Public Health’s Role in Healthcare Coalitions

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Outline

- HCC Purpose
- Emergency Support Function-8
- Ten Essential Public Health Functions
- Gaps and Priorities
- Public Health and Healthcare Coalitions
- Scenario
- Questions/Discussion
HCC Purpose

- Coordinate how public health, healthcare institutions, and first responder agencies will manage their efforts to enact a uniform and unified response to an emergency, specifically the medical surge aspect of an event (ESF-8)
- Shift from planning to include response and recovery
- Does not replace day to day functioning of individual disciplines
Emergency Support Function #8
Core Functional Areas

• Assessment of public health/medical needs
• Health surveillance
• Medical surge
• Health/medical/veterinary equipment and supplies
• Patient movement
• Patient care
• Safety and security of drugs, biologics, and medical devices
• Blood and tissues
• Food safety and defense
Core Functional Areas continued

- Agriculture safety and security
- All-hazards public health and medical consultation, technical assistance, and support
- Behavioral healthcare
- Public health and medical information
- Vector control
- Guidance on potable water/wastewater and solid waste disposal
- Mass fatality management, victim identification, and decontaminating remains
- Veterinary medical support.
ESF-8 in Action

• No one department or discipline can provide all the aspects of ESF-8
• Many of the components of ESF-8 require multiple disciplines to accomplish effectively
  ▫ Specifically the medical aspects of events
• Healthcare and Public Health Sectors are both key players in providing ESF-8 capabilities
  ▫ Many capabilities are shared between the sectors
Ten Essential Public Health Services

• **Assessment**
  ▫ **Monitor** health status to identify community health problems.
  ▫ **Diagnose and Investigate** health problems and health hazards in the community.

• **Policy Development**
  ▫ **Inform, Educate, and Empower** people about health issues.
  ▫ **Mobilize** community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
  ▫ **Develop policies and plans** that support individual and community health efforts.

• **Assurance**
  ▫ **Enforce** laws and regulations that protect and ensure public health and safety.
  ▫ **Link** people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
  ▫ **Assure** a competent public and personal health care workforce.
  ▫ **Evaluate** Effectiveness, Accessibility, and Quality of Personal and Population-Based Health Services.
  ▫ **Research** for New Insights and Innovative Solutions to Health Problems.
ESF Areas by Essential PH Services

• **Assessment**
  - **Monitor** health status to identify community health problems
    - Assessment of Public Health/Medical Needs
    - Health Surveillance
    - Agriculture safety and security
    - Behavioral healthcare
    - Food safety and defense
  - **Diagnose and Investigate** health problems and health hazards in the community.
    - Health Surveillance
    - Medical Surge
    - All-hazards public health and medical consultation
    - Behavioral healthcare
    - Vector control
    - Mass fatality management
ESF Areas by Essential PH Services

- **Policy Development**
  - **Inform, Educate, and Empower** people about health issues.
    - Safety and security of drugs, biologics, and medical devices
    - Blood and tissues
    - Food safety and defense
    - Agriculture safety and security
    - All-hazards public health and medical consultation
    - Behavioral healthcare
    - Public health and medical information
    - Vector control
    - Guidance on potable water/wastewater and solid waste disposal
  - **Mobilize** community partnerships to identify and solve health problems.
    - **ALL CORE FUNCTIONAL AREAS**
  - **Develop policies and plans** that support individual and community health efforts.
    - **ALL CORE FUNCTIONAL AREAS**
ESF Areas by Essential PH Services

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  - Enforce laws and regulations that protect and ensure public health and safety
    - Medical Surge
    - Patient Care
    - Safety and security of drugs, biologics and medical devices
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ESF Areas by Essential PH Services

- **Link** people to needed personal health services and assure the provision of health care when otherwise unavailable.
  - Assessment of public health/medical needs
  - Health surveillance
  - Medical surge
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  - Patient movement
  - Patient care
  - All-hazards public health and medical consultation, technical assistance, and support
  - Behavioral healthcare
  - Public health and medical information
ESF Areas by Essential PH Services

- **Assure** a competent public and personal health care workforce.
  - All-hazards public health and medical consultation, technical assistance, and support
- **Evaluate** Effectiveness, Accessibility, and Quality of Personal and Population-Based Health Services.
  - Assessment of public health/medical needs
- **Research** for New Insights and Innovative Solutions to Health Problems
  - ALL
ESF-8: Shared Healthcare and Public Health Core Areas

- Assessment of public health/medical needs
- Health surveillance
- Medical surge
- Health/medical/veterinary equipment and supplies
- Patient movement
- Patient care
- Safety and security of drugs, biologics, and medical devices
- Blood and tissues
Shared Core Areas continued

- All-hazards public health and medical consultation, technical assistance, and support
- Behavioral healthcare
- Public health and medical information
- Mass fatality management, victim identification, and decontaminating remains
Medical Surge Management

• Any medical surge event requires coordinated response between the healthcare and public health sectors for successful management
  ▫ Public Health is responsible for supporting the health of the community as whole and responsible for control of scare supplies
  ▫ Healthcare is responsible for providing care for the patients in their care
• Neither sector is able to provide care to both the person and the population
Healthcare Coalitions

• Shift from funding specific agencies/entities for preparedness to focusing on strengthening a regional response and recovery system using an Healthcare Coalitions

• Healthcare coalitions represent a shift from WHAT we need to do to respond to HOW do we respond
Healthcare Coalitions

• Bring healthcare, public health and emergency management together with addition of other response partners to manage threats to the community
  ▫ Allows for important networking to develop the relationships to facilitate efficient responses
• Will serve to address current gaps and priorities
Wisconsin Gaps

- Coordinated health plans for large scale disasters
- Formal regional medical coordination structure
- Regional system for “off-loading” and “on-loading” patients in mass-casualty incidents
- Established indicators for crisis standards of care when resources are exhausted and systems are overwhelmed
- Evacuation and patient tracking capability
Health Emergency Priorities

• Improved system for medical surge
• Patient transport and evacuation plans in disasters
• Health surveillance and information sharing
• Ability to mobilize and coordinate medical resources
• Build situational awareness of medical resources
• Improve alerting and communication coordination
• Bed availability and patient tracking
Why is PH Critical to HCC?

- Sector primarily focused on population health and safety
- Established surveillance systems
- Epidemiologic training and tools
- Versed in prevention strategies
- Established public communication and outreach tools
- Core knowledge of public health threats
- Legal authorities of surveillance, investigation, enforcement, declaration of emergency
- Scarce resource access (stockpiles, etc)
Why are HCC important to PH?

- Gateway to healthcare organizations
  - Access to AMCCs, RMCCs
  - Able to reach/coordinate all healthcare delivery organizations more efficiently
- Provides enhanced response and treatment resources
  - Knowledge resources – clinicians/providers, HCC Medical Advisor, regional experts, etc.
  - Physical resources – bed space, equipment, supplies, etc.
- Streamlined information flow
  - Surveillance
  - Treatment recommendations
- Translation of treatment recommendations into treatment delivery
- HCC enhance ability to meet grant capability requirements
HCC Medical Advisor

- Responsible for overall medical oversight and functioning of HCC
- Serves as lead medical authority for planning and response within HCC
- Expected to be involved/aware of all medical surge planning activities within HCC
- Serves as advisor to Regional Trauma Advisory Council, regional public health emergency planning, and regional emergency management
- Able to “translate” medical needs and recommendation between various sectors; provide guidance for implementation of strategies
Regional Medical Coordination Centers

- Activities may include:
  - Monitoring and alerting healthcare coalition partners in an emergency
  - Coordination of:
    - Information
    - Hospital beds
    - Patient Movement
  - Providing situational awareness during a disaster to all response partners
  - Providing clinical consultation and coordination
Core Capabilities and ESF #8

- The following slides will review how health care coalitions can assist in the ESF-8 response to a medical surge event
Public Information and Warning

- Coordinate public health and medical messaging with jurisdictional officials; provide information that can be transmitted to members of the general public and responders; Support a Joint Information Center
  - Requires coordination between disciplines

- Continuously acquires and assesses information on the incident
  - Medical Coordination Centers serve as information conduits
Critical Transportation

• **Patient Movement:**
  - Transport seriously ill or injured patients and medical needs populations from impacted areas to designated reception facilities.
  - Coordinates emergency triage and pre-hospital treatment, patient tracking, distribution, and patient return.

• Patient movement requires coordination among disciplines
• Medical Coordination Centers serve as resource and patient tracking hubs
Environmental Response/Health and Safety

• Supports the Worker Safety and Health Support Annex, provides technical assistance, and conducts exposure assessments and risk management to control hazards for response workers and the public.

• Information about risk exposure, mitigation and tracking must flow freely between disciplines and be presented in appropriate terms for discipline
  ▫ Requires coordination and translation for recommendation to meet needs of responders
Fatality Management Services

- Assists jurisdictional authorities in the tracking and documenting of human remains and associated personal effects
- Reducing the hazard presented by contaminated human remains; establishing temporary morgue facilities
- Assist with collecting ante mortem data in a compassionate and culturally competent fashion from authorized individuals;
- Performing postmortem data collection and documentation
- Providing technical assistance and consultation on fatality management and mortuary affairs
- In the event that caskets are displaced, ESF #8 assists in identifying the human remains, recasketing, and reburial in public cemeteries.
- May provide support to families of victims during the victim identification mortuary process.
- BOTTOMLINE: Public health must assist the mortuary sector with fatality management especially in term of reducing risks to the community
  - HCC can help to facilitate establishing relationships and information transfers
Mass Care Services

- Provides technical expertise and guidance on the public health issues of the medical needs population.
- Provides support for the provision of case management and advocacy services.
- Provides support for human and/or veterinary mass care sheltering as resources are available.
- **Successful Mass Care and Medical Surge requires significant coordination between sectors**
Public and Private Services and Resources

- **Blood and Tissues**: Monitors and ensures the safety, availability, and logistical requirements of blood and tissues.

- **Food Safety, Security, and Defense** request assistance from other ESF #8 partner organizations to ensure the safety, security, and defense of federally regulated foods.

- **Agriculture Safety and Security**: ensure the health, safety, and security of food-producing animals, animal feed, and therapeutics.
  - Support will include the amelioration of zoonotic disease

- Important to consider the safety of food and biologics in time of disaster and ensure potential compromises to this supply lines are monitored and addressed
Public Health and Medical Services

- **Health, Medical, and Veterinary Equipment and Supplies**
  - Arranges for the procurement and transportation of equipment, supplies, diagnostic supplies, radiation detecting devices, and countermeasures, including assets from the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), in support of immediate public health, medical and veterinary response operations.
  - Significant inter-reliance between PH and HC sectors to ensure supplies are available to respond appropriately
  - HCC help to facilitate the needed coordination especially when multiple PH and HC entities are involved
  - Public Health requests for assets used by health care must meet the needs and treatment patterns of healthcare
Public Health and Medical Services

- **Health Surveillance**
  - Use existing all-hazards surveillance systems to monitor the health of the general and medical needs population, response workers, and identify emerging trends related to the disaster
  - HCC and Medical Coordination centers facilitate this surveillance
Public Health and Medical Services

• **Medical Surge**
  ▫ Provides support for triage, patient treatment, and patient movement.
  ▫ Engage civilian volunteers, through the Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals, volunteer Federal employees and the Medical Reserve Corps to fill local, state, tribal, territorial, and insular area health professional needs.

• HC organizations provide majority of direct medical surge response but relies on PH sector to augment and support such response

• Requires Medical Coordination to help ensure patients needs are matched with system capabilities
Public Health and Medical Services

- **Patient Care**
  - Provides resources to support pre-hospital triage and treatment, inpatient hospital care, outpatient services, behavioral healthcare, medical-needs sheltering, pharmacy services, and dental care to victims or those who suffer from chronic illnesses.
  - Assists with isolation and quarantine measures and with point of distribution operations (mass prophylaxis and vaccination).
- HC organizations rely on PH to support the community and lead prevention efforts while HC focuses on patients
- Coordination between sectors is critical to support both patients and the community simultaneously
Public Health and Medical Services

- All-Hazard Public Health and Medical Consultation, Technical Assistance, and Support
  - Assesses public health, medical, and veterinary medical effects resulting from all hazards.
    - assessing exposures on the general population and on children and those with disabilities and others with access and functional needs; conducting field investigations
  - Providing advice on protective actions related to direct human and animal exposures and on indirect exposure through contaminated food, drugs, water supply, and other media
  - Providing technical assistance and consultation on medical treatment, screening, and decontamination of injured or contaminated individuals
  - Provides for disaster related health and behavior health needs through direct services and/or referrals as necessary
- HC relies on PH for surveillance and treatment guidance
Scenario

- Monday after regional fair, local health department (LHD) receives a call from local hospital about few patients with severe flu like symptoms, all attended local fair
Later Monday afternoon, multiple LHD’s being to receive sporadic reports of flu-like illness throughout the region, a few cases are severe

- Healthcare facilities and LHD all are reporting flu-like illness in persons whom attended the regional fair, resources appear adequate at time
Tuesday afternoon: Cases region-wide are increasing with numerous severe cases
  ▫ Health care resources are now being stressed
  ▫ Multiple patient transfers are needed to tertiary care centers
Questions/Discussion