effects.

A mass fatalities incident is under the jurisdiction of the Polk County Medical Examiner. At any time, the Polk County Medical Examiner can request assistance from The Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner. The State Funeral Directors Association may provide needed supplies, equipment, vehicles, and personnel as well. If called upon, the State Funeral Directors Association staff is there to assist the Medical Examiner only; they do not work under any local response agency.

ESF #8, when requested by state, tribal or local officials, in coordination with its partner organizations, will assist the local district coroner, medical professionals and law enforcement agencies in

- A.** Tracking and documenting of human remains and associated personal effects;
- B.** Reducing the hazard presented by chemically, biologically, or radiologically contaminated human remains (when indicated and possible);
- C.** Establishing temporary morgue facilities;
- D.** Determining the cause and manner of death;
- E.** Collecting ante mortem data in a compassionate and culturally competent fashion from authorized individuals;
- F.** Performing postmortem data collection and documentation;
- G.** Identifying human remains using scientific means (e.g., dental, pathology, anthropology, fingerprints, and, as indicated, DNA samples);

- H. Preparing, processing and returning human remains and personal effects to the authorized person(s) when possible; and
- I. Providing technical assistance and consultation on fatality management and mortuary affairs.

3. Participating Agencies-Mass Prophylaxis

ESF COORDINATOR:

Polk County Emergency Management

PRIMARY AGENCIES:

Polk County Public Health

SUPPORT AGENCIES:

Central Iowa Emergency Medical Service Directors Association

Metro Emergency Department Committee

Local Fire Departments

Local Law Enforcement Agencies

Local Ambulance Services

Law Enforcement Agencies in Polk County

Public and Private School Districts in Polk County

Health Facilities in Polk County

3.1 Concept of Operations

Appropriate drug prophylaxis and vaccination strategies are implemented in a timely manner upon the onset of an event to prevent the development of disease in exposed individuals. Public information strategies include recommendations on specific actions individuals can take to protect their family, friends, and themselves.

3.2 Activities of participating agencies

A. Public Health & Medical Service Group Supervisor

Activities:

Responsible for the implementation Public Health & Medical Service functions, assignment of resources, and reporting on the progress subordinate staff

Tasks:

- Review assigned tasks and incident activities with subordinates
- Supervise Group resources and make changes as appropriate

- Coordinate activities with adjacent/aligned Groups
- Determine need for assistance on assigned tasks

B. Mass Prophylaxis Task Force Leader

Activities:

In response to notification of an incident requiring mass prophylaxis, provide overall management and coordination of mass prophylaxis operations.

Tasks:

- Coordinate distribution/administration of mass prophylaxis
- Coordinate public information regarding point of distribution
- (POD) locations
- Coordinate with the medical stockpile warehouse to re-supply PODs as needed
- Upon notification, activate PODs for mass prophylaxis operations. Private POD sites will be operated in the local jurisdiction
 - Initiate call-down lists for mass prophylaxis site staffing
 - Ensure mass prophylaxis site operations are established in accordance with Memoranda of Agreement (MOA)/Memoranda of Understanding (MOU)
 - Assemble needed supplies and equipment for POD operations including materials to prepare oral suspension
 - Prepare informative materials for POD staff, patients, and media (Coordinate with ESF#15: Public Information)
 - Provide internal and external security for POD sites (Coordinate with ESF #13: Law Enforcement and Security)
 - Provide prophylaxis to designated group with guidance from local/State/Federal officials plans
 - Establish plans to meet unanticipated transportation needs (Coordination with ESF #1: Transportation)
- Conduct initial screening of individuals prior to their entering the POD in order to prevent symptomatic individuals from potentially contaminating POD.
- In the event of a communicable disease, ensure initial triage is performed either at staging area or in area separate from mass prophylaxis site to prevent contamination of site.

- Transport symptomatic individuals to appropriate health facility prior to their entering mass prophylaxis site.
- Review patient screening documentation and available medical history to determine proper course of treatment.
 - Provide information to each individual seeking treatment
 - Identify appropriate prophylaxis based on medical history and exposure
 - Ensure sufficient staffing at the POD site screening station to prevent initial bottlenecks
- Provide patients with appropriate prophylaxis and maintain inventory control.
 - Implement dispensing plan in accordance with local plan
 - Implement plan to treat minors in accordance with local and state plan
 - Maintain a system for inventory management to ensure availability of critical prophylaxis medicines and medical supplies
 - Submit re-supply orders early enough to prevent running out of pharmaceuticals
 - Acquire and maintain a supply of ancillary medical supplies to meet public health policies and guidance
 - Ensure availability and distribution of pre-printed drug information sheets
- Through monitoring, identify individuals who have an adverse reaction to prescribed medication and initiate alternate therapies.
 - Track outcomes and adverse events following mass distribution of prophylaxis
 - Inform patients about follow-up requirements (e.g., vaccine take assessment)
 - Adverse events documented and reported to the appropriate entity as described in the local and state plan

4. Participating Agencies-Medical Supplies and Distribution Management

ESF COORDINATOR:

Polk County Emergency Management

PRIMARY AGENCIES:

Polk County Public Health Department

SUPPORT AGENCIES:

Polk County Medical Examiner
Central Iowa Emergency Medical Service Directors Association
Metro Emergency Department Committee
Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP)/911 Communications Centers
Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)
Local Fire Departments
Local Law Enforcement Agencies
Public and Private School Districts in Polk County
Healthcare Facilities in Polk County

4.1 Concept of Operations

Critical medical supplies and equipment are appropriately secured, managed, distributed, and restocked in a timeframe appropriate to the incident.

4.2 Activities of participating agencies

A. Public Health & Medical Service Group Supervisor

Activities:

Responsible for the implementation Public Health & Medical Service functions, assignment of resources, and reporting on the progress subordinate staff

Tasks:

- Review assigned tasks and incident activities with subordinates
- Supervise Group resources and make changes as appropriate
- Coordinate activities with adjacent/aligned Groups
- Determine need for assistance on assigned tasks

B. Public Health & Medical Service Group Supervisor

Activities:

Direct Medical Supplies Management and Distribution Tactical Response – in response to a need for medical asserts, provide overall management and coordination for Medical Supplies Management and Distribution.

Tasks:

- Check local and state inventory of needed resources
- Request state and federal assistance
- Maintain communications with transportation vendors during distribution of medical supplies.
- Coordinate acquisition of private source medical supplies

- Monitor supply usage and stockpile levels of health facilities, mass prophylaxis sites, and other critical care venues
- Upon identification of medical resource shortfalls and/or SNS deployment, activate warehousing operations.
 - Establish medical supplies warehouse management structure
 - Activate warehousing operations for receipt of medical assets
 - Identify needed transportation assets for medical supplies
 - Identify Technical Advisory Response Unit (TARU) resource needs
 - Upon activation of warehouse, coordinate with ESF #13 – Law Enforcement & Security to establish security
 - Execute plan for credentialing medical supplies personnel
 - Ensure security meets assets at point of entry into state/county
 - Establish security checkpoints in vicinity of medical supplies warehouse and at staging areas
 - Identify locations that require heightened security within the warehouse (such as controlled substances storage areas)
- After delivery of medical assets to warehouse facility, repackaging pharmaceuticals and other assets and distribute to Points of Distribution (PODs) and other health facilities.
 - Assemble medical supplies warehouse teams (receiving, order management, picking, packaging, quality control, and shipping)
 - Inventory medical supplies warehouse resource levels
 - Provide quality control/quality assurance for requested medical assets prior to shipping
 - Track supply requests
 - Track re-supply requests for medical supplies
- As warehousing activities diminish activate plan to recover unused medical resources and return to steady state.
 - Ensure recovery of unused (unopened) pharmaceuticals from RSS, and unused pharmaceuticals and durable items from mass prophylaxis sites
 - Unused but open medical resources distributed within the local health system according to local policies and plans
- Inventory, reorganize, and reconstitute stockpiles to return to pre-incident levels, and release personnel from Medical Supplies Management and Distribution duties.
 - Execute plan to reduce warehouse operations as distribution needs ease
 - Dispose of waste materials generated by warehousing

- operations
- Conduct after action debriefing to identify deficiencies that require corrective actions in areas such as personnel, training, equipment, and organizational structure

5. Participating Agencies-Medical Surge

ESF COORDINATOR:

Polk County Public Health

PRIMARY AGENCIES:

Iowa Hospital Association

SUPPORT AGENCIES:

Healthcare Facilities in Polk County

Polk County Public Health

5.1 Concept of Operations

Injured or ill from the event are rapidly and appropriately cared for. Continuity of care is maintained for non-incident related illnesses and/or injuries.

5.2 Activities of participating agencies

A. Public Health & Medical Service Group Supervisor

Activities:

Responsible for the implementation Public Health & Medical Service functions, assignment of resources, and reporting on the progress subordinate staff

Tasks:

- Review assigned tasks and incident activities with subordinates
- Supervise Group resources and make changes as appropriate
- Coordinate activities with adjacent/aligned Groups
- Determine need for assistance on assigned tasks

B. Medical Surge Task Force Leader

Activities:

In response to an incident resulting in medical surge, direct, manage, and coordinate surge operations

Tasks:

- Increase as many staffed and resourced hospital beds as clinically appropriate
- Implement bed surge capacity plans, procedures, and protocols
- Maximize utilization of available beds
- Forwards transport less acutely ill patients
- Provide medical surge capacity in alternate care facilities as may be needed
- Maximize staffing levels through recall of off-duty personnel, part-time staff, and retired clinical and non-clinical associates
- Establish initial reception and triage sites as appropriate
- Provide medical equipment and supplies in support of immediate medical response
- Institute patient tracking
- Activate procedures for altered nursing and medical care standards

6. Participating Agencies-EMS

ESF COORDINATOR:

Polk County Emergency Management

PRIMARY AGENCIES

Central Iowa Emergency Medical Service Directors Association

SUPPORT AGENCIES:

Local Ambulance Services

Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP)/911 Communications Centers

Local Fire Departments

Local Law Enforcement Agencies

Healthcare Facilities in Polk County

Polk County Health Department

6.1 Concept of Operations

The organization of ESF #8 – Public Health and Medical Services is scalable and can be adjusted based on incident needs, complexity and/or span of control. Outlined below is a fully activated organizational structure for incidents with high complexity.

It is acknowledged that the outlined structure below is on the extreme edge of a reasonable span of control by Incident Command System (ICS) standards. It is assumed that a fully activated ESF #8 structure would be highly unlikely and even then, a single person would most likely be tasked with more than one function.

6.2 Activities of participating agencies

A. Triage and Pre-Hospital Treatment Task Force Leader

Activities:

Direct Triage and Pre-Hospital Treatment Tactical Operations - In response to a notification for emergency medical assets, provide the overall management and coordination of the Triage and Pre-Hospital Treatment Response

Tasks:

- Coordinate with on-scene Incident Command
- Ensure effective, reliable interoperable communications between providers, medical command, public health, and health care facilities
- Assess need for additional medical resources/mutual aid
- Coordinate the recall of staff and/or implementation of mutual aid to provide immediate surge capability
- Ensure that initial and on-going pre-hospital triage is completed in accordance with existing plans and procedures and prescribed triage methodology
- Simple Triage and Rapid Treatment (START) Triage
- JumpSTART Triage
- Initiate a patient tracking system

7. Participating Agencies-Isolation and Quarantine

ESF COORDINATOR:

Polk County Emergency Management

PRIMARY AGENCIES:

Polk County Public Health Department

SUPPORT AGENCIES:

Polk County Medical Examiner

Central Iowa Emergency Medical Service Directors Association

Metro Emergency Department Committee

Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP)/9-1-1 Communications Centers

Local Fire Departments

Local Law Enforcement Agencies

Local Ambulance Services

Public and Private School Districts in Polk County

Healthcare Facilities in Polk County

7.1 Concept of Operations

Individuals who are ill, exposed, or likely to be exposed are separated, movement is restricted, basic necessities of life are available, and their health is monitored in order to limit the spread of a newly introduced contagious disease.

7.2 Activities of participating agencies

A. Public Health & Medical Service Group Supervisor

Activities:

Responsible for the implementation Public Health & Medical Service functions, assignment of resources, and reporting on the progress subordinate staff

Tasks:

- Review assigned tasks and incident activities with subordinates
- Supervise Group resources and make changes as appropriate
- Coordinate activities with adjacent/aligned Groups
- Determine need for assistance on assigned tasks

B. Isolation & Quarantine Task Force Leader

Activities:

In response to a need for isolation and quarantine orders, direct, manage, and coordinate isolation and quarantine operations.

Tasks:

- Identify decision-makers to oversee isolation and quarantine operations
- Develop disease-specific isolation and quarantine plans
- Identify applicable isolation and quarantine laws, policies, and implementation procedures
- Provide isolation and quarantine information to emergency public information officer or Joint Information Center(JIC), if activated, for release
- Coordinate with law enforcement, fire services, emergency medical services, and other necessary to monitor and enforce restrictions, if necessary
- Coordinate with mass care support to provide water, food, and bulk supplies
- Coordinate for retrieval and disposal of contaminated articles
- Report health status data

- Maintain communication channels with state and federal coordinating offices and laboratory networks
- Initiate plan and mobilize health care and security personnel and resources to contain a communicable disease outbreak -Initiate plan and mobilize health care and security personnel and resources to contain a communicable disease outbreak.
 - Identify community sites suitable for quarantine
 - Issue isolation and quarantine order or an agreement for voluntary containment
 - Disseminate guidelines (in appropriate languages) for restrictions, as well as the manner in which isolation/quarantine will be enforced and the consequences for violating restriction orders
 - Disseminate treatment and isolation protocols
 - Stand up isolation and quarantine units
- Implement Voluntary Containment and Quarantine-Within an identified geographic area, implement separation and restriction of movement of potentially exposed asymptomatic individuals, and isolate symptomatic individuals on a voluntary basis.
 - Acquire identification information of affected individuals under voluntary containment and quarantine
 - Provide medical and supportive care guidance to community under voluntary containment and quarantine
 - Provide infection control education materials to hospitals and community members under voluntary containment and quarantine
 - Monitor health status of voluntarily isolated and quarantined individuals and caregivers in the community and hospitals
 - Arrange for transportation to designated healthcare facilities of critically ill individuals under voluntary containment and quarantine
- Implement Mandatory Isolation and Quarantine-Ensure compliance with orders for separation and restriction of movement of potentially exposed asymptomatic individuals and isolation of symptomatic individuals within an identified geographic area.
 - Acquire identification information of affected individuals under mandatory isolation and quarantine

- Provide medical and supportive care guidance to affected population under mandatory isolation and quarantine
- Monitor compliance with infection control and mandatory restrictions
- Monitor health status of individuals and caregivers under mandatory isolation and quarantine and hospital staff
- Arrange for transportation to designated healthcare facilities of critically ill individuals under mandatory isolation and quarantine

8. Participating Agencies-Environmental Health

ESF COORDINATOR:

Polk County Emergency Management

PRIMARY AGENCIES:

Polk County Public Health Department

SUPPORT AGENCIES:

Polk County Medical Examiner

Polk County Air Quality

Iowa Department of Natural Resources

8.1 Concept of Operations

After the primary event, disease and injury are prevented through the quick identification of associated environmental hazards, including exposure to infectious diseases that are secondary to the primary event as well as secondary transmission modes. The at-risk population (i.e., exposed or potentially exposed) receives the appropriate countermeasures, including treatment or protection, in a timely manner. The rebuilding of the public health infrastructure, removal of environmental hazards, and appropriate decontamination of the environment enable the safe re-entry and re-occupancy of the impacted area. Continued monitoring occurs throughout the recovery process in order to identify the hazards and reduce exposure.

Polk County Public Works is responsible for the inspection and permit issuance for septic systems, wells, pools, tanning beds, and tattoo parlors. These inspections are conducted on behalf of the State of Iowa. Additionally Polk County Public Works is tasked with vector control prior to and following emergencies/disasters.

8.2 Activities of participating agencies

A. Public Health & Medical Service Group Supervisor

Activities:

Responsible for the implementation Public Health & Medical Service functions, assignment of resources, and reporting on the progress subordinate staff

Tasks:

- Review assigned tasks and incident activities with subordinates
- Supervise Group resources and make changes as appropriate
- Coordinate activities with adjacent/aligned Groups
- Determine need for assistance on assigned tasks

B. Environmental Health Task Force Leader

Activities:

Identify environmental hazards in the affected area through rapid needs assessments and comprehensive environmental health and risk assessments.

Tasks:

- Design, implement, and interpret the results of environmental field surveys and laboratory sample analyses
- Develop protective guidance where none exists
- Use available data and judgment to recommend appropriate actions for protecting the public and environment
- Coordinate environmental health and risk assessments with local health departments to identify environmental hazards.
- Support local health departments in assessing the water quality of private water sources such as wells and cisterns.
- Coordinate with local health departments to identify and control vectors that may transmit disease.

9. Participating Agencies-Polk County Health and Safety Responder Annex

ESF COORDINATOR:

Polk County Emergency Management

PRIMARY AGENCIES:

Polk County Emergency Management Agency

SUPPORT AGENCIES:

Central Iowa Emergency Medical Service Directors Association
Metro Emergency Department Committee
Polk County Health Department
Mental Health Services
Local Fire Department
Local Law Enforcement Agencies
Local Ambulance Services
Healthcare Facilities in Polk County

9.1 Concept of Operations

This capability does not prescribe a certain level of preparedness for any particular organization; rather it specifies the need for personal protective equipment (PPE), Safety Officers, and so forth and allows local entities to determine the best way to obtain the needed resources to support operations.

Polk County Public Works is responsible for the inspection and permit issuance for septic systems, wells, pools, tanning beds, and tattoo parlors. These inspections are conducted on behalf of the State of Iowa. Additionally Polk County Public Works is tasked with vector control prior to and following emergencies/disasters.

9.2 Activities of participating agencies

A. Responder Safety & Health Task Force Leader

Activities:

Upon dispatch of responders, provide management and coordination of Responder Safety and Health capability, through demobilization

Tasks:

- Monitor routine and emergency communications within the incident command structure at all times
- Assess the availability of resources/assets provided by public, private, and volunteer organizations
- Contact and work with subject matter experts (SME) from the public/private agencies and academia who may be able to assist with safety issues at the incident
- Maintain coordination and communication on safety and health issues between agencies and departments
- Assist in identifying and prioritizing the operations, hazards, and exposures of greatest risk to site personnel and coordinate with the IC to develop specific actions to address them and protect site personnel

- Assist the incident commander (IC) in developing an incident safety and control plan to respond within the capabilities of available response personnel, taking into account available resources such as PPE, monitoring equipment, and control equipment
- Ensure recording and reporting of any and all injuries and illnesses
- Coordinate with long-term health care to provide comprehensive stress management strategies, programs, worker crisis counseling, substance abuse services, and mental and behavioral health support
- Provide critical incident stress management (CISM) strategies, programs, and teams

10. Participating Agencies-Laboratory Testing

ESF COORDINATOR:

Polk County Emergency Management

PRIMARY AGENCIES:

Polk County Public Health Department
State Hygienic Laboratory – Ankeny
University Hygienic Laboratory – Iowa City

SUPPORT AGENCIES:

Polk County Medical Examiner
Central Iowa Emergency Medical Service Directors Association
Metro Emergency Department Committee
Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP)/9-1-1 Communications Centers
Local Fire Departments
Local Law Enforcement Agencies
Local Ambulance Services
Public and Private School Districts in Polk County
Healthcare Facilities in Polk County

10.1 Concept of Operations

Potential exposure to disease is identified rapidly by determining exposure and mode of transmission and agent; interrupting transmission to contain the spread of the event; and reducing the number of cases.

10.2 Activities of participating agencies

A. Public Health & Medical Service Group Supervisor

Activities:

Responsible for the implementation Public Health & Medical Service functions, assignment of resources, and reporting on the progress subordinate staff

Tasks:

- Review assigned tasks and incident activities with subordinates
- Supervise Group resources and make changes as appropriate
- Coordinate activities with adjacent/aligned Groups
- Determine need for assistance on assigned tasks

B. Laboratory Testing Task Force Leader

Activities:

Direct and coordinate public health laboratory testing efforts

Tasks:

- Implement established Laboratory Response Network (LRN) procedures for specimen collection, transport, and testing
- Maintain an accurate inventory of reagents and supplies in their respective laboratories
- Provide surge capacity for Centers for Disease Control
- Work in close partnership with public health epidemiology and environmental health, poison control, and others to provide timely data and assure implementation of effective prevention, detection, and control measures, including treatment
- Report surveillance results suggestive of an outbreak immediately to public health epidemiology
- Notify appropriate public health, public safety, and law enforcement officials immediately (24/7) of presumptive and confirmed laboratory results of a chemical and/or biological threat agent

11. Participating Agencies-Epidemiological Surveillance and Investigation

ESF COORDINATOR:

Polk County Emergency Management

PRIMARY AGENCIES:

Polk County Public Health Department

SUPPORT AGENCIES:

Polk County Medical Examiner
Central Iowa Emergency Medical Service Directors Association
Metro Emergency Department Committee
Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP)/9-1-1 Communications Centers
Local Fire Departments
Local Law Enforcement Agencies
Local Ambulance Services
Public and Private School Districts in Polk County
Healthcare Facilities in Polk County

11.1 Concept of Operations

Potential exposure to disease is identified rapidly by determining exposure and mode of transmission and agent; interrupting transmission to contain the spread of the event; and reducing the number of cases.

11.2 Activities of participating agencies

A. Public Health & Medical Service Group Supervisor

Activities:

Responsible for the implementation Public Health & Medical Service functions, assignment of resources, and reporting on the progress subordinate staff

Tasks:

- Review assigned tasks and incident activities with subordinates
- Supervise Group resources and make changes as appropriate
- Coordinate activities with adjacent/aligned Groups
- Determine need for assistance on assigned tasks

B. Epidemiological Surveillance and Investigation Task Force Leader

1. Direct Epidemiological Surveillance and Investigation Operations

Activities:

Coordinate, maintain, enhance, analyze, and provide efficient surveillance

and information systems to facilitate early detection and mitigation of disease.

Tasks:

- Maintain public health communication channels
- Notify the Polk County Health Department of receipt of a notice for a public health case with a high index of suspicion of a priority condition
- Provide public health information to emergency public information officer or Joint Information Center, if activated
- Coordinate resources needed to respond to the public health concern and request through the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), if activated
- When appropriate, lead public health investigations, in collaboration with law enforcement and other supporting disciplines, to determine source of disease
- Identify stakeholders and agency representatives or liaisons (data providers, healthcare providers, public safety officials, and appropriate government/private sector officials)
- Make public health recommendations for prophylaxis and other interventions
- Coordinate examination of deceased suspect patients with the medical examiner (See Fatality Management)
- Implement Travel Restrictions - Screen travelers and implement travel restrictions consistent with disease-specific precautions.
 - Screening locations established
 - Screen inbound/outbound travelers from outbreak or pandemic areas for illness or exposure
 - Isolate or quarantine potentially infected travelers

2. Surveillance and Detection

Activities:

Collect ongoing and event-specific health data to recognize events of public health significance.

Tasks:

- Facilitate public health reporting consistent with disease reporting laws or regulations
- Compile surveillance data

- Analyze surveillance data
- Detect suspected outbreak through pattern recognition
- Monitor weather forecasts and modeling tools for heat issues

3. Conduct Epidemiological Investigation

Activities:

Investigate disease and its determinants in a population; characterize and define a case; identify the source of the public health event, and, define the population at risk.

Tasks:

- Confirm the outbreak using lab data and disease tracking data
- Define case characteristics
- Actively search for cases (identifying cases)
- Create registries of ill, exposed, and potentially exposed persons
- Conduct contact tracing of known and suspected cases
- Analyze and interpret epidemiological investigation data in coordination with data from the law enforcement investigation (as appropriate)
- Analyze and confirm origin of outbreak
- Recommend control measures for outbreak
- Draft and disseminate initial report of epidemiological investigation

4. Monitor Containment

Activities

Based upon the extent of the population at risk and recommendations from outbreak control, assess the effectiveness of disease containment measures.

Tasks:

- Monitor the course and population characteristics of a recognized outbreak
- Monitor effectiveness of mitigation steps
- Conduct after action debriefing to identify deficiencies that require corrective actions in areas such as personnel, training, equipment, and organizational structure

Annex Development and Maintenance

Mandatory Review Requirements

As required by the Code of Iowa (statutes) and Iowa Administrative Code (rules and regulations), this annex will be reviewed and revised if necessary, at a minimum of every five (5) years. A draft will be presented to the Polk County Emergency Management Commission for their approval and adoption.

Voluntary Review Expectations

The Polk County Emergency Management Commission will attempt to evaluate this annex continuously and revise annually based on input and feedback from primary and support agencies, as well as after-action reporting as recommended by corrective action plans. A draft will be presented to the Polk County Emergency Management Commission for their approval and adoption.

Plan Distribution

This annex and any subsequent revisions of this annex will be distributed to the primary and alternate Commission Members representing Polk County and all city governments within the county. The annex will also be shared with the specific primary and support agencies named at the beginning of this annex.

Summary

It is hoped that this public version plan will provide the reader with an understanding of Polk County Emergency Management Agency and participating agencies' roles in the event of an incident.

The processes and agency roles and responsibilities specified may change without notice contingent upon the magnitude of the emergency or catastrophic event, as well as the actual availability of emergency response and emergency support personnel.

The ESF #8 Public Health and Medical Services Public Version was developed for public distribution and excludes specific information that is protected from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and similar State and local disclosure laws, and from use in civil litigation and regulatory actions.

Access to the full plan is restricted to ESF #8 Public Health and Medical Services emergency first responders and contains Security Sensitive Information that is For Official Use Only.

DRAFT