

Homeland Security Advisory System - Threat Levels

Threat Condition	Definition	Critical Protective Actions for Hospitals
SEVERE	A terrorist attack has occurred or credible and corroborated intelligence indicates that one is imminent. Normally, this threat condition is declared for a specific location or critical facility	<p>Continue all precautions from lower Threat Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Communicate Threat Condition SEVERE and explain expected actions <input type="checkbox"/> Activate Incident Command structure and communicate with the respective county EOC's <input type="checkbox"/> Activate emergency response and security personnel based on threat assessments <input type="checkbox"/> Close or restrict entry to the facility to employees, medical staff and emergency personnel only <input type="checkbox"/> Restrict parking areas close to critical buildings <input type="checkbox"/> Implement emergency staffing plan <input type="checkbox"/> Reduce non-essential operations <input type="checkbox"/> Implement mutual aid agreements with other critical facilities as needed <input type="checkbox"/> Restrict deliveries and mail as appropriate to the facility. <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct briefings as necessary
HIGH	A High Condition is declared when there is a high risk of terrorist attacks.	<p>Continue all precautions from lower Threat Conditions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital EOC not activated however prepare hospital EOC for future activation <input type="checkbox"/> Communicate Threat Condition High to all employees and explain expected actions <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor world, national and local events. Pass on credible threat intelligence to key personnel <input type="checkbox"/> Consider controlled access of all exterior non-essential doors and direct access through limited entry areas <input type="checkbox"/> Consider increasing security patrols and position officers at key sites and access points <input type="checkbox"/> Consider barriers to protect entrances and control vehicle access to sensitive structures <input type="checkbox"/> Confirm law enforcement collaboration and response plan is activated
ELEVATED	An Elevated Condition is declared when there is a significant risk of terrorist attacks. Elevated risk of terrorist attack, but a specific region of the USA or target has not been identified.	<p>Continue all precautions from lower Threat Conditions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital EOC not activated <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare for media inquiries related to elevated threat level <input type="checkbox"/> Brief key personnel-threats, changes to security patterns, potential action plans <input type="checkbox"/> Identify and monitor governmental information sharing sources for warnings and alerts <input type="checkbox"/> Conduct communications checks to ensure all communications systems are fully functioning <input type="checkbox"/> Determine the need to restrict building access points <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluate vehicle access points and parking plan <input type="checkbox"/> Review alternative care sites and access areas <input type="checkbox"/> Assure vendor contacts information is up-to-date <input type="checkbox"/> Review sheltering support plans <input type="checkbox"/> Update "Emergency/Disaster Hotline – _____"

GUARDED	A Guarded Condition is declared with there is a general risk of terrorist attacks.	<p>Continue all precautions from lower Threat Conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Brief leadership and staff of elevated threat posture- emphasize personal and family preparedness. <input type="checkbox"/> Ensure that key leaders are familiar with the emergency response and business continuity plans. <input type="checkbox"/> Review, update and routinely exercise for functional areas of plans. <input type="checkbox"/> Review vulnerability and threat assessments and revise as needed. <input type="checkbox"/> Assure departments have current call-back rosters. <input type="checkbox"/> Review Mutual Aid agreements with other facilities and/or with local government for use during emergencies. <input type="checkbox"/> Review physical security precautions to prevent theft, unauthorized entry or destruction of property. <input type="checkbox"/> Maintain on going liaison with local, state, and federal law enforcement, emergency management authorities, DOH/CDC <input type="checkbox"/> Report suspicious persons, items, or activities <input type="checkbox"/> Report vehicles parked in an unusual manner or near critical infrastructure areas
LOW	Low risk of terrorism. Routine security is implemented to preclude routine criminal threats.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Continue normal operations consistent with organizational Security and Emergency Management Plans <input type="checkbox"/> Ongoing-development of security and emergency management plans <input type="checkbox"/> Provide ongoing staff and new hire orientation education to include personal emergency preparedness <input type="checkbox"/> Issue security credentials (badges) to all staff, physicians, vendors, contractors and students and require them to be worn while on hospital premises <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital EOC inactive

CDC - Center for Disease Control

DOH – Department of Health

EOC – Emergency Operations Center