NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. Department of Health

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

HOWARD A. ZUCKER, M.D., J.D.
Commissioner

LISA J. PINO, M.A., J.D.
Executive Deputy Commissioner

August 20, 2020

Re: DAL NH 20-09 Required Annual Pandemic Emergency Plan for All Nursing Homes

Dear Nursing Home Operators and Administrators:

On June 17, 2020, Governor Andrew M. Cuomo signed into Law Chapter 114 of the Laws of 2020 creating a new subdivision 12 to section 2803 of the Public Health Law. The new subdivision requires that each residential health care facility, by September 15, 2020, prepare and make available to the public on the facility's website, and immediately upon request, a Pandemic Emergency Plan (PEP).

This DAL explains the requirements for the PEP outlined in the statute and provides additional direction and guidance on how to implement its requirements. The Department will be issuing further guidance on a recommended form for the PEP. Generally, the PEP must include:

1 A communication plan that:
   - 1.a Updates authorized family members and guardians of residents infected with the pandemic infectious disease at least once per day and upon a change in the resident's condition;
   - 1.b Updates all residents and authorized family members and guardians once per week on the number of infections and deaths at the facility;
   - 1.c A plan to provide all residents with daily access to free remote videoconferencing, or similar communication methods, with authorized family members and guardians; and
   - 1.d Required communications must be by electronic means or other method selected by each family member or guardian

2 Infection Protection Plans for staff, residents and families, to include:

2.a A plan for readmission of residents to the facility after hospitalization for the pandemic infectious disease

2.a.i Such plan must comply with all other applicable State and federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to 10 NYCRR 415.19, 415.3(i)(3)(iii) and 415.26(i); and 42 CFR 483.15(e).

2.a.ii The facility's plan should also consider how to reduce transmission in the event there are only one or a few residents with the pandemic disease in a facility and corresponding plans for cohorting, including:

a.ii.1 Use of a part of a unit, dedicated floor, or wing in the facility or a group of rooms at the end of the unit, such as at the end of a hallway;

a.ii.2 Discontinue any sharing of a bathroom with residents outside the cohort;



a.ii.3 Proper identification of the area for residents with the pandemic infectious disease, including demarcating reminders for healthcare personnel; and

a.ii.4 Procedures for preventing other residents from entering the area. iii. Additionally, the plan should consider steps for facility administrators and operators to determine cohorting needs and capabilities on a regular basis, including establishing steps to notify regional Department of Health offices and local departments of health if the facility cannot set up cohort areas or can no longer sustain cohorting efforts.

2.b Having personal protective equipment (PPE) in a two-month (60 day) supply at the facility or by a contract arrangement1.

2.b.i Supply needs are based on facility census, not capacity, and should include considerations of space for storage. To determine supply needs during a pandemic episode, facilities should base such need on DOH

[1] Please also keep in mind that nursing home operators and administrators must also comply with emergency regulations effective July XX, 2020, setting forth PPE stockpile requirements.

existing guidance and regulations; in the absence of such guidance, facilities should consult the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) PPE burn rate calculator..
ii. Be cognizant of experience with prior pandemic response and adopt protocols outlined in guidance that are specific to the pathogen and illness circulating at the time of the pandemic, and plan to handle worst case scenarios without implementing shortage or other mitigation efforts. iii. This plan should address all personal protective equipment necessary for both residents and staff in order to continue to provide services and supports to residents, current guidance on various supplies and strategies from the CDC. Supplies to be maintained include, but are not limited to:

b.i.1 N95 respirators
b.i.2 Face shield,
b.i.3 Eye protection
b.i.4 Gowns/isolation gowns,
b.i.5 gloves,
b.i.6 masks, and
b.i.7 Sanitizer and disinfectants in accordance with current EPA Guidance.:

3 Plan for preserving a resident's place at the facility when the resident is hospitalized.

3.a Such plan must comply with all applicable State and federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to 18 NYCRR 505.9(d)(6) and 42 CFR 483.15(e).

4 Compliance with the PEP

4.a Failure to comply is a violation of § 2803(12), which may subject the facility to penalties pursuant to PHL § 12 and § 12-b and other enforcement remedies.

5 Format for PEP

5.a The Department suggests that in developing the PEP document, the facility follow the format for the Emergency Preparedness plan you developed for the CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule. We suggest that the PEP be included as

an annex to that plan. A format of an annex will be provided to you. It will be modeled after the templates distributed as part of the 2019 DOH Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)training to nursing homes on developing a PEP. Attached is information for taking an online version of the CEMP training as a refresher; or if you were unable to attend last year's live training sessions.

We will be using the CEMP for purposes of complying with the requirement and a webinar will be scheduled to explain how to incorporate the pandemic emergency plan in the CEMP. Any questions regarding this correspondence should be forwarded to nursinghomeinfo@health.ny.gov.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue affecting residents of nursing homes in New York State.

Sincerely,

Sheila McGarvey

Director
Division of Nursing Homes and ICF/IID
Surveillance
Center for Health Care Quality and Surveillance

***Attachments (3)*** as follows:
OHEP.CEMPONLINE

**AGENDA**

**Webinar:**
**New York State Required, Pandemic Emergency Plan (PEP) for Residential Health Care Facilities.**

**Friday August 21, 2020 11:00am to 1:00pm**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Introductory Remarks:** | **Valerie Deetz**,<br>Deputy Director, Center of Provider Services and Oversight<br>Office of Primary Care/Health Systems Management (OPCHSM),<br>New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) |
| **PEP Requirements and Plan Development Review:**<br>• Planning templates;<br>• Consistency with CMS Emergency Preparedness Program requirements | **Debra Sottolano, PhD**<br>Lead for Emergency Preparedness for OPCHSM and Liaison to NYSDOH Office of Health Emergency Preparedness (OHEP) |
| **Q&A session with Attendees** | **Operated Assisted:**<br>Additional NYSDOH Representatives from Divisions of Legal Affairs and Epidemiology |

# Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan Training
# Online Training Module

**Background**

The purpose of the New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) Training is to provide personnel at adult care facilities across the State of New York with the information and tools to develop a CEMP to prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural and man-made disasters.

**Training Objectives**

1 Facilitate staff familiarity with CEMP purpose, use, development, and implementation.
2 Empower facilities to be self-sufficient for 72 hours after an incident.
3 Enable facilities' timely determination and implementation of protective actions.
4 Foster collaboration and coordination with facility emergency response partners
5 Build the foundation for a risk-based CEMP and emergency preparedness program.
6 Empower facilities to use the Incident Command System to respond to emergencies.
7 Empower Facilities to identify critical information to protect and disseminate during an incident.

**Target Audience**

Nursing Home or Adult care facility personnel that will be involved in facility level emergency planning (strongly recommended for Administrators and Safety / Security / Plant Managers).

**Prior completion of strongly encouraged.**

**Training Module**

Training delivered though an interactive online module that can be found using the registration information below or by clicking here:

CEMPONLINE

**Questions Regarding NYSDOH Learning Management System (LMS)**
Direct questions to edlearn@health.ny.gov or 518474-2893.

**Questions Regarding Training**
Direct questions to prepedap@health.ny.gov or 518-474-2893.

**Registration**
To enroll in the training, please go to
and either register or login to the LMS. Search Course Catalog for: **OHEPCEMPONLINE** OR click this shortcut to the course enrollment page on the **.**

**NOTE - PLEAE READ -** Please verify your contact information in your LMS profile when registering. All required course materials will be sent using the e-mail address listed in the LMS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Training produced by Hagerty Consulting, Inc. | |

# COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN

Niagara Rehabilitation and Nursing Center

822 Cedar Ave

Niagara Falls, New York 14301

716-282-1207

www.niagararehab.com

Update August 26, 2022

Emergency Contacts

The following table lists contact information for public safety and public health representatives for quick reference during an emergency.

**Table 1: Emergency Contact Information**

| Organization | Phone Number(s) |
|---|---|
| **Local Fire Department** | 716-286-7240 |
| Local Police Department | 716-286-4547 |
| **Emergency Medical Services** | 911 central dispatch |
| **Fire Marshal** | 716-286-7245 |
| **Local Office of Emergency Management** | Jonathan Schultz<br>716-438-3171 |
| **NYSDOH Regional Office** (Business Hours)[2] | Western Region-Buffalo Office<br>584 Delaware Ave, Buffalo, NY 14202<br>(716) 847-4320 |
| **NYSDOH Duty Officer** (Business Hours) | 866-881-2809 |
| **New York State Watch Center (Warning Point)** (Non-Business Hours) | 518-292-2200 |

2 During normal business hours (non-holiday weekdays from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm), contact the NYSDOH Regional Office for your region or the NYSDOH Duty Officer. Outside of normal business hours (e.g., evenings, weekends, or holidays), contact the New York State Watch Center (Warning Point).

# Approval and Implementation

This Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) has been approved for implementation by:

**Sharon Zeames**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sharon Zeames | Administrator | 8/26/2022 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Roxane Amborski, Director of Nursing | 8/26/2022 |

| | |
|---|---|
| Geovanni Otero, Director of Maintenance | 8/26/2022 |

# Record of Changes

**Table 2: Record of Changes**

| Version # | Implemented By | Revision Date | Description of Change |
|---|---|---|---|
| ***1.0*** | *Sharon Zeames* | *8/26/2022* | *Reviewed and Updated* |
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# Record of External Distribution

**Table 3: Record of External Distribution**

| Date | Recipient Name | Recipient Organization | Format | Number of Copies |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| *May 1, 2020* | *Jim Doe* | *Local Office of Emergency Management* | *Digital (Email)* | *1* |
| **8/29/2022** | Website | Website Update for Families | Email | 1 |
| **8/29/2022** | Mary Swartz | Regional Director | Email | 1 |
| **8/29/2022** | Melissa Mundy | Union Representative | Email | 1 |
| **8/29/2022** | Staff | Staff | Posted | 1 |
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# 1 Background

## 1.1 Introduction

To protect the well-being of residents, staff, and visitors, the following all-hazards Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) has been developed and includes considerations necessary to satisfy the requirements for a Pandemic Emergency Plan (PEP). Appendix K of the CEMP has been adjusted to meet the needs of the PEP and will also provide facilities a form to post for the public on the facility's website, and to provide immediately upon request. The CEMP is informed by the conduct of facility-based and community-based risk assessments and predisaster collaboration with NYS Mutual Aid Partners and local management agencies.
This CEMP is a living document that will be reviewed annually, at a minimum, in accordance with *Section 7: Plan Development and Maintenance*.

## 1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this plan is to describe the facility's approach to mitigating the effects of, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from natural disasters, man-made incidents, and/or facility emergencies.

**Figure 1: Four Phases of Emergency Management**

## 1.3 Scope

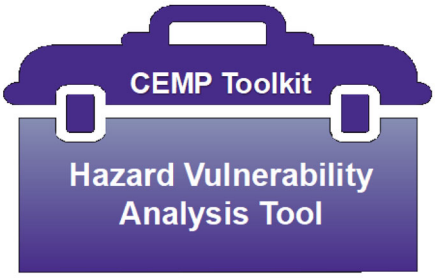
The scope of this plan extends to any event that disrupts, or has the potential to significantly disrupt, the provision of normal standards of care and/or continuity of operations, regardless of the cause of the incident (i.e., man-made or natural disaster).
The plan provides the facility with a framework for the facility's emergency preparedness program and utilizes an all-hazards approach to develop facility capabilities and capacities to address anticipated events.

The PEP, EPP and Facility Assessment will offer clear instruction so that our facility is prepared to respond effectively and safety to an emergency.

## 1.4 Situation

### 1.4.1 Risk Assessment[3]

3 The Hazard Vulnerability Analysis (HVA) is the industry standard for assessing risk to healthcare facilities. Facilities may rely on a community-based risk assessment developed by public health agencies, emergency management agencies, and Health Emergency




The facility conducts an annual risk assessment to identify which natural and man-made hazards pose the greatest risk to the facility (i.e., human and economic losses based on the vulnerability of people, buildings, and infrastructure).
The facility conducted a facility-specific risk assessment on 8/26/22 and determined the following hazards may affect the facility's ability to maintain operations before, during, and after an incident:

- Epidemic / Infectious Disease
- Blizzard
- Civil Unrest

This risk information serves as the foundation for the plan—including associated policies, procedures, and preparedness activities.

## 1.4.2 Mitigation Overview

The primary focus of the facility's pre-disaster mitigation efforts is to identify the facility's level of vulnerability to various hazards and mitigate those vulnerabilities to ensure continuity of service delivery and business operations despite potential or actual hazardous conditions.

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Preparedness Coalition or in conjunction with conducting its own facility-based assessment. If this approach is used, facilities are expected to have a copy of the community-based risk assessment and to work with the entity that developed it to ensure that the facility's emergency plan is in alignment.

To minimize impacts to service delivery and business operations during an emergency, the facility has completed the following mitigation activities:

- Development and maintenance of a CEMP;
- Procurement of emergency supplies and resources;
- Establishment and maintenance of mutual aid and vendor agreements to provide supplementary emergency assistance;
- Regular instruction to staff on plans, policies, and procedures; and
- Validation of plans, policies, and procedures through exercises.4

For more information about the facility's fire prevention efforts (e.g., drills), safety inspections, and equipment testing, please refer to the Niagara Rehabilitation Fire Plan.

## 1.5 Planning Assumptions

This plan is guided by the following planning assumptions:

- Emergencies and disasters can occur without notice, any day, and on any shift.
- Emergencies and disasters may be facility-specific, local, regional, or state-wide.
- Local and/or state authorities may declare an emergency.
- The facility may receive requests from other facilities for resource support (supplies, equipment, staffing, or to serve as a receiving facility).
- Facility security may be compromised during an emergency.
- The emergency may exceed the facility's capabilities and external emergency resources may be unavailable. The facility is expected to be able to function without an influx of outside supplies or assistance for 72 hours.
- Power systems (including emergency generators) could fail.
- During an emergency, it may be difficult for some staff to get to the facility, or alternately, they may need to stay in the facility for a prolonged period of time.
- Other circumstances that may arise beyond facilities control such as gun violence and other geographic threats.

4 Refer to the "Training and Exercises" section of this plan for additional information about pre-incident trainings and exercises.

# 2 Concept of Operations

## 2.1 Notification and Activation

### 2.1.1 Hazard Identification

The facility may receive advance warning about an impending natural disaster (e.g., hurricane forecast) or man-made threat (e.g., law enforcement report), which will be used to determine initial response activities and the movement of personnel, equipment, and supplies. For no-notice incidents (e.g., active shooter, tornado), facilities will not receive advance warning about the disaster, and will need to determine response activities based on the impact of the disaster. The Incident Commander may designate a staff member to monitor evolving conditions, typically through television news, reports from government authorities, and weather forecasts. All staff have a responsibility to report potential or actual hazards or threats to their direct supervisor.

### 2.1.2 Activation

Upon notification of hazard or threat—from staff, residents, or external organizations—the senior-most on-site facility official will determine whether to activate the plan based on one or more of the triggers below:

- The provision of normal standards of care and/or continuity of operations is threatened and could potentially cause harm.
- The facility has determined to implement a protective action.
- The facility is serving as a receiving facility.
- The facility is testing the plan during internal and external exercises (e.g., fire drills). Additional steps are outlined in the facility EPP Manual.

If one or more activation criteria are met and the plan is activated, the senior-most on-site facility official—or the most appropriate official based on the incident—will assume the role of "Incident Commander" and operations proceed as outlined in this document.

### 2.1.3 Staff Notification

Once a hazard or threat report has been made, an initial notification message will be disseminated to staff in accordance with the facility's communication plan.
Department Managers or their designees will contact on-duty personnel to provide additional instructions and solicit relevant incident information from personnel (e.g., status of residents, status of equipment).
Once on-duty personnel have been notified, Department Managers will notify off-duty personnel if necessary and provide additional guidance/instruction (e.g., request to report to facility).
The facility will use electronic method of communication with staff , families and responsible parties through use of ONSHIFT, Caring Gene applications.
Department personnel are to follow instructions from Department Managers, keep lines of communication open, and provide status updates in a timely manner.

## 2.1.4 External Notification

Depending on the type and severity of the incident, the facility may also notify external parties (e.g., local office of emergency management, resource vendors, relatives and responsible parties) utilizing local notification procedures to request assistance (e.g., guidance, information, resources) or to provide situational awareness.
The NYSDOH Regional Office is a mandatory notification recipient regardless of hazard type, while other notifications may be hazard-specific. **Table 4** provides a comprehensive list of mandatory and recommended external notification recipients based on hazard type.

**Table 4: Notification by Hazard Type**

| **M** = Mandatory<br>**R** = Recommended | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **NYSDOH Regional Office**[6] | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** |
| **Facility Senior Leader** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** | **M** |
| **Local Emergency Management** | **R** | M | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | **M** | □ | M | □ | □ | □ | □ | **M** | □ |
| **Local Law Enforcement** | | M | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | **M** | □ | M | □ | □ | □ | □ | **M** | □ |
| **Local Fire/EMS** | | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | **M** | □ | □ | **M** | □ | **M** | □ | □ |
| **Local Health Department** | **R** | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | M | M | □ | □ | R | □ | □ |
| **Off Duty Staff** | | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ | □ |
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[4] "Active threat" is defined as an individual or group of individuals actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a populated area. Example attack methods may include bombs, firearms, and fire as a weapon.

[5] "CBRNE" refers to "Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, or Explosive"

[6] To notify NYSDOH of an emergency during business hours (non-holiday weekdays from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm), the Incident Commander will contact the NYSDOH Regional Office 716-847-4320. Outside of normal business hours (e.g., evenings, weekends, or holidays), the Incident Commander will contact the New York State Watch Center (Warning Point) at 518292-2200. The Watch Command will return the call and will ask for the type of emergency and the type of facility (e.g. hospital, nursing home, adult home) involved. The Watch Command will then route the call to the Administrator on Duty, who will assist the facility with response to the situation.

# 2.2 Mobilization

## 2.2.1 Incident Management Team

Upon plan activation, the Incident Commander will activate some or all positions of the Incident Management Team, which is comprised of pre-designated personnel who are trained and assigned to plan and execute response and recovery operations.

Incident Management Team activation is designed to be flexible and scalable depending on the type, scope, and complexity of the incident. As a result, the Incident Commander will decide to activate the entire team or select positions based on the extent of the emergency.

**Table 5** outlines suggested facility positions to fill each of the Incident Management Team positions. The most appropriate individual given the event/incident may fill different roles as needed.

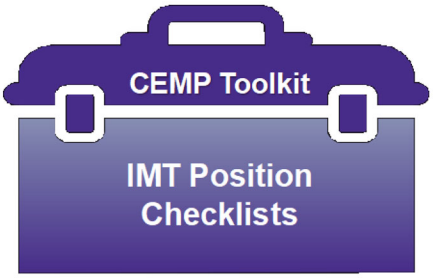



**Table 5: Incident Management Team - Facility Position Crosswalk**

| Incident Position | Facility Position Title | Description |
|---|---|---|
| **Incident Commander** | Administrator<br>Director of Nursing | Leads the response and activates and manages other Incident Management Team positions. |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Maintenance Director | |
| **Public Information Officer** | Managing Members<br>Administrator<br>Assistant Administrator | Provides information and updates to visitors, relatives and responsible parties, media, and external organizations. |
| **Safety Officer** | Maintenance Director<br>Therapy Director | Ensures safety of staff, residents, and visitors; monitors and addresses hazardous conditions; empowered to halt any activity that poses an immediate threat to health and safety. |
| **Operations Section Chief** | Director of Nursing<br>ADON | Manages tactical operations executed by staff (e.g., continuity of resident services, administration of first aid). |
| **Incident Position** | **Facility Position Title** | **Description** |
| **Planning Section Chief** | DON<br>ADON | Collects and evaluates information to support decision-making and maintains incident documentation, including staffing plans. |
| **Logistics Section Chief** | Administrator | Locates, distributes, and stores resources, arranges transportation, and makes alternate shelter arrangements with receiving facilities. |
| **Finance/Admin Section Chief** | Business Office Manager | Monitors costs related to the incident while providing accounting, procurement, time recording, and cost analyses. |

If the primary designee for an Incident Management Team position is unavailable, **Table 6** identifies primary, secondary, and tertiary facility personnel that will staff Incident Management Team positions.

While assignments are dependent upon the requirements of the incident, available resources, and available personnel, this table provides initial options for succession planning, including shift changes.

**Table 6: Orders of Succession**

| Incident Position | Primary | Successor 1 | Successor 2 |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Incident Commander** | Administrator | Director of Nursing | Assistant Administrator |

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Public Information Officer** | Mary Swartz | Kate Wannemacher | Assistant Administrator |
| **Safety Officer** | Ashley Eason, Assistant Administrator | Geovanni Otero, Maintenance Director | Derek Smaczniak, Director of Therapy Services |
| **Operations Section Chief** | Administrator | DON | Assistant Administrator |
| **Planning Section Chief** | | ADON | Staffing Coordinator |
| **Logistics Section Chief** | Administrator | Assistant Administrator | Medical Records Director |
| **Finance/Admin Section Chief** | Nikki Ramos | | |

### 2.2.2 Command Center

The Incident Commander will designate a space, e.g., facility conference room or other large gathering space, on the facility premises to serve as the centralized location for incident management and coordination activities, also known as the "Command Center."
The designated location for the Command Center is Conference Room and the secondary/back-up location is first floor main dining room-, unless circumstances of the emergency dictate the specification of a different location upon activation of the CEMP, in which case staff will be notified of the change at time of activation.

## 2.3 Response

### 2.3.1 Assessment

The Incident Commander will convene activated Incident Management Team members in the Command Center and assign staff to assess designated areas of the facility to account for residents and identify potential or actual risks, including the following:

- Number of residents injured or affected;
- Status of resident care and support services;
- Extent or impact of the problem (e.g., hazards, life safety concerns);
- Current and projected staffing levels (clinical, support, and supervisory/managerial);
- Status of facility plant, utilities, and environment of care;
- Projected impact on normal facility operations;
- Facility resident occupancy and bed availability;
- Need for protective action; and
- Resource needs.

### 2.3.2 Protective Actions

Refer to **Annex A: Protective Actions** for more information.

### 2.3.3 Staffing

Based on the outcomes of the assessment, the Planning Section Chief will develop a staffing plan for the operational period (e.g., remainder of shift). The Operation Section Chief will execute the staffing plan by overseeing staff execution of response activities. The Finance/Administration Section Chief will manage the storage and processing of timekeeping and related documentation to track staff hours.

## 2.4 Recovery

### 2.4.1 Recovery Services

Recovery services focus on the needs of residents and staff and help to restore the facility's predisaster physical, mental, social, and economic conditions.
Recovery services may include coordination with government, non-profit, and private sector organizations to identify community resources and services (e.g., employee assistance programs, state and federal disaster assistance programs, if eligible). Pre-existing facility- and community-based services and pre-established points of contact are provided in **Table 8**.

**Table 7: Pre-Identified Recovery Services**

| Service | Description of Service | Point(s) of Contact |
|---|---|---|
| **American Red Cross** | Post Disaster Housing Assistance, Emergency Preparedness, Response Training, Blood drives, Smoke Alarms, Disaster Relief/Recovery, Post disaster food services. | Western New York Chapter<br>786 Delaware Avenue<br>Buffalo, NY 14209<br>716-886-7500 |
| **WNY Mutual Aid Plan** | Consortium of Facilities in WNY designed to assistant staff residents and families | [www.mutualaidplan.org<br>716-810-7000<br>716-220-5817 Cell |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | obtain services available in community as well as for facility | |
| Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness-Niagara County | Assistance with personal care, activities of daily living, managing/administering medication, obtaining PPE, obtaining durable medical equipment. | Office of Public Health Emergency Preparedness<br>5467 upper mountain rd<br>Lockport, NY 14094-1894<br>716-439-7431 |
| Salvation Army | Emergency meals, emergency shelter, clothing, spiritual counseling, grief counseling | 7018 Buffalo Ave,<br>Niagara Falls, NY 14304<br>716-283-7697 |
| FEMA | | https://www.fema.gov/locations/newyork |

Ongoing recovery activities, limited staff resources, as well as the incident's physical and mental health impact on staff members may delay facility staff from returning to normal job duties, responsibilities, and scheduling.

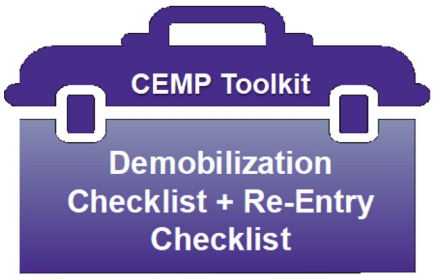
Resuming pre-incident staff scheduling will require a planned transition of staff resources, accounting for the following considerations:

- Priority staffing of critical functions and services (e.g., resident care services, maintenance, dining services).
- Personal staff needs (e.g., restore private residence, care for relatives, attend memorial services, mental/behavioral health services).
- Continued use or release of surge staffing, if activated during incident.

### 2.4.2 Demobilization

As the incident evolves, the Incident Commander will begin to develop a demobilization plan that includes the following elements:

- Activation of re-entry/repatriation process if evacuation occurred;5
- Deactivation of surge staffing;
- Replenishment of emergency resources;
- Reactivation of normal services and operations; and
- Compilation of documentation for recordkeeping purposes.




### 2.4.3 Infrastructure Restoration

5 Refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template* for more information about repatriation.

Once the Incident Commander has directed the transition from incident response operations to demobilization, the facility will focus on restoring normal services and operations to provide continuity of care and preserve the safety and security of residents.
**Table 9** outlines entities responsible for performing infrastructure restoration activities and related contracts/agreements.

**Table 8: Infrastructure Restoration Activities**

| Activity | Responsible Entity | Contracts/Agreements |
|---|---|---|
| **Internal assessment of electrical power.** | Geovanni Otero Maintenance Director | Current Supplier -Penn Power] |
| **Clean-up of facility grounds (e.g., general housekeeping, removing debris and damaged materials).** | Geovanni Otero, Maintenance Director<br>Ryan Becote, Housekeeping Director | N/A |
| **Internal damage assessments (e.g., structural, environmental, operational).** | Geovanni Otero, Maintenance | N/A |
| **Clinical systems and equipment inspection.** | Geovanni Otero, Director of Maintenance | In house serviced |
| **Strengthen infrastructure for future disasters (if repair/restoration activities are needed).** | Geovanni Otero, Director of Maintenance | N/A |
| **Communication and transparency of restoration efforts to staff and residents.** | Assistant Administrator | On-shift, calls, mailings |
| **Recurring inspection of restored structures.** | Geovanni Otero, Maintenance | N/A |

### 2.4.4 Resumption of Full Services

Department Managers will conduct an internal assessment of the status of resident care services and advise the Incident Commander and/or facility leadership on the prioritization and timeline of recovery activities.

Special consideration will be given to services that may require extensive inspection due to safety concerns surrounding equipment/supplies and interruption of utilities support and resident care services that directly impact the resumption of services (e.g., food service, laundry).
Staff, residents, and relatives/responsible parties will be notified of any services or resident care services that are not available, and as possible, provided updates on time frames for resumption.
The Planning Section Chief will develop a phased plan for resumption of pre-incident staff scheduling to help transition the facility from surge staffing back to regular staffing levels.

### 2.4.5 Resource Inventory and Accountability

Full resumption of services involves a timely detailed inventory assessment and inspection of all equipment, devices, and supplies to determine the state of resources post-disaster and identify those that need repair or replacement.
All resources, especially resident care equipment, devices, and supplies, will be assessed for health and safety risks. Questions on resource damage or potential health and safety risks will be directed to the original manufacturer for additional guidance.

# 3 Information Management

## 3.1 Critical Facility Records

Critical facility records that require protection and/or transfer during an incident include:

- Point Click Care Electronic Medical Record Documents stored Electronically

If computer systems are interrupted or non-functional, the facility will utilize paper-based record keeping in accordance with internal facility procedures.  Facility has contract with vendor Iron Mountain to store paper documents offsite.

## 3.2 Resident Tracking and Information-Sharing

### 3.2.1 Tracking Evacuated Residents

The facility will use the New York State Evacuation of Facilities in Disasters System ("eFINDS")[8] and the Resident Evacuation Critical Information and Tracking Form[9] to track evacuated residents and ensure resident care is maintained.

**Resident Confidentiality**

The facility will ensure resident confidentiality throughout the evacuation process in accordance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act Privacy Rule (Privacy Rule), as well as with any other applicable privacy laws. Under the Privacy Rule, covered health care providers are permitted to disclose protected health information to public health authorities authorized by law to collect protected health information to control disease, injury, or disability, as well as to public or private entities authorized by law or charter to assist in disaster relief efforts. The Privacy Rule also permits disclosure of protected health information in other circumstances.

[8] eFINDS is a secure, confidential system intended to provide authorized users with real-time access to the location of residents evacuated during an emergency event. The system is to be used to log and track residents during an urgent or non-emergent evacuation. See Appendix K of the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template* for further information and procedures on eFINDS.

[9] [9] The Resident Evacuation Critical Information and Tracking Form is a standardized form utilized to provide pertinent individual resident information to receiving facilities and provide redundant tracking during the evacuation process, including repatriation. See Appendix L of the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template* for the complete form. *10 see HIPAA privacy rule information in CEMP toolkit, Annex K) or:*

*https://www.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/special/emergency/hipaa-privacy-emergency-situations.pdf*

Private counsel should be consulted where there are specific questions about resident confidentiality.

## 3.3 Staff Tracking and Accountability

### 3.3.1 Tracking Facility Personnel

The facility will use the New York State Evacuation of Facilities in Disasters System ("eFINDS")6 and the Resident Evacuation Critical Information and Tracking Form7 to track staff.

### 3.3.2 Staff Accountability

Staff accountability enhances site safety by allowing the facility to track staff locations and assignments during an emergency. Staff accountability procedures will be implemented as soon as the plan is activated.

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6 eFINDS is a secure, confidential system intended to provide authorized users with real-time access to the location of residents evacuated during an emergency event. The system is to be used to log and track residents during an urgent or non-emergent evacuation. See Appendix K of the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template* for further information and procedures on eFINDS.

7 The Resident Evacuation Critical Information and Tracking Form is a standardized form utilized to provide pertinent individual resident information to receiving facilities and provide redundant tracking during the evacuation process, including repatriation. See Appendix L of the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template* for the complete form.

The facility will utilize Kronos, Supervisor tracking line list, sign in/sign out sheets at reception, and tour of duty log on each unit to track the arrival and departure times of staff. During every operational period (e.g., shift change), Department Managers or designees will conduct an accountability check to ensure all on-site staff are accounted for.

If an individual becomes injured or incapacitated during response operations, Department Managers or designees will notify the Incident Commander to ensure the staff member's status change is reflected in sign-in/out sheets.

### 3.3.3 Non-Facility Personnel

The Incident Commander—or Logistics Section Chief, if activated—will ensure that appropriate credentialing and verification processes are followed. Throughout the response, the Incident Commander—or Planning Section Chief, if activated—will track non-facility personnel providing surge support along with their respective duties and the number of hours worked.

# 4 Communications

Primary (the best and intended option) and alternate (secondary back-up option) methods of communication are outlined in **Table 9.**

**Table 9: Methods of Communication**

| Mechanism | Primary Method of Communication | Alternate Method of Communication |
|---|---|---|
| **Landline telephone** | x | |
| **Cell Phone** | | x |
| **Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP)** | | x |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Text Messages** | X | |
| **Email** | X | |
| **News Media** | X | |
| **Radio Broadcasts** | | X |
| **Social Media** | | X |
| **Runners** | X | |
| **Weather Radio** | | X |
| | | |
| **Emergency Notification Systems8** | X | |
| **Facility Website** | | |
| **ONSHIFT for Staff Communication** | | |

8 12 An emergency notification system is a one-way broadcast, sometimes coordinated by a third-party vendor, and is not required by NYSDOH.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Repticity for family communication** | X | |

### 4.1.1 Communications Review and Approval

Messages approved by communications officer or Administrator

Upon plan activation, the Incident Commander may designate a staff member as the Public Information Officer to serve as the single point of contact for the development, refinement, and dissemination of internal and external communications.
Key Public Information Officer functions include:

- Develops and establishes mechanisms to rapidly receive and transmit information to local emergency management;
- Develops situational reports/updates for internal audiences (staff and residents) and external audiences;
- Develops coordinated, timely, consistent, and reliable messaging and/or tailor pre-scripted messaging;
- Conducts direct resident and relative/responsible party outreach, as appropriate; and
- Addresses rumors and misinformation.

## 4.2 Internal Communications

### 4.2.1 Staff Communication

The facility maintains a master list of all staff members, including emergency contact information, at WWW.ONSIFT.COM To prepare for impacts to communication systems, the facility also maintains redundant forms of communication with on-site and off-site staff. The facility will ensure that all staff are familiar with internal communication equipment, policies, and procedures.

### 4.2.2 Staff Reception Area

Depending on the nature of the incident, the facility may choose to establish a staff reception area (e.g., in a break room or near the time clock) to coordinate and check-in staff members as they arrive to the facility to support incident operations.
The staff reception area also provides a central location where staff can receive job assignments, checklists, situational updates, and briefings each time they report for their shift. Implementing a sign-in/sign-out system at the staff reception area will ensure full staff accountability. The staff reception area also provides the Incident Commander with a central location for staffing updates and inquiries.

### 4.2.3 Resident Communication

Upon admission, annually, and prior to any recognized threat, the facility will educate residents and responsible parties on the CEMP efforts. Resident communication may include documented on admission, newsletters, Resident Council meetings, resident group meetings, Family Council meetings.
During and after an incident, the Incident Commander—or Public Information Officer, if activated—will establish a regular location and frequency for delivering information to staff, residents, and on-site responsible parties (e.g., set times throughout the day), recognizing that message accuracy is a key component influencing resident trust in the facility and in perceptions of the response and recovery efforts.
Communication will be adapted, as needed, to meet population-specific needs, including memory care residents, individuals with vision and/or hearing impairments, and individuals with other access and functional needs.

## 4.3 External Communications

Under no circumstances will protected health information be released over publicly-accessible communications or media outlets. All communications with external entities shall be in plain language, without the use of codes or ambiguous language.

4.3.1 Corporate / Parent Organization

The facility will coordinate all messaging with Avante Management to ensure external communications are aligned with corporate policies, procedures and brand standards. Prior to an incident the facility will coordinate with Avante Management to ensure an onsite facility staff members has authorization and approval to disseminate messages.

### 4.3.2 Authorized Family and Guardians

The facility maintains a list [Point Click Care resource list of all identified authorized family member's and guardian's (responsible parties') contact information, including phone numbers and email addresses at Niagara Rehab uses Repticity to update and notify family members. Such individuals will receive information about the facility's preparedness efforts upon admission. During an incident, the facility will notify responsible parties about the incident, status of the resident, and status of the facility using Repticity to communicate with family members. Additional updates may be provided on a regular basis to keep residents relatives/responsible parties apprised of the incident and the response.
The initial notification message to residents' primary point of contact (e.g., relative) will include the following information:

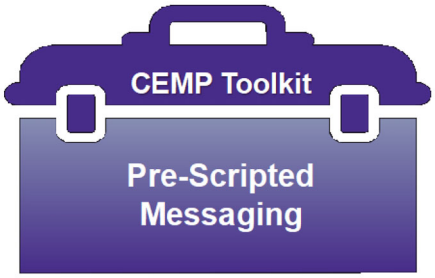
- Nature of the incident;
- Status of resident;
- Restrictions on visitation; and
- Estimated duration of protective actions

- 

When incident conditions do not allow the facility to contact residents' relatives/responsible parties in a timely manner, or if primary methods of communication are unavailable, the facility will utilize local or state health officials, the facility website, and/or a recorded outgoing message on voicemail, among other methods, to provide information to families on the status and location of residents.

### 4.3.3 Media and General Public

During an emergency, the facility will utilize traditional media (e.g., television, newspaper, radio) and social media (e.g., Facebook, Twitter) to keep relatives and responsible parties aware of the situation and the facility's response posture. The Incident Commander—or Public Information Officer, if activated—may assign a staff member to monitor the facility's social media pages and email account to respond to inquiries and address any misinformation.




# 5 Administration, Finance, Logistics

## 5.1 Administration

### 5.1.1 Preparedness

As part of the facility's preparedness efforts, the facility conducts the following tasks:

- Identify and develop roles, responsibilities, and delegations of authority for key decisions and actions including the approval of the CEMP;
- Ensure key processes are documented in the CEMP;
- Coordinate annual CEMP review, including the *Annexes for all hazards*;
- Ensure CEMP is in compliance with local, state, and federal regulations; and ▪

## 5.2 Finance

### 5.2.1 Preparedness

### 5.2.2 Incident Response

Financial functions during an incident include tracking of personnel time and related costs, initiating contracts, arranging for personnel-related payments and Workers' Compensation, tracking of response and recovery costs, and payment of invoices.

The Finance/Administration Section Chief or designee will account for all direct and indirect incident-related costs from the outset of the response, including:

- Personnel (especially overtime and supplementary staffing)
- Event-related resident care and clinical support activities
- Incident-related resources
- Equipment repair and replacement
- Costs for event-related facility operations
- Vendor services
- Personnel illness, injury, or property damage claims
- Loss of revenue-generating activities
- Cleanup, repair, replacement, and/or rebuild expenses

## 5.3 Logistics

### 5.3.1 Preparedness

Logistics functions prior to an incident include identifying and monitoring emergency resource levels, and executing mutual aid agreements, resource service contracts, and memorandums of understanding. These functions will be carried out pre-incident by the Administrator or their designee.

### 5.3.2 Incident Response

To assess the facility's logistical needs during an incident, the Logistics Section Chief or designee will complete the following:

- Regularly monitor supply levels and anticipate resource needs during an incident;
- Identify multiple providers of services and resources to have alternate options in case of resource or service shortages; and
- Coordinate with the Finance Section Chief to ensure all resource and service costs are being tracked.
- Restock supplies to pre-incident preparedness levels,
- Coordinate distribution of supplies to service areas.
- Update HPN Daily during Pandemic with daily supply mgt of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) if requested.

# 6 Plan Development and Maintenance

To ensure plans, policies, and procedures reflect facility-specific needs and capabilities, the facility will conduct the following activities:

**Table 10: Plans, Policies, and Procedures**

| Activity | Led By | Frequency |
|---|---|---|
| **Review and update the facility's risk assessment.** | Administrator, QAPI Committee | Annually |
| **Review and update contact information for response partners, vendors, and receiving facilities.** | Geovanni Otero, Maintenance | Annually or as response partners, vendors, and host facilities provide updated information. |
| **Review and update contact information for staff members and residents' emergency contacts.** | Rachel Fagiani, HR | Annually or as staff members provide updated information. |
| **Review and update contact information for residents' point(s) of contact (i.e., relatives/responsible parties).** | Social Services | At admission/readmission, at each Care Plan Meeting, and as residents, relatives, and responsible parties provide updated information. |
| **Post clear and visible facility maps outlining emergency resources at all nurses' stations, staff areas, hallways, and at the front desk.** | Geovanni Otero, Maintenance | Annually |
| **Maintain electronic versions of the CEMP in folders/drives that are accessible by others.** | Administrator | Annually |
| **Revise CEMP to address any identified gaps.** | Safety Committee Administrator | Upon completion of an exercise or real-world incident. |
| **Inventory emergency supplies (e.g., potable water, food, resident care supplies, communication devices,** | Chris Hosey, Supply clerk | Quarterly |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| batteries, flashlights, | | |

# 7 Authorities and References

This plan may be informed by the following authorities and references:

- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (Public Law 93-288, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 5121-5207)
- Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Emergency Management and Assistance
- Homeland Security Act (Public Law 107-296, as amended, 6 U.S.C. §§ 101 et seq.)
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive 5, 2003
- Post-Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act of 2006, 2006
- National Response Framework, January 2016
- National Disaster Recovery Framework, Second Edition, 2016
- National Incident Management System, 2017
- Presidential Policy Directive 8: National Preparedness, 2011
- CFR Title 42, Chapter IV, Subchapter G, Part 483, Subpart B, Section 483.73, 2016
- Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA) of 2006
- March 2018 DRAFT Nursing Home Emergency Operations Plan – Evacuation
- NYSDOH Healthcare Facility Evacuation Center Manual
- Nursing Home Incident Command System (NHICS) Guidebook, 2017
- Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) of 1996, Privacy Rule
- NYSDOH Healthcare Facility Evacuation Center Metropolitan Area Regional Office Region Facility Guidance Document for the 2017 Coastal Storm Season
- NFPA 99 – Health Care Facilities Code, 2012 edition and Tentative Interim Amendments 12-2, 12-3, 12-5, and 12-6
- NFPA 101 – Life Safety Code, 2012 edition and Tentative Interim Amendments 12-1, 12-2, 12-3, and 12-4
- NFPA 110 – Standard for Emergency and Standby Power Systems, 2010 edition and Tentative Interim Amendments to Chapter 7
- 10 NYCRR Parts 400 and 415
- NYS Exec. Law, Article 2-B
- Public Health Service Act (codified at 42 USC §§ 243, 247d, 247d-6b, 300hh-10(c)(3)(b), 311, 319)
- Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (Pub. L. No. 114-113, codified at 6 U.S.C.
  §§ 1501 et seq.)
- Chapter 114 of the Laws of New York 2020.

# Annex A: Protective Actions

The Incident Commander may decide to implement protective actions for an entire facility or specific populations within a facility. A brief overview of protective action options is outlined in **Table 11**. For more information, refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template*, *NYSDOH Healthcare Facility Evacuation Center Metropolitan Area Regional Office Region Facility Guidance Document for the 2018 Coastal Storm Season*, and the *NYSDOH Healthcare Facility Evacuation Center Manual*.

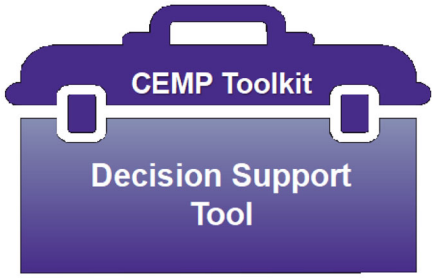



**Table 11: Protective Actions**

| Protective Action | Potential Triggers | Authorization |
|---|---|---|
| **Defend-in-Place** is the ability of a facility to safely retain all residents during an incident-related hazard (e.g., flood, severe weather, wildfire). | ▪ Unforeseen disaster impacts cause facility to shelter residents in order to achieve protection. | ▪ May be initiated by the Incident Commander **ONLY** in the absence of a mandatory evacuation order.<br>▪ Does not required NYSDOH approval. |
| **Shelter-in-Place** is keeping a small number of residents in their present location when the risks of relocation or evacuation exceed the risks of remaining in current location. | ▪ Disaster forecast predicts low impact on facility.<br>▪ Facility is structurally sound to withstand current conditions.<br>▪ Interruptions to clinical services would cause significant risk to resident health and safety. | ▪<br>▪ Can only be done for coastal storms. Requires pre-approval from NYSDOH prior to each hurricane season and re-authorization at time of the incident. |



| Protective Action | Potential Triggers | Authorization |
|---|---|---|

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | **Internal Relocation** is the movement of residents away from threat within a facility. | ▪ Need to consolidate staffing resources. ▪ Consolidation of mass care operations (e.g., clinical services, dining).<br>▪ Minor flooding.<br>▪ Structural damage.<br>▪ Internal emergency (e.g., fire).<br>▪ Temperature presents life safety issue. | ▪ Determined by facility based on safety factors.<br>▪ If this protective action is selected, the NYSDOH Regional Office must be notified. |
| | **Evacuation** is the movement of residents to an external location (e.g., a receiving facility) due to actual or anticipated unsafe conditions. | ▪ Mandatory or advised order from authorities.<br>▪ Predicted hazard impact threatens facility capacity to provide safe and secure shelter conditions.<br>▪ Structural damage.<br>▪ Emergency and standby power systems failure resulting in facility inability to maintain suitable temperature. | ▪ Refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template.* |
| | **Lockdown** is a temporary sheltering technique used to limit exposure of building occupants to an imminent hazard or threat. When "locking down," building occupants will shelter inside a room and prevent access from the outside. | ▪ <br>▪ Presence of an active threat (e.g., active shooter, bomb threat, suspicious package). Direction from law enforcement. | ▪ Determined by facility based on the notification of an active threat on or near the facility premises. |

# Annex B: Resource Management

## 1. Preparedness

Additionally, the facility maintains an inventory of emergency resources and corresponding suppliers/vendors, for supplies that would be needed under all hazards, including:
Generators

- Fuel for generators
- Food and water for a minimum of 72 hours for staff and residents
- Disposable dining supplies and food preparation equipment and supplies
- Medical and over-the-counter pharmaceutical supplies
- Personal protective equipment (PPE), as determined by the specific needs for each hazard
- Emergency lighting, cooling, heating, and communications equipment
- Resident movement equipment (e.g., stair chairs, bed sleds, lifts)
- Durable medical equipment (e.g., walkers, wheelchairs, oxygen, beds)
- Linens, gowns, privacy plans
- Housekeeping supplies, disinfectants, detergents
- Resident specific supplies (e.g., identification, medical risk information, medical records, physician orders, Medication Administration Records, Treatment Administration Records, Contact Information Sheet, last 72 hours of labs, x-rays, nurses' notes, psychiatric notes, doctor's progress notes, Activities of Daily Living (ADL) notes, most recent History and Physical (H&P), clothing, footwear, and hygiene supplies)
- Administrative supplies

The facility's resource inventory will be updated annually to ensure that adequate resource levels are maintained, and supplier/vendor contact information is current.

## 2. Resource Distribution and Replenishment

During an incident, the Incident Commander—or Logistics Section Chief, if activated—will release emergency resources to support operations. The Incident Commander—or Operations Section Chief, if activated—will ensure the provision of subsistence needs.
The Incident Commander—or Planning Section Chief, if activated—will track the status of resources used during the incident. When defined resource replenishment thresholds are met, the Planning Section Chief will coordinate with appropriate staff to replenish resources, including:

- Procurement from alternate or nontraditional vendors
- Procurement from communities outside the affected region
- Resource substitution
- Resource sharing arrangements with mutual aid partners
- Request for external stockpile support from healthcare associations, local emergency management.

# 3. Resource Sharing

In the event of a large-scale or regional emergency, the facility may need to share resources with mutual aid partners or healthcare facilities in the community, contiguous geographic area, or across a larger region of the state and contiguous states as indicated.

# 4. Emergency Staffing

## 4.1. Off-Duty Personnel

If off-duty personnel are needed to support incident operations, the facility will conduct the following activities in accordance with facility-specific employee agreements:

**Table 12: Off-Duty Personnel Mobilization Checklist**

| Off-Duty Personnel Mobilization Checklist | |
|---|---|
| | The senior most on-site facility official will confirm that mobilization of off-duty personnel is permissible (e.g., overtime pay). |
| | Once approved, Department Managers will be notified of the need to mobilize off-duty personnel. |
| | Off-duty personnel will be notified of the request and provided with instructions including:<br>▪ Time and location to report<br>▪ Assigned duties<br>▪ Safety information<br>▪ Resources to support self-sufficiency (e.g., water, flashlight) |
| | Once mobilized, off-duty staff will report for duty as directed. |
| | If staff are not needed immediately, staff will be requested to remain available by phone. |
| | To mobilize additional off-duty staff, the facility may need to provide additional staff support services (e.g., childcare, respite care, pet care). These services help to incentivize staff to remain on site during the incident, but also need to be carefully managed (e.g., reduce liability, manage expectations). |
| | See Staffing Plan |

## 4.2. Other Job Functions

In accordance with employment contracts, collective bargaining agreements, etc., an employee may be called upon to aid with work outside of job-prescribed duties, work in departments or carry out functions other than those normally assigned, and/or work hours

in excess of (or different from) their normal schedule. Unless temporarily permitted by an Executive Order issued by the Governor under section 29-a of Executive Law, employees may not be asked to function out-of scope of certified or licensed job responsibilities.
The Incident Management Team will request periodic updates on staffing levels (available and assigned). In addition to deploying clinical staff as needed for resident care activities, non-medical assignments from the labor pool may include:

- Security augmentation
- Runners / messengers
- Switchboard support
- Clerical or ancillary support
- Transportation
- Resident information, monitoring, and one-on-ones, as needed
- Preparing and/or serving meals, snacks, and hydration for residents, staff, visitors, and volunteers
- Cleaning and disinfecting areas, as needed
- Laundry services
- Recreational or entertainment activities
- Providing information, escorts, assistance, or other services to relatives and visitors
- Other tasks or assignments as needed within their skill set, training, and licensure/certification.

In accordance with employment contracts, collective bargaining agreements, etc., and at the determination of the Incident Commander, all or some staff members may be changed to 12-hour emergency shifts to maximize staffing. These shifts may be scheduled as around regular work hours, in six or 12-hour shifts, or as needed to meet facility emergency objectives.

## 4.3. Surge Staffing

If surge staffing is required—for example, staff has become overwhelmed—it may be necessary to implement surge staffing (e.g., staffing agencies).
The facility may coordinate with pre-established credentialed volunteers included in the facility roster or credentialed volunteers associated with programs such as Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), and ServNY.
The facility will utilize emergency staffing as needed and as identified and allowed under executive orders issued during a given hazard/emergency.

# Annex C: Emergency Power Systems

## 1. Capabilities

In the event of an electrical power disruption causing partial or complete loss of the facility's primary power source, the facility is responsible for providing alternate sources of energy for staff and residents (e.g., generator).
In accordance with the facility's plans, policies, and procedures,[13] the facility will ensure provision of the following subsistence needs through the activation, operation, and maintenance of permanently attached onsite generators:

- Maintain temperatures to protect resident health and safety and for the safe and sanitary storage of provisions;
- Emergency lighting;
- Fire detection and extinguishing, and alarm systems;

Sewage and waste disposal.

## 2. Resilience and Vulnerabilities

Onsite generators and associated equipment and supplies are located, installed, inspected, tested, and maintained in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) codes and standards.
In extreme circumstances, incident-related damages may limit generator and fuel source accessibility, operability, or render them completely inoperable. In these instances, an urgent or planned evacuation will be considered if a replacement generator cannot be obtained in a timely manner.

[13] CMS requires healthcare facilities to accommodate any additional electrical loads the facility determines to be necessary to meet all subsistence needs required by emergency preparedness plans, policies, and procedures. It is up to each facility to make emergency power system decisions based on its risk assessment and emergency plan.

# Annex D: Training and Exercises

## 1. Training

To empower facility personnel and external stakeholders (e.g., emergency personnel) to implement plans, policies, and procedures during an incident, the facility will conduct the following training activities:

**Table 13: Training**

| Activity | Led By | Frequency |
|---|---|---|
| **Conduct comprehensive orientation to familiarize new staff members with the CEMP, including PEP specific plans, the facility layout, and emergency resources.** | Inservice Coordinator | Orientation held within 7 days of employment. |
| **Incorporate into annual educational update training schedule to ensure that all staff are trained on the use of the CEMP, including PEP specific plans, and core preparedness concepts.** | Inservice Coordinator | Monthly / Annually with Anniversary Date<br>Conducts drills |
| **Maintain records of staff completion of training.** | Rachel Fagiani, HR | On going |
| **Ensure that residents are aware appropriately of the CEMP, including PEP specific plans, including what to expect of the facility before, during, and after an incident.** | Director of Activities at Resident Council, Resident Council President to review. | Monthly , PRN<br><br>Repeat briefly at time of incident. |
| **Identify specific training requirements for individuals serving in Incident Management Team positions.** | Safety Committee | Quarterly |
| | | |

## 2. Exercises

To validate plans, policies, procedures, and trainings, the facility will conduct the following exercise activities:

Table 14: Exercises

| Activity | Led By | Frequency |
|---|---|---|
| **Conduct one operations-based exercise[9] (e.g., full-scale or functional exercise).** | Safety Committee | Bi-Annually |
| **Conduct one discussion-based exercise (e.g., tabletop exercise).** | Safety Committee | Every 6 months |

## 3. Documentation

### 3.1. Participation Records

In alignment with industry best practices for emergency preparedness, the facility will maintain documentation and evidence of course completion through Fiddlers Green attendance record, participation in drills and education.

### 3.2. After Action Reports

The facility will develop After Action Reports to document lessons learned from tabletop and full-scale exercises and real-world emergencies and to demonstrate that the facility has incorporated any necessary improvements or corrective actions.
After Action Reports will document what was supposed to happen; what occurred; what went well; what the facility can do differently or improve upon; and corrective action/improvement plan and associated timelines.

# Annex E: Infectious Disease/Pandemic Emergency

The circumstances of infectious disease emergencies, including ones that rise to the level of a pandemic, vary due to multiple factors, including type of biological agent, scale of exposure, mode of transmission and intentionally. Infectious disease emergencies can include outbreaks, epidemics and pandemics. The facility must plan effective strategies for

9 If a facility activates its CEMP due to a disaster, the facility is exempt from the operational exercise for the year ending November 15. A facility is only exempt if the event is fully documented, a post-incident after action review is conducted and documented, and the response strengths, areas for improvement, and corrective actions are documented and maintained for three (3) years. However, the secondary requirement for a tabletop exercise still applies.

responding to  all types of infectious diseases, including those that rise to the higher level of pandemic.

The following Infectious Disease/Pandemic Emergency Checklist outlines the hazard-specific preparedness, response, and recovery activities the facility should plan for that are unique to an incident involving infectious disease as well as those incidents that rise to the occasion of a pandemic emergency.  The facility should indicate for each checklist item, how they plan to address that task.

The Local Health Department (LHD) of each New York State county, maintains prevention agenda priorities compiled from community health assessments. The checklist items noted in this Annex include the identified LHD priorities and focus areas. Nursing homes should use this information in conjunction with an internal risk assessment to create their plan and to set priorities, policies and procedures.

This checklist also includes all elements required for inclusion in the facility's Pandemic Emergency Plan (PEP), as specified within the new subsection 12 of Section 2803, Chapter 114 of the Laws of 2020, for infectious disease events that rise to the level of a pandemic.

To assure an effective, comprehensive and compliant plan, the facility should refer to information in Annex K of the CEMP Toolkit, to fully understand elements in the checklist including the detailed requirements for the PEP.

A summary of the key components of the PEP requirements for pandemic situations is as follows:

- development of a Communication Plan,
- development of protection plans against infection for staff, residents, and families, including the maintenance of a 2-month (60 day) supply of infection control personal protective equipment and supplies (including consideration of space for storage), and
- A plan for preserving a resident's place in and/or being readmitted to a residential health care facility or alternate care site if such resident is hospitalized, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

Finally, any appendices and documents, such as regulations, executive orders, guidance, lists, contracts, etc. that the facility creates that pertain to the tasks in this Annex, and/or refers to in this Annex, should be attached to the corresponding Annex K of the CEMP Toolkit rather than attached here, so that this Annex remains a succinct plan of action.

| **Infectious Disease/Pandemic Emergency Checklist** | |
|---|---|
| **Preparedness Tasks for all Infectious Disease Events** | |
| Required | Provide staff education on infectious diseases (e.g., reporting requirements (see Annex K of the CEMP toolkit), exposure risks, symptoms, prevention, and infection control, correct use of personal protective equipment, regulations, including 10 NYCRR 415.3(i)(3)(iii), |

| | |
|---|---|
| | 415.19, and 415.26(i); 42 CFR 483.15(e) and 42 CFR § 483.80), and Federal and State guidance/requirements<br><br>The facility Infection Preventionist (IP) in conjuction with QA Director/designee will provide education on Infection Prevention and management upon the hiring of new staff as well as ongoing education on an annual basis or as needed should a facility experience an outbreak of an infectious disease.<br><br>*The IP or designee will conduct an annual competency based education on hand hygiene and donning/doffing of PPE for all staff.*<br><br>The IP and or the QA Director/Desginee will provide in-servicing for all staff on infection prevention policies and procedures as needed.<br>Refer to Policy and Procedure : Infection Prevention and training |
| Required | Develop/Review/Revise and Enforce existing infection prevention, control, and reporting policies.<br><br>The facility will continue to review/revise and enforce existing infection prevention control and reporting policies.<br><br>The IP will update the Infection Control Manual annually or as needed due to or during an event.<br><br>The IP will as needed consult with local Epidemiologist to ensure that any new regulations and/or areas of concern related to Infection Prevention and Control are incorporated into the Facilities Infection Control Prevention Plan. |
| Recommended | Conduct routine/ongoing, infectious disease surveillance that is adequate to identify background rates of infectious diseases and detect significant increases above those rates. This will allow for immediate identification when rates increase above these usual baseline levels.<br><br>The QAPI committee will review all resident infections as well as usage of antibiotics on a monthly basis to identify any trends and areas for improvement |
| Recommended | Develop/Review/Revise plan for staff testing/laboratory services<br><br>The facility will continue to review/revise and enforce existing infection prevention control and reporting policies.<br><br>The IP will as needed consult with local Epidemiologist to ensure that any new regulations and/or areas of concern related to Infection Prevention and Control are incorporated into the Facilities Infection Control Prevention Plan. |

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| Required | Review and assure that there is, adequate facility staff access to communicable disease reporting tools and other outbreak specific reporting requirements on the Health Commerce System (e.g., Nosocomial Outbreak Reporting Application (NORA), HERDS surveys<br><br>The facility has access to HPN, all roles are assigned and updated as needed for reporting to NYSDOH.<br><br>The following staff members have access to HERDS: Administrator, Asst Admin, ADON, DON |
| Required | Develop/Review/Revise internal policies and procedures, to stock up on medications, environmental cleaning agents, and personal protective equipment as necessary. (Include facility's medical director, Director of Nursing, Infection Control Practitioner, safety officer,<br>human resource director, local and state public health authorities, and others as appropriate in the process)<br><br>The IDT Disciplinary Team (IDT) in conjunction with the Medical Director and pharmacy will review policies for stocking needed supplies.<br><br>The facility is contracted with pharmacy vendor to arrange for supply of residents medications to be delivered should there be a Pandemic Emergency.<br><br>The facility has established par levels for approved PPE equipment and supplies to include approved environmental cleaning agents based on pandemic usage.<br>Refer to the following policies:<br><br>PPE<br><br>Environmental Cleaning Agents<br><br>Vendor List (Mutual Aid ) |
| Recommended | Develop/Review/Revise administrative controls (e.g., visitor policies, employee absentee plans, staff wellness/symptoms monitoring, human resource issues for employee leave).<br><br>All sick calls will be monitored by department heads to identify any staff pattern or cluster of symptoms associated with infectious agent. The HR manager in conjunction the IP will keep a line of sick calls and reported during morning meetings.<br><br>Visitors will be informed of any visiting restriction related to an infection Pandemic and visitation restrictions will be enforced.<br><br>A contingency staffing plan is in place that identifies the staffing needs and prioritizes critical and non-essential services, based on resident needs and essential facility operations. |

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| | Refer to the following policies:<br><br>Visitation guidelines during pandemic<br><br>Staff Screening and monitoring during pandemic<br><br>Staffing Plan |
| Required | Develop/Review/Revise environmental controls (e.g., areas for contaminated waste)<br>Areas of contaminated waste are clearly identified as per NYSDOH guidelines.<br>The Director of Plant Operations or designee shall follow all rules for handling contaminated waste. The onsite storage of waste shall be labeled and in accordance with all regulations.<br>The facility will amend the Policy and Procedure on Bio hazardous waste as needed.<br>*Refer to Policy and Procedure on Handling of Biohazardous Waste Material* |
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| Required | Develop/Review/Revise vendor supply plan for re-supply of food, water, medications, other supplies, and sanitizing agents.<br>The facility currently has a 3-4 days supply of food and water available,This is monitored on a quarterly basis to ensure that it is intact and safely stored.<br>The facility has adequate supply of stock medications<br>The facility has access to a minimum of 2 weeks supply of needed cleaning/sanitizing agents in accordance with storage and NFPA/local guidance.<br>The supply levels will be checked as needed for shortages |
| Required | Develop/Review/Revise facility plan to ensure that residents are isolated/cohorted and or transferred based on their infection status in accordance with applicable NYSDOH and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance<br>Residents are isolated/cohorted based on their infection status in accordance with applicable NYSDOH and Centers for Disease Control guidance.<br>The IP maintains communication with Local Epidemiologist, NYS DOH, and CDC to ensure that all guidelines and updates are being adhered to with respect to Infection Prevention.<br>The Cohort will be divided into three groups: Yellow Zone, Green Zone, and Red Zone<br>The resident will have a comprehensive care plan developed indicating their Cohort Group and specific interventions needed.<br>*Refer to Policy and Procedure on Cohorting* |
| Recommended | Develop plans for cohorting, including using of a part of a unit, dedicated floor, or wing in the facility or a group of rooms at the end of the unit, and discontinuing any sharing of a |

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| | bathroom with residents outside the cohort.<br><br>The facility dedicated a wing or group of rooms at the end of the hall on the designated unit in order to cohort residents.<br><br>This area is clearly marked as isolation area.<br><br>Appropriate transmission-based precautions will be adhered to for each of the cohort groups as stipulated ny NYS DOH<br><br>Staff will be educated on specific requirements for each Cohort Group<br><br>Residents that require transfer to another Health Care Provider will have their Cohort status communicated to provider and transporter and clearly documented on the transfer paper work.<br><br>All attempts will be made to have dedicated caregivers assigned to each Cohort group and to minimize the number of different caregivers assigned.<br>• *Refer to the following Policy and Procedure:*<br>• *Cohorting Guidelines during a Pandemic*<br>*Transferring Residents with Infection Diseases* |
| Recommended | Develop/Review/Revise a plan to ensure social distancing measures can be put into place where indicated<br><br>The facility will review/revise the Policy on Communal Dining Guidelines and Recreational Activities during a Pandemic to ensure that Social Distancing is adhered to in accordance with State and CDC guidance.<br>The facility will review/revise the Policy on Recreational Activities during a Pandemic to ensure that Social Distancing is adhered to in accordance with State and CDC guidelines.<br>The facility will ensure that staff break rooms allow for social distancing of staff.<br>All staff will be re-educated on these updates as needed.<br>• *Refer to the following Policy and Procedure:*<br>• *Communal Dining*<br>*Recreation Needs during a Pandemic* |
| Recommended | Develop/Review/Revise a plan to recover/return to normal operations when, and as specified by, State and CDC guidance at the time of each specific infectious disease or pandemic event e.g., regarding how, when, which activities /procedures /restrictions may be eliminated, restored and the timing of when those changes may be executed<br>The facility will adhere to directives as specified by, State and CDC guidance at the time of each specific infectious disease or pandemic event e.g., regarding how, when, which activities/procedures/restrictions may be eliminated, restored and the timing of when those changes may be executed.<br>The facility will maintain communication with the local NYS DOH and CMS and follow |

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| | guidelines for returning to normal operations. The decision for outside vendors/consults will be made on a case to case basis.<br>During the recovery period, residents and staff will continue to be monitored daily in order to identify any symptoms that could be related to the infectious agent.<br>• Refer to the following Policy and Procedure:<br>• Staff Monitoring during a Pandemic Emergency<br>Resident Monitoring during the Recovery phase of a Pandemic Emergency |
| | |
| | |
| **Additional Preparedness Planning Tasks for Pandemic Events** | |
| Required | ***In accordance with PEP requirements,*** Develop/Review/Revise a Pandemic Communication Plan that includes all required elements of the PEP<br>The Administrator in conjunction with the Social Service Director and Medical Records Director will ensure that there is an accurate list of each resident's Representative, and preference for type of communication.<br>Communication of a pandemic includes utilizing established Staff Contact List to notify all staff members in all departments<br>The facility will update website on the identification of any infectious disease outbreak.<br>*Refer to Policy and Procedure:*<br>• *Communication with Residents and Families During Pandemic*<br>• *Resident Representative/Contact information*<br>*Refer to Staff Contact List located in EPP* |
| Required | ***In accordance with PEP requirements,*** Development/Review/Revise plans for protection of staff, residents and families against infection that includes all required elements of the PEP.<br>Education of staff, residents, and representatives<br>Screening of residents<br>Screening of staff<br>Visitor Restriction as indicated and in accordance with NYSDOH and CDC<br>Proper use of PPE<br>Cohorting of Residents and Staff<br>*Refer to Prevention and Control Policy and Procedures* |
| | |
| | |
| **Response Tasks for all Infectious Disease Events:** | |

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| Recommended | The facility will implement the following procedures to obtain and maintain current guidance, signage, advisories from the NYSDOH and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on disease-specific response actions, e.g., including management of residents and staff suspected or confirmed to have disease:<br><br>The IP/Designee will ensure that appropriate signage is visible in designated areas.<br>The IP/Designee will ensure that clearly posted signs for cough etiquette, hand washing, and other measures in high visibility areas.<br>*Refer to CDC website for Signage download* |
| Required | The facility will assure it meets all reporting requirements for suspected or confirmed communicable diseases as mandated under the New York State Sanitary Code (10 NYCRR 2.10 Part 2), as well as by 10 NYCRR 415.19. (see Annex K of the CEMP toolkit |

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| | |
| Required | The facility will assure it meets all reporting requirements of the Health Commerce System, e.g. HERDS survey reporting<br><br>The DON will report communicable diseases via the NORA reporting system on the HCS<br>The DON will report communicable diseases via the NORA reporting systems on the HCS<br>The facility will contact the NYSDOH regional epidemiologist or the NYSDOH Central Office Healthcare Epidemiology and Infection Control Program for general questions and guidance |
| Recommended | The Infection Control Practitioner will clearly post signs for cough etiquette, hand washing, and other hygiene measures in high visibility areas. Consider providing hand sanitizer and face/nose masks, if practical.<br>*Refer to Guidance, Signage, Advisories* |
| Recommended | The facility will implement the following procedures to limit exposure between infected and non-infected persons and consider segregation of ill persons, in accordance with any applicable NYSDOH and CDC guidance, as well as with facility infection control and prevention program policies<br><br>The facility will implement the following procedures to limit exposure between infected and non-infected persons and consider segregation of ill persons, in accordance with any applicable NYSDOH and CDC guidance, as well as with facility infection control and prevention program:<br>• Cohort residents according to their infection status<br>• Monitor residents to identify symptoms associated with infectious agent<br>• Units will be quarantined in accordance with NYSDOH and CDC guidance and every effort will be made to cohort staff. |

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|---|---|
| | • Facility will follow all guidance from NYSDOH regarding visitation, communal dining, and activities<br>• Facility will educate staff as needed and ongoing<br>• Facility will centralize and limit entryways to ensure all persons entering the building are screened<br>• Hand sanitizer will be available on entrance to the facility |
| Recommended | The facility will implement the following procedures to ensure that as much as is possible, separate staffing is provided to care for each infection status cohort, including surge staffing strategies:<br><br>*Refer to Policy and Procedure on Cohorting* |
| Recommended | The facility will conduct cleaning/decontamination in response to the infectious disease in accordance with any applicable NYSDOH, EPA and CDC guidance, as well as with facility policy for cleaning and disinfecting of isolation rooms.<br><br>The facility will conduct cleaning/decontamination in response to infectious disease utilizing cleaning and disinfection product/agent specific to infectious disease/organism in accordance with any applicable NYSDOH, and CDC guidance |
| Required | The facility will implement the following procedures to provide residents, relatives, and friends with education about the disease and the facility's response strategy at a level appropriate to their interests and need for information<br><br>The facility will implement procedures to provide residents, relatives, and, friends with education about the disease and the facility's response strategy at a level appropriate to their interests and need for information.<br><br>All residents will receive updated information on the infective agent, mode of transmission, requirements to minimize transmission, and all changes that wil affect their daily routines.<br><br>*Refer to Policy and Procedure on Communication During a Pandemic* |
| Recommended | The facility will contact all staff, vendors, other relevant stakeholders on the facility's policies and procedures related to minimizing exposure risks to residents<br><br>The facility will contact all staff including Agencies, vendors, other relevant stakeholders on the facility's policies and procedures related to minimizing exposure risk to residents and staff.<br><br>Consultants that service the residents in the facility were notified and arrangements made for telehealth, remote chart review, or evaluating medically necessary services until the recovery phase according to State and CDC guidelines. |
| Required | Subject to any superseding New York State Executive Orders and/or NYSDOH guidance that may otherwise temporarily prohibit visitors, the facility will advise visitors to limit visits to reduce exposure risk to residents and staff.<br><br>If necessary, and in accordance with applicable New York State Executive Orders and/or |

| | |
|---|---|
| | NYSDOH guidance, the facility will implement the following procedures to close the facility to new admissions, limit visitors when there are confirmed cases in the community and/or to screen all permitted visitors for signs of infection:<br><br>Subject to any superseding NYS EO and/or NYSDOH guidance that may otherwise temporarily prohibit visitors, the facility will advise visitors and vendors to limit/discontinue visits to reduce exposure risk to residents and staff.<br>Emergency Staff including EMS will be informed of required PPE to enter facility<br>Vendors will be directed to drop off needed supplies and deliveries in a designated area to avoid entering the building.<br>The facility will implement closing the facility to new admissions in accordance with any NYSDOH directives relating to disease transmission.<br>Refer to Policy and Procedure:<br>• *Visitation during a Pandemic*<br>*Limited services during a Pandemic* |
| | |
| | |
| **Additional Response Tasks for Pandemic Events**: | |
| Recommended | Ensure staff are using PPE properly (appropriate fit, don/doff, appropriate choice of PPE per procedures)<br><br>The facility has an implemented Respiratory Protection Plan.<br>Appropriate signage shall be posted at all entry points, and on each unit indicating the type of transmission- based precautions that are needed.<br>Staff members will receive re-education and have competency done on the donning and doffing of PPE.<br>Infection control rounds will be made by the IDT to monitor compliance with proper use of PPE<br>The facility has a designated person to ensure adequate and available PPE is accessible on all shifts and staff are educated to report any PPE issues to their immediate Supervisor. |

| | |
|---|---|
| Required | ***In accordance with PEP requirements,*** the facility will follow the following procedures to post a copy of the facility's PEP, in a form acceptable to the commissioner, on the facility's public website, and make available immediately upon request:<br>The Facility will post a copy of the facility's PEP in a form acceptable to the commissioner on the facility's public website and make available immediately upon request.<br>The PEP plan will be available for review and kept in the Administrators office. |
| Required | **In accordance with PEP requirements,** the facility will utilize the following methods to update authorized family members and guardians of infected residents (i.e., those infected with a pandemic-related infection) at least once per day and upon a change in a resident's |

| | |
|---|---|
| | condition: The facility will utilize Repticity to update families via phone call, text, email whichever is preference of family members.<br><br>The facility will communicate with Residents, Representatives as per their preference i.e., Email, text messaging, calls/robocalls and document all communication preference in the EMR.<br><br>Representatives will be notified:<br><br>• Of residents that are infected will be notified daily by Nursing staff as to the residents status<br>• any change in condition<br>• Weekly on the status of the pandemic at the facility including the number of pandemic infections<br>• Number of cases and deaths in the facility unless they verbalize that they do not wish to be notified<br><br>The website will be updated indicating any newly confirmed cases and/or deaths related to the infectious agent<br><br>All residents will be provided with access to communicate with their representatives via video conferencing, telephone calls, and/or email.<br><br>*Refer to Policy and Procedure Change in Condition*<br><br>*Communication with Residents and Families during a Pandemic* |
| Required | ***In accordance with PEP requirements***, the facility will implement the following procedures/methods to ensure that all residents and authorized families and guardians are updated at least once a week on the number of pandemic-related infections and deaths at the facility, including residents with a pandemic-related infection who pass away for reasons other than such infection: The facility will utilize Repticity to update families via phone call, text, email whichever is preference of family members<br><br>*See above section* |
| Required | ***In accordance with PEP requirements***, the facility will implement the following mechanisms to provide all residents with no cost daily access to remote videoconference or equivalent communication methods with family members and guardians: Facility will continue to provide video access to their families at no cost.<br><br>The facility will implement the following process/procedures to assure hospitalized residents will be admitted or readmitted to such residential health care facility or alternate care site after treatment, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations including but not limited to 10 NYCRR 415.3(i)(3)(iii), 415.19, and 415 (i); and 42 CFR 483.15(e)<br><br>Prior to Admission/readmission the DON/designee will review hospital records to determine resident needs and the facilitys ability to provide care including cohorting and treatment needs.<br><br>*Refer to Policy and Procedure for Admission/readmission* |
| Required | ***In accordance with PEP requirements,*** the facility will implement the following process/procedures to assure hospitalized residents will be admitted or readmitted to such |

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|---|---|
| | residential health care facility or alternate care site after treatment, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, including but not limited to 10 NYCRR 415.3(i)(3)(iii), 415.19, and 415.26(i); and 42 CFR 483.15(e):<br>The facility will implement processes to preserve a resident's place in a residential health care facility if such resident is hospitalized, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations including but nit limited to 18 NYCRR 505.9(d)(6) and 42 CFR 483.15(e)<br>*Refer to Policy and Procedure for Bed Holds* |
| Required | ***In accordance with PEP requirements,*** the facility will implement the following process to preserve a resident's place in a residential health care facility if such resident is hospitalized, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations including but not limited to 18 NYCRR 505.9(d)(6) and 42 CFR 483.15(e):<br>*Refer to Policy and Procedure for Bed Holds* |
| Required | ***In accordance with PEP requirements,*** the facility will implement the following planned procedures to maintain or contract to have at least a two-month (60-day) supply of personal protective equipment (including consideration of space for storage) or any superseding requirements under New York State Executive Orders and/or NYSDOH regulations governing PPE supply requirements executed during a specific disease outbreak or pandemic. As a minimum, all types of PPE found to be necessary in the COVID pandemic should be included in the 60-day stockpile.<br>This includes, but is not limited to:<br>– N95 respirators<br>– Face shield<br>– Eye protection<br>– Gowns/isolation gowns<br>– Gloves<br>– Masks<br>– Sanitizer and disinfectants (meeting EPA Guidance current at the time of the pandemic)<br>*Refer to Policy and Procedure on securing PPE*<br>*Refer to Vendor Contract list, including information for local and State OEM* |
| | Facility will store PPE that is longer than one week in secondary business office location on the premises.<br>*Refer to Policy and Procedure on securing PPE*<br>*Refer to Vendor Contract list, including information for local and State OEM* |
| | |
| | |
| **Recovery for all Infectious Disease Events** | |

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| Required | The facility will maintain review of, and implement procedures provided in NYSDOH and CDC recovery guidance that is issued at the time of each specific infectious disease or pandemic event, regarding how, when, which activities/procedures/restrictions may be eliminated, restored and the timing of when those changes may be executed.<br><br>*Refer to CDC guidelines and recommendations and NYS DAL* |
| Required | The facility will communicate any relevant activities regarding recovery/return to normal operations, with staff, families/guardians and other relevant stakeholders<br><br>The facility will ensure that during the recovery phase all residents and staff will be monitored and tested to identify any developing symptoms related to the infectious agent in accordance with State and CDC guidance.<br><br>The facility will screen and test outside consultants that re-enter the facilty, as per the NYS DOH guidelines during the recovery phase.<br><br>*Refer to Policy and Procedure Staff Testing during Pandemic* |

Niagara Rehabilitation
822 Cedar Ave
Niagara Falls, NY 14301

www.niagararehab.com

# Introduction

This Toolkit Template is meant to supplement the Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) Template to help facilities develop and implement their CEMP. Annex K has been updated to include guidance and format to comply with the new requirements of Chapter 114 of the Laws of 2020 for the development of a Pandemic Emergency Plan (PEP). This document provides a compendium of resources to help empower staff engaged in facility preparedness, response, and recovery operations. Templates and tools should be reviewed and updated on a regular basis.
Refer to *Part 1 – Instructions* for additional information about completion of this template.

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# 1. Facility Overview

The facility overview provides an immediate reference sheet about each facility (or individual buildings within a facility's campus) for use when communicating with external parties during an emergency (e.g., law enforcement, fire department, emergency management officials). **Table 1: Facility Overview**

| LOCATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION | |
|---|---|
| **Name of Facility** | Niagara Rehabilitation |
| **Address** | 822 Cedar Ave |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Cross Streets** | |
| **Telephone** | 716-282-1207 |
| **Fax** | 716-282-8589 |
| **Email** | info@niagararehab.com |
| **Website** | www.niagararehab.com |
| **CONSTRUCTION** | |
| **Construction Type** | brick |
| **Year Building Constructed** | 1975 |
| **Number of Floors (above/below grade)** | 4 |
| **Square Footage** | 44,660 |

| | |
|---|---|
| **CAPACITY AND STAFFING** | |
| **Non-Traditional Surge Space** | 16 |
| **Number of Facility-Owned Vehicles (including accessible spots/seats)10** | 1 |
| **UTILITY AND SERVICE PROVIDERS** | |
| **Electric Provider** | **Ferguson Electric-**716-853-3321 |
| **Local Water Provider** | **Niagara Falls Water**-716-283-9770 |
| **Telephone Provider** | **Lagacy VOIP** 240-575-6890 |
| **Internet Service Provider** | **Spectrum** |
| **Generator Services** | Penn Power Group 716-822-0051 |
| **Propane** | NA |
| **Plumbing** | HW Brick and Son 716-297-2901 |
| **Elevator** | Thyssen Krupp-716-681-7900 |
| **HVAC Equipment** | O'Conner Mechanical Corp 716-824-2100 |
| **Fire Equipment/Sprinklers** | All State Fire 716-783-9670 |

10 This field is intended to capture number of vehicles, including accessibility level (e.g., number of wheelchair accessible spots, number of seats).

# 2. Hazard Vulnerability Analysis

## 2.1. HVA Tools

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) requires healthcare facilities to conduct annual facility-specific risk assessments to identify and assess potential hazards and their impacts. HVAs are used to estimate the hazards (and associated risks) that are most likely to occur and/or may affect a facility's ability to maintain operations and services. The results of the analysis can be used to prioritize planning, mitigation, response, and recovery projects and initiatives.
Below are example HVA tools that facilities can use to conduct a facility-specific HVA. Facilities can modify the tools to suit their needs.

**Table 2: Example HVA Tools**

| Tool Name | Description |
|---|---|
| **Kaiser Permanente HVA Tool**[11] | An excel spreadsheet with incorporated formulas which provide the user with relative risk percentages and summary information. |
| **Children's Hospital Colorado, Community Hazard Vulnerability Assessment Tool** | An excel spreadsheet with incorporated formulas which provide the user with relative risk percentages and summary information. The tool includes capabilities throughout the four phases of emergency management (mitigation, preparedness, response, recovery) as a factor in calculating risk. |
| **U.S. Department of Health and** | An excel spreadsheet that guides facilities through the hazard analysis |

11 The Kaiser Permanente HVA Tool (2017) is available at https://www.calhospitalprepare.org/sites/main/files/fileattachments/kp_incident_log_hva_template.xlsb.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Human Services, Healthcare and Public Health Sector Threat/Hazard Assessment Module Automated Tool** | process through a series of guided questions. After completing all the questions, the tool provides a comprehensive list of risks associated with each hazard. |

## 2.2. HVA Process

The following outlines the process and recommendations for conducting a facility-specific HVA:

### 2.2.1. Convene Staff with Facility-Specific Knowledge

Conducting an HVA requires an in-depth knowledge of facility preparedness and response capabilities. In addition, understanding the capabilities of response partners is another important piece of completing an HVA. As a result, staff possessing this knowledge should be involved in the HVA process, including:

- Facility Senior Leader
- Lead Clinical Staff
- Head of Administration/Finance
- Communications Staff

Completing the HVA can be done by a single knowledgeable staff member or as a collaborative process with multiple staff members. For example, multiple staff members can complete an individual HVA, then they can be compared to validate each assessment and a consensus can be reached using the variety of assessments.

### 2.2.2. Identify Facility-Specific Hazards

In order to complete an HVA, staff must know the hazards which might affect their facility. The list of hazards can be developed through a variety of means, including:

- Historical knowledge of hazards
- Subjective predictions of hazards
- Using predetermined hazards in HVA tools
- Using local emergency plans to determine hazards (also known as a “community-based assessment”). Examples of these plans, which can be obtained from your Local Office of Emergency Management, include:
  - Hazard Mitigation Plans
  - Emergency Operations Plans
  - Threat and Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment

### 2.2.3. Assess Hazards

The risk each hazard poses to the facility is determined through a variety of factors. The table below presents each factor and the considerations to make when evaluating them. **Table 3: HVA Considerations**

| Hazard Factor | Considerations |
|---|---|
| **Probability** | ▪ Current local and regional plans<br>▪ Manufacturer/vendor statistics<br>▪ Subjective evaluations or best estimate |
| **Human Impact** | ▪ Potential for staff, resident, or visitor injury or death<br>▪ Emotional or psychological impact<br>▪ Local cultural norms |
| **Property Impact** | ▪ Cost to replace<br>▪ Cost to set up temporary replacement<br>▪ Cost to repair<br>▪ Time to recover |
| **Business Impact** | ▪ Business interruption<br>▪ Staff unable to report to work<br>▪ Violation of contractual agreements, regulatory standards<br>▪ Interruption of critical supplies<br>▪ Reputation and public image<br>▪ Financial impact or burden |
| **Preparedness** | ▪ Status of current plans<br>▪ Staff training completion status<br>▪ Availability of alternate sources for critical resources |
| **Internal Response** | ▪ Emergency resource levels<br>▪ Durability/longevity of resources (without replenishment)<br>▪ Internal resources ability to withstand disasters<br>▪ Availability of backup systems |
| **External Response** | ▪ Types of agreements with community agencies<br>▪ Relationship with local and state agencies<br>▪ Relationship with local healthcare facilities<br>▪ Relationship with community volunteers<br>▪ Vendor pre-incident response plans and contracts |

# 3. Activation Checklist

Any incident large or small can warrant the activation of the CEMP and the processes contained within. This checklist describes the activities that should take place whenever the CEMP is activated and the position that is responsible. Additional facility specific processes can be added into the checklist.

**Table 3: Activation Checklist**

| Task | | Completed By |
|---|---|---|
| | Upon notification of hazard or threat from staff, residents, or visitors, activate the CEMP. | Administrator |
| | Activate the Communications Plan. | Administrator |
| | Notify staff of CEMP activation and the hazard or threat through the [facility-specific system (e.g., mass notification system, switchboard operator, overhead paging system)]. | Andrea Howard<br>Medical Records |
| | Assess the potential or actual impact of the incident on residents, staff, and the facility. | Administrator |
| | Direct Incident Management Team to convene at designated Command Center location. | Administrator |
| | Based on the hazard and using the "Notification by Hazard Type" table in the CEMP, conduct required notifications. | ADON |
| | Set-up the facility's Command Center. *Refer to section below checklist for more information.* | Finance/Administration Section Chief and Logistics Section Chief |
| | Deliver briefing to Incident Management Team, and other staff as appropriate, on the incident including:<br>▪ Extent or impact of the problem (e.g., hazards, life safety concerns)<br>▪ Number of residents injured or affected<br>▪ Status of resident care and ancillary services<br>▪ Current and projected staffing levels<br>Status of facility plant, utilities, and environment of care. | Incident Commander |
| **Task** | | **Completed By** |
| | Develop an Incident Action Plan to establish goals and objectives to guide incident response throughout the next operational period. Operational period duration will be determined by Incident Commander (e.g., 12 hours, shift change). | Incident Commander |
| | Prepare and distribute position-specific checklists for the Incident Management Team to use during incident response. | Planning Section Chief |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| | Establish a meeting schedule for Incident Management Team to maintain situational awareness of incident and response operations. | Planning Section Chief |
| | Notify residents and their relatives or responsible parties of hazard information and response actions. | Public Information Officer |
| | Task facility staff with completing additional tasks to meet established response goals and objectives. | Incident Management Team |
| | Continue to collect information about incident and its current or projected impacts and perform position duties as assigned. | Incident Management Team |

## 3.1. Command Center

The facility Command Center serves as the central location for the Incident Management Team to conduct the following activities:

- Plan and execute emergency operations;
- Exchange information (e.g., briefings, check-in meetings); and
- Store incident-related documentation.

**Prior to an incident,** facilities should consider the following when identifying a primary and contingency location for the Command Center:

- Located within the facility (e.g., not off-site);
- Provide space for tables and chairs; and
- Provide access to computers/internet and communications equipment (e.g., landline telephones, cell phones).

**After an incident,** if the pre-identified locations are rendered unusable—or if incident conditions require the Command Center to be relocated—the facility can utilize nearby facilities, or if absolutely necessary, a vehicle to serve as an off-site, mobile Command Center.

# 4. Incident Management Team Position Checklists

The following checklists outline the responsibilities of each Incident Management Team position. They should be adapted as needed based on the internal policies and procedures of the facility.

## 4.1. Incident Commander

| INCIDENT COMMANDER | |
|---|---|
| | Activate the CEMP and necessary Incident Management Team positions. |
| | Analyze potential threats or hazards (e.g., weather forecast, law enforcement intelligence) and assess potential or impacts on residents, staff, and the facility. |
| | Brief the Incident Management Team on the nature of the problem, immediate issues, and the initial |

| | |
|---|---|
| | plan of action. |
| | Evaluate expected or actual facility damage and assign staff to conduct a thorough site assessment. |
| | In accordance with local plans or procedures, notify emergency management, law enforcement, and fire officials of incident conditions for situational awareness and to relay critical needs. |
| | Facilitate regular briefings to review the status of response operations. Request status reports from staff on resident health and safety. |
| | Observe the Incident Management Team for signs of stress and exhaustion and provide rest periods. |
| | Determine the appropriate protective action based on the presence of potential or actual hazards to resident safety and well-being. |
| | Share regular updates with residents and staff to maintain situational updates. |
| | Authorize procurement and distribution of resources. |

## 4.2. Public Information Officer

| PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER | |
|---|---|
| | Obtain briefing from Incident Commander. |
| | Draft initial message for notification of relatives and responsible parties regarding facility and resident status. |
| | Answer inquiries from residents' relatives and responsible parties, the general public, and the media and direct questions/requests to appropriate individuals. |
| | Develop and disseminate status updates to be reviewed and approved by the Incident Commander before dissemination to relatives and responsible parties, media, and the public. |
| | Provide guidance to other Incident Management Team members on the appropriate release of information to requesting entities. |
| | Develop regular status updates to keep staff informed of the incident and facility status. |
| | Assist in the development and distribution of signage as needed. |
| | Communicate concerns to the Incident Commander, as needed. |

## 4.3. Safety Officer

| SAFETY OFFICER | |
|---|---|
| | Obtain briefing from Incident Commander. |
| | Conduct site assessment to determine safety risks of the incident to residents, staff, and visitors. |
| | Document the treatment plan for injured or ill staff. |
| | Post non-entry signs around unsafe areas. |
| | Evaluate building or incident hazards and identify vulnerabilities. |
| | Assess operations and practices of staff, terminate any unsafe activity, and recommend corrective actions to ensure safety of residents, staff, and visitors. |
| | Direct laundry and housekeeping staff to:<br>▪ Ensure adequate supplies of linens, blankets, and pillows.<br>▪ Ensure emergency linens are available for soaking up spills and leaks. |
| | Direct food and dietary staff to:<br>▪ Provide and prepare food as needed during an emergency.<br>▪ Ensure gas appliances are turned off before evacuating. |
| | Submit resource requests to the Logistics Section Chief (if activated), as needed. |
| | Communicate concerns to the Incident Commander, as needed. |

## 4.4. Operations Section Chief

| OPERATIONS SECTION CHIEF | |
|---|---|
| | Obtain briefing from Incident Commander. |
| | Assign staff to assess the facility and resident well-being. |
| | Determine how facility services will continue as routinely as possible, including the provision of:<br>▪ Routine nursing services and documentation<br>▪ Medication dispersal per resident schedules. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | ▪ Routine hygienic and nutritional care for residents. |
| | Arrange for the provision of and/or documentation, transfer, and transportation critical medical services, such as dialysis and oxygen therapy, and emergency discharges for atrisk residents. |
| | Maintain resident and staff accountability. |
| | Secure resident records during shelter-in-place operations. |
| | Assess pharmacy supplies and contact pharmacy, as needed, to determine:<br>▪ Cancellation of deliveries.<br>▪ Availability of backup pharmacy.<br>▪ Availability of medical supplies. |
| | Evaluate staffing needs and activate additional staff, as needed. |
| | Direct nursing and rehabilitation staff to:<br>▪ Tend to physical and emotional needs of residents.<br>▪ Assist in clearing rooms and hallways, exits, etc.<br>▪ Support movement of residents during an evacuation. |
| | For receiving facility operations, ensure proper management of arriving residents and their records, including documentation of triage, treatment, and disposition of emergency admits. |
| | Document resident injuries (and action plan to ensure treatment) or deaths. |
| | Submit resource requests to the Logistics Section Chief (if activated), as needed. |
| | Communicate concerns to the Incident Commander, as needed. |

## 4.5. Planning Section Chief

| PLANNING SECTION CHIEF | |
|---|---|
| | Obtain briefing from Incident Commander. |
| | Document Incident Management Team position assignments and contact information for all positions. |
| | Assist Incident Commander with planning response actions for next operational period (e.g., shift). |
| | Ensure backup and protection of existing data including paper-based and digital systems. |
| | Maintain all historical information and records related to the incident. |
| | Submit resource requests to the Logistics Section Chief (if activated), as needed. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | Communicate concerns to the Incident Commander, as needed. |

## 4.6. Logistics Section Chief

| LOGISTICS SECTION CHIEF | |
|---|---|
| | Obtain briefing from Incident Commander. |
| | Distribute resource request forms to each Incident Management Team member. Document the request, use, return, and condition of resources used to respond. |
| | Ensure the following resources are mobilized, assigned, and tracked:<br>▪ Staff and Surge Support<br>▪ Emergency Supplies<br>▪ Communications Equipment<br>▪ Food and Water<br>▪ Transportation |
| | Document volunteer sign-in and sign-out for each operational period (e.g., shift). |
| | Request Incident Commander approval to activate mutual aid and vendor agreements for additional resources. |
| | Communicate concerns to the Incident Commander, as needed. |

## 4.7. Finance/Administration Section Chief

| FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION SECTION CHIEF | |
|---|---|
| | Obtain briefing from Incident Commander. |
| | Initiate protection of, or move/relocate facility records, as needed. |
| | Maintain incident cost tracking and analysis, including the documentation, retrieval, safeguarding and distribution of cash, credit card, and receipt/invoice processes. |
| | Document and track facility-wide personnel work hours worked relevant to the emergency. |
| | Contact insurance company to notify them of the incident and identify and document requirements for |

| | |
|---|---|
| | submitting damage/claim reports. |
| | Consult with government officials regarding reimbursement regulations, requirements, and forms. |
| | Approve and submit a financial status report to the Incident Commander summarizing costto-date financial data relative to personnel, supplies, and miscellaneous expenses. |
| | Ensure that required financial and administrative documentation is properly prepared and maintained. |
| | Process invoices received. |
| | Submit resource requests to the Logistics Section Chief (if activated), as needed. |
| | Communicate concerns to the Incident Commander, as needed. |

# 5. Demobilization Checklist

**Table 4: Demobilization Checklist**

| Tasks | |
|---|---|
| **Activate repatriation process.** | |
| | Refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template* for further guidance. |
| | Ensure compliance with all local and NYSDOH requirements regarding inspections, remediation actions, and conditions for approval of repatriation. |
| | Receive approval from NYSDOH to reopen the facility. |
| | Initiate repatriation plans and procedures. |
| **Deactivate IMT positions and surge staffing.** | |
| | Determine if there is an adequate number of facility personnel to meet remaining incident needs. |
| | Deactivate IMT positions that are no longer needed. |
| | Reduce surge staff (e.g., off-duty personnel, volunteers, contract support) and provide guidance on close-out procedures (e.g., where to submit documentation). |
| **Return or restore emergency resources.** | |
| | Estimate current and anticipated resource requirements. |
| | Determine which facility-owned resources need to be returned to storage locations in the facility; or |

| | |
|---|---|
| | replenished/repaired for future incidents. |
| | Determine processes for transitioning borrowed resources back to sending facility/provider. |
| | Reactivate normal services and operations. |
| | Determine when it is safe to resume normal operations after conferring with the local authority, NYSDOH Regional Office, fire department, law enforcement, public health, and/or any other response authority. |

| **Compile documentation for recordkeeping purposes.** | |
|---|---|
| | Collect and manage documentation related to: disaster-related expenses, property damage, direct operating costs, consequential loss, damaged or destroyed equipment, construction-related expenses. |
| | Conduct debriefings with staff and volunteers. |
| | Write an After-Action Report. |

# 6. Stakeholder Engagement

This tool describes the relationships facilities should strive to build with local response partners during pre-incident planning. Building a better relationship with these agencies will streamline incident response and information sharing. Trying to construct these relationships will be considerably more difficult during the middle of an incident.

## 6.1. County Office of Emergency Management

Forming a partnership with the County Office of Emergency Management is one of the more important relationships a facility can build within the community. Emergency management agencies are often the source of the most current and up to date information regarding incidents and hazards.

Establishing a line of communication with the local office of emergency management will help streamline critical information sharing and coordination with facilities. In addition, emergency management agencies can provide opportunities to better prepare for incidents through informational materials, trainings and exercises.

The following table outlines suggested action items for developing and maturing relationships with emergency management agencies.

**Table 5: Office of Emergency Management Engagement**

| Office of Emergency Management | |
|---|---|
| | Establish point of contact at the County Office of Emergency Management. (Note: A list of county-specific agencies is available at http://www.dhses.ny.gov/oem/contact/map.cfm) |
| | Clarify protocol and mechanisms for accessing information from the County Office of Emergency Management, including:<br>▪ Resource availability throughout the region<br>▪ Pre-determined location list<br>▪ Current available services and utilities<br>▪ Hazard forecasts<br>▪ Mass notification systems |
| | Understand jurisdiction's response processes and capabilities, including available resources and response priorities in a large disaster. |
| | Identify available opportunities for training and exercises with the County Office of Emergency Management. |
| **Office of Emergency Management** | |
| | Identify critical information that the facility should relay to the County Office of Emergency Management before and during a disaster (e.g., facility status, number of residents needing transport, or infrastructure status). |
| | Seek County Office of Emergency Management input on CEMP development. |

## 6.2. Fire Department and Law Enforcement

Enhancing relationships with first responder agencies are also critical to expediting the response process. These agencies will often be the first of the group to support facilities and relay critical incident information.
The following table outlines suggested action items for maturing relationships with fire department and law enforcement agencies.

**Table 6: Fire Department and Law Enforcement Engagement**

| Fire Department and Law Enforcement | |
|---|---|
| | Establish point of contact at fire department, emergency medical services, and law enforcement agency. |
| | Identify what critical information should be relayed to fire department, emergency medical services, and law enforcement agencies before, during, and after a disaster. |
| | Identify opportunities for training and exercises with fire department and law enforcement agencies. |
| | Solicit fire department and law enforcement agency input on recommendations to expedite response and recovery actions, including pre-staging equipment/resources, best ingress and egress from facility, and debris removal to restore emergency access. |

## 6.3. Other Stakeholders

### 6.3.1. Corporate / Parent Organization

If the facility is part of a larger multi-facility system, the facility should coordinate with its parent organization to ensure pre- and post-incident activities adhere to corporate policies, and to ensure the facility is appropriately empowered to execute incident management functions (e.g., permissions for external messaging, clarification of branding standards).

### 6.3.2. Community Stakeholders

Facilities are encouraged to build relationships with additional community stakeholders to assist with the disaster response and recovery. Some examples of the assistance that can be provided include volunteer support, surge staffing, and resources.
Community stakeholders may be different for every facility, but may include resource providers and vendors (e.g., transportation providers, fuel); local subject matter experts (e.g., engineering, finance and recovery, sustainability and mitigation); and volunteer resources.

The table below outlines potential volunteer resources that may be utilized to augment or

supplement facility staff and operations prior to, during, or after an emergency.

**Table 7: Volunteer Resources**

| Entity | Description and Skills |
|---|---|
| **ServNY** | Administered by the NYSDOH Office of Health Emergency Preparedness, ServNY is an online registration system for licensed healthcare professionals to volunteer when local and regional resources are exhausted. Volunteers are notified of staffing requests via phone or email. ServNY may also be activated by:<br>▪ County Office of Emergency Management submits a request to the New York State Office of Emergency Management, which sends the request to Emergency Support Function-8 State Health Desk, and then to the<br>▪ NYSDOH Emergency Preparedness; or<br>Direct order of the NYSDOH Commissioner or designee. |
| **Entity** | **Description and Skills** |
| **Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)**[12] | Community volunteers that are trained in disaster preparedness and basic disaster response skills. These skills include:<br>▪ Fire Suppression<br>▪ Simple Triage and Rapid Treatment<br>– Airway obstruction<br>– Bleeding<br>– Shock<br>– Basic first aid<br>– Establishing a medical treatment area<br>▪ Light Search and Rescue<br>▪ Team Organization |
| **Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)**[4] | MRC volunteers are imbedded in ServNY. Volunteers include practicing and retired medical and public health professionals. MRC volunteers can support response capabilities such as:<br>▪ Disaster medical support<br>▪ Health screenings<br>▪ Vaccination clinics<br>▪ Medical facility surge capacity<br>▪ Planning, logistical, and administrative support |

12 Facilities can locate their local CERT program at https://community.fema.gov/Register/Register_Search_Programs

4 Facilities can locate their local MRC program at https://mrc.hhs.gov/FindMRC

# 7. Communications Plan

A communications plan helps facilities maintain situational awareness throughout the duration of an incident and enables facilities to share information effectively across the organization, as well as with any external partners who may be supporting the response.

## 7.1. Objectives

- Ensure communication policies, roles, and activities are clearly defined and well-understood by staff.
- Ensure internal and external communications are accurate, timely, and informative.
- Provide frequent updates to residents, staff, relatives/responsible parties to mitigate concerns and manage expectations.
- Only share known/confirmed information (i.e., do not speculate).
- Utilize one unified voice to avoid confusion or misinformation.

## 7.2. Implementation

**Table 8: Communications Checklist**

| Communications Checklist | |
|---|---|
| **Preparedness** | |
| | Designate and train personnel to serve as Public Information Officer prior to an incident (i.e., during normal operations). Potential training courses include:<br>▪ FEMA IS-29: Public Information Officer Awareness (Free Online Course)<br>▪ FEMA IS-42: Social Media in Emergency Management (Free Online Course) |
| | Develop and refine pre-scripted messaging that can be tailored for incident use. |
| | Determine primary and redundant forms of communication:<br>▪<br>▪ Primary forms include landline-dependent communications such as telephones and cellphones. Redundant forms are not dependent on functioning landline communication (e.g., include two-way radios, satellite radios). |
| | Ensure multiple personnel have administrative access, training, and policies and procedures to the facility's website, social media accounts, and voicemail system. |
| **Communications Checklist** | |
| | Maintain up-to-date contact information for designated notification parties for all residents (e.g., relatives/responsible parties). |

| | |
|---|---|
| | |
| | Maintain up-to-date contact information for all staff. |
| | Clarify approval processes for internal and external messaging content (e.g., peer review, senior leader final approval). |
| **Incident Response** | |
| | Request an updated on the incident from the Incident Management Team:<br>▪ What happened?<br>▪ What is the status of residents and personnel?<br>▪ When will the incident be resolved? |
| | Inform internal audiences (e.g., personnel) about incident updates before informing external audiences. |
| | Provide office personnel (e.g., receptionist) with guidance on where to direct incoming inquiries (e.g., media, personnel, relatives/responsible parties, vendors). |
| | Maintain a log of incoming calls, including:<br>▪ Name of caller<br>▪ Name of publication or media source<br>▪ Phone number<br>▪ Email address<br>▪ General nature of inquiry and any deadlines |
| | Develop a press release (or official facility statement) to post on facility website and social media pages. |
| | Update the facility's voicemail recording to provide alternative contact information if the facility is evacuated and/or to field incoming inquiries. |

## 7.3. Pre-Scripted Messaging

Depending on the situation, numerous forms of alerts and warnings may be required to reach staff, residents, relatives and responsible parties, and the media.
It is vital to have several staff members who are solely responsible for fielding calls from residents' relatives and responsible parties and who are familiar with pre-scripted messaging usage. Only authorized spokespersons (e.g., Public Information Officer) should manage media and public inquiries.

### 7.3.1. Internal Pre-Scripted Messaging

To facilitate timely and effective communications, the following pre-scripted messaging templates have been developed for facilities to tailor for incident-specific messaging. During an incident, the facility will manage or coordinate the development and dissemination of these messages.

### Immediate Messaging

Please note that for incidents that pose an immediate threat to health or safety (e.g., active threat or fire), messaging should be short and direct (i.e., "Enter the nearest room and lock the door," or in the case of fire, "Evacuate the area immediately").

### CEMP Activation

The following message should be delivered to on-duty staff members who will assume Incident Management Team positions:

> *[Facility Name] is currently experiencing [Description of Conditions] caused by [Incident Name]. Emergency operations have begun in order to manage the incident.*
>
> *You are receiving this message because of your role on the Incident Management Team. Please report to [Location] immediately. Continue to monitor available communications channels for updates. Refrain from sharing this message or subsequent updates with the public.*
>
> *For more information, contact [Name, Title] via phone at [Phone Number] or by email at [Email Address].*

The following message should be delivered to off-duty staff members who will be needed to support incident operations:

> *[Facility Name] is currently experiencing [Description of Conditions] caused by [Incident Name]. Emergency operations have begun in order to manage the incident.*
>
> *You are receiving this message because of the need to request additional support for incident operations. Please report to [Location] at [Time]. Continue to monitor available communications channels for updates. Refrain from sharing this message or subsequent updates with the public.*
>
> *Please be prepared to bring [Resources to Support Self-Sufficiency] and [Include IncidentSpecific Safety Information].*
>
> *For more information, contact [Name, Title] via phone at [Phone Number] or by email at [Email Address].*

### Pre-Scripted Messaging for Residents

Resident care personnel are responsible for informing their residents of the incident. It is important to accommodate for the unique needs of each resident and provide messaging appropriate to each resident's level of understanding.

> *[Facility Name] is currently experiencing [Description of Conditions] caused by [Incident Name]. Please [Directions for residents (e.g., "ready yourself to evacuate"; "remain in your room"; "convene in the cafeteria")].*
>
> *If you have any questions or need anything, please call [Name, Title] at [Phone Number]. We will provide more information as it becomes available. Your safety is our top priority. Thank you for your patience.*

**Messaging to Staff about Evacuation to Receiving Facility**

> *[Facility Name] is currently experiencing [Description of Conditions] caused by [Incident Name]. Emergency operations are being established to manage the incident.*
>
> *The impacts of [Incident Name] are [Expected to cause or are causing] significant damage to the following areas: [List of Impacted Areas]*
>
> *For the health, safety, and well-being of residents, [Facility Name] will be evacuating residents to [Receiving Facility]. This facility is located at [Street Address].*

**Messaging to Residents about Evacuation to Receiving Facility**

> *Please ready yourself for evacuation. Staff will prepare and assist you. We will be aiding those with mobility issues. At the [Receiving Facility], you will receive food, water, shelter, and support services. We are notifying your relatives and responsible parties of the evacuation.*
>
> *For more information, please call [Name, Title] at [Number].*

## 7.3.2. External Pre-Scripted Messaging

**Voicemail Recording Website/Social Media Message**

> *[Facility Name] is currently experiencing [Description of Conditions] caused by [Incident Name]. Emergency operations have been initiated to manage the incident. [Provide high level information on residents' status]. We are taking extensive actions to protect residents. [For your safety and that of others, please do not attempt to come to the facility].* [In the event of evacuation, add] *For resident safety and well-being, residents are being evacuated to [Location].*
>
> *For more information, please contact [Name, Title] at [Phone/Email].*

Tweets, limited to 280 characters, or other short messages can include:

> *[Facility Name] is experiencing [Incident Name]. Responders are working to resolve the incident. Resident safety is our top priority. Do not attempt to visit [Facility Name] at this time. For information and updates, please call [Phone Number].*

### Proactive Messaging to Relatives and Responsible Parties

When communicating with relatives and responsible parties it is important to provide high level information on the status of residents. If it is known that certain residents have been injured, or there are fatalities, stress the seriousness of the incident but do not release resident information until the status of injured residents and fatalities can be confirmed and the incident is contained.

> *Hello. This is [Name and Position] from [Facility Name]. We are [Calling/Emailing] you to inform you that [Facility Name] is currently experiencing [Description of Conditions] caused by [Incident Name].*
>
> *Emergency operations have been initiated to manage the incident. [Provide high level information on residents' status]. We are doing as much as we can to protect residents. We will provide information as it becomes available.* [In the event of evacuation, add] *For resident safety and well-being, residents are being evacuated to [Location].*
>
> *For more information, please contact [Name, Title] at [Phone/Email].*

## 7.4. Communicating with the Public

The facility should notify media outlets of the incident as deemed necessary by the Incident Commander. Only the Public Information Officer and authorized facility spokespersons should communicate with the public.

Key principles of communicating with the media and public are:

- Be knowledgeable. Know the facts before reporting out.
- Be strategic in what information is shared.
- Be credible. Do not try to distort facts to protect the facility. The facility will be held responsible for any misinformation that is provided by the Public Information Officer.
- Be accessible to inquiries; be transparent.
- Be proactive. Control messaging that is released and do not let the media and public distort messaging. Correct any rumors that arise.
- Be flexible. Ensure the audience understands that the situation is unfolding, and information will be shared as it is made available.
- Be calm and collected.

- Be sure to provide contact information where the media and public can direct inquiries.

# 8. Protective Action Decision Support

Facilities should use sound decision-making criteria when considering which protective action to implement (e.g., evacuate, defend-in-place). The following questions can be used to arrive at a decision.

**Table 9: Protective Action Considerations**

| Protective Action Considerations | |
|---|---|
| **Information and Intelligence** | |
| | Have local authorities issued protective action guidance? |
| | Have adjacent counties/municipalities protective action guidance? |
| | What is the status of traffic near the facility? |
| | What is the acuity of the current resident population? |
| | What is the status of receiving facilities? |
| | What is the capacity of receiving facilities to receive residents? |
| | Have send-receive arrangements been put in place and verified? |
| **Anticipated Impacts** | |
| | What are the anticipated impacts on the facility? |
| | What is the forecasted external temperature for the next seven days? |
| | What facility infrastructure might be affected? |
| | Are there any anticipated life safety issues? |
| **Resource Levels** | |
| | What are staffing levels? |
| | Have surge-staffing options been implemented? |
| | What is the status of medical, pharmaceutical, and resident care supplies? |
| | What is the status of food and water? |
| **Protective Action Considerations** | |
| | What is the status of generators and fuel levels? |
| | What is the status of transportation resources? |

| | |
|---|---|
| | Have any vendors/service provider agreements been activated? |
| | What are staffing levels? |
| | Have surge staffing options been implemented? |

# 9. After-Action Review Process

Following every exercise or real-world incident, it is vital to capture best practices, lessons learned, and areas for improvement in an After-Action Report (AAR). Plans, policies, and procedures should be updated to incorporate and address the outcomes outlined in each report.

**Table 10: After-Action Review Process**

| After-Action Review Process | |
|---|---|
| | **Designate a staff member**(s) to conduct the After-Action Review process and solicit information for the AAR through:<br>▪ Post-incident/exercise discussions and evaluations.<br>▪ Surveys and feedback forms from the Incident Management Team, staff, residents, responsible parties, and emergency supply vendors, and local emergency management providers. |
| | **Describe the event**, be it a real-world incident or an exercise. Include as much detail as possible. Questions to consider:<br>▪ When and where did the event occur? How long did the response last?<br>▪ What was the nature and magnitude of the event? (For exercises, what is the summary of exercise activities?)<br>▪ How did the incident impact residents, services, and the facility/facilities? |
| | Select the **focus areas** for the AAR based on areas needing improvement. |
| | Under each focus area, describe **areas for improvement**. Questions to consider:<br>▪ What gaps, barriers, or challenges emerged?<br>▪ What resources were needed that were not available?<br>▪ What disruptions to services occurred?<br>▪ How well did personnel understand their roles and responsibilities? |
| | Identify next steps for **improving future responses**. If possible, develop an improvement plan outlining priority levels, responsible parties, and estimated timelines for implementation. Provide additional training to cover areas of weakness. |

# 10. After-Action Report Template

Table 11: After-Action Report Template

| Event | Event Date |
|---|---|
| [Incident/Exercise Name] | [Date] |
| **Event Description** | |
| [Brief description of incident/exercise] | |
| **Strengths** | |
| ▪ [Placeholder]<br>▪ [Placeholder]<br>▪ [Placeholder] | |
| **Areas for Improvement** | |
| ▪ [Placeholder]<br>▪ [Placeholder]<br>▪ [Placeholder] | |

**Improvement Plan**

| Issue/Area for Improvement | Corrective Action | Responsible Party | Start Date | Completion Date |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
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# 11. Resource Management

## 11.1. Resource Considerations

Before a disaster occurs, it is important to have send-receive agreements in place; have lists of vendors and service providers; and have all necessary information about site generator systems on hand. This information is vital to the internal facility response, can help first responders, and can set accountability. When determining which resources may be necessary for facility preparedness, consult the considerations below:

### Generators

- What reporting processes are in place in the event that a generator fails inspection, is not properly maintained, or fails a test?
- What positions are routinely trained on the process of establishing emergency power to the building?
    - Who is responsible for performing this task?
- What procedures are in place to troubleshoot generator system failures?
- How long can emergency power be sustained before having to replenish fuel if tank is full?
- What systems, capabilities, and/or resources will be impacted if power is lost and emergency power is unable to be secured (e.g., food, water, ventilation)?

### Fuel

- Is the emergency fuel source municipal fuel or local/on-site fuel?
- What is the current onsite fuel storage capacity?

### Potable Water

- Where is potable water stored on site?
- What potential barriers are there to reaching the potable water during an emergency?
- Will potable water storage be safe from contamination by flood waters or severe storms?
- Who manages the potable water storage?

### Transportation

- Which types of vehicles are immediately available to the facility?
- Are facility-owned vehicles maintained?
- Where can facility-owned vehicles access fuel?
- How many and which staff can operate facility-owned vehicles?

- Should additional staff be trained pre-disaster as alternatives?
    - Where are copies of operator licenses kept?
- Do staff have identification and primary and alternate routes if normal travel is restricted or roads are closed?

# 12. Glossary

Table 12: Glossary

| Term | Definition |
|---|---|
| **Activation** | To begin the process of mobilizing a response team, or to set in motion an emergency operations (response) or recovery plan, process, or procedure in response to incident or exercise. |
| **Automatic Sprinkler** | Ceiling sprinklers are located throughout the facility and are activated by heat, thereby setting off the water flow and the alarm. |
| **Defend-in-Place** | The ability of a facility to safely retain their residents in an incident-related situation (e.g., flood, severe weather, wildfire). This is also known as “hunkering down” during an event. |
| **Demobilization** | The orderly, safe, and efficient return of an incident resource to its original location and status. |
| **Evacuation** | Organized, phased, and supervised dispersal or removal of people from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas, and their reception and care in safe areas. |
| **Evacuation Holding Area** | Temporary refuge for residents and staff during a facility evacuation, and if needed, point of embarkation for transport for longer-term evacuations. |
| **Evacuee** | A person removed or moving from areas threatened or struck by a disaster. |
| **Fire Alarm** | Loud ringing of bells, which may be activated by detectors, sprinklers, or manually, to alert residents and staff. When the bells sound, one of the systems has been activated and an emergency is occurring. |
| **Fire Doors** | These doors cut off a wing or a portion of a wing from adjoining areas to prevent drafts, which carry smoke, and retards the spread of fire. |
| **Hazard** | Something that is potentially dangerous or harmful, often the root cause of an unwanted outcome. |

| Term | Definition |
|---|---|
| **Hazard Vulnerability Analysis** | A systematic approach to identifying all hazards that may affect an organization and/or its community, assessing the risk (probability of hazard occurrence and the consequence for the organization) associated with each hazard and analyzing the findings to create a prioritized comparison of hazard vulnerabilities. The consequence, or “vulnerability,” is related to both the impact on organizational function and the likely service demands created by the hazard impact. |

| | |
|---|---|
| **Incident Action Plan** | An oral or written plan, containing objectives that reflect the overall strategy for managing an incident. It may include the identification of operational resources and assignments. It may also include attachments that provide direction and important information for management of the incident during one or more operational periods. |
| **Incident Command System** | A standardized on‐scene emergency management construct specifically designed to provide for the adoption of an integrated organizational structure that reflects the complexity and demands of single or multiple incidents, without being hindered by jurisdictional boundaries. ICS is the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a common organizational structure, designed to aid in the management of resources during incidents. It is used for all kinds of emergencies and is applicable to small as well as large and complex incidents. ICS is used by various jurisdictions and functional agencies, both public and private, to organize field-level incident management operations. |
| **Incident Management** | The broad spectrum of activities and organizations providing effective and efficient operations, coordination, and support applied at all levels of government, utilizing both governmental and nongovernmental resources to plan for, respond to, and recover from an incident, regardless of cause, size, or complexity. |
| **Incident Management Team** | The Incident Management Team is comprised of pre-designated personnel who are assigned to plan and execute response and recovery operations. Incident Management Team activation is designed to be flexible and scalable depending on the type, scope, and complexity of the incident. As a result, the Incident Commander may decide to activate the entire team or select positions, based on the extent of the emergency. |
| **Lockdown** | A security measure taken during an emergency to prevent people from leaving a facility, and to prevent an active threat (one or more persons) from entering a facility. |

| Term | Definition |
|---|---|
| **Mitigation** | Activities providing a critical foundation in the effort to reduce the loss of life and property from natural and/or manmade disasters by avoiding or lessening the impact of a disaster and providing value to the public by creating safer communities. Mitigation seeks to fix the cycle of disaster damage, reconstruction, and repeated damage. These activities or actions, in most cases, will have a long-term sustained effect. |
| **Operational Period** | The time scheduled for executing a given set of operation actions, as specified in the Incident Action Plan. Operational periods can be of various lengths, although usually they last 12-24 hours. |
| **Preparedness** | A continuous cycle of planning, organizing, training, equipping, exercising, evaluating, and taking corrective action in an effort to ensure effective coordination during incident response. Preparedness focuses on the following elements: planning; |

| | |
|---|---|
| | procedures and protocols; training and exercises; personnel qualification and certification; and equipment certification. |
| **Receiving Facility** | A facility that has entered into agreement with another facility (nursing home, adult care facility, hospital, etc.), offering to host residents and staff for some part of an emergency response. |
| **Response** | Activities that address the short-term, direct effects of an incident.<br>Response includes immediate actions to save lives, protect property, and meet basic human needs. Response also includes the execution of emergency operations plans and of mitigation activities designed to limit the loss of life, personal injury, property damage, and other unfavorable outcomes. |
| **Recovery** | The development, coordination, and execution of service- and siterestoration plans; the reconstitution of government operations and services; individual, private-sector, non-governmental, and public assistance programs to provide housing and to promote restoration; long-term care and treatment of affected persons; additional measures for social, political, environmental, and economic restoration; evaluation of the incident to identify lessons learned; post incident reporting; and development of initiatives to mitigate the effects of future incidents. |
| **Secure Area** | An area that has been checked and verified to be clear of fire/danger, with windows and doors closed, equipment shut down, and hallways free of obstacles. |
| **Term** | **Definition** |
| **Shelter-in-Place** | NYSDOH defines shelter-in-place as the protective action strategy of keeping a small number of residents in their present location when the risks of relocation or evacuation exceed the risks of remaining in current location.<br>Can only be done for coastal storms. Requires pre-approval from NYSDOH prior to each hurricane season and pre-authorization at the time of the incident.<br>Please refer to the 2019 Evacuation Plan. |
| **Situational Awareness** | Is the ability to identify, process, and comprehend the essential information about an incident to inform the decision-making process in a continuous and timely cycle and includes the ability to interpret and act upon this information. |
| **Smoke Detector** | Smoke detectors are located on ceilings throughout the facility and respond to smoke thereby setting off the alarm. |
| **Threat** | Natural or manmade occurrence, individual, entity, or action that has or indicates the potential to harm life, information, operations, the environment, and/or property. |

For all Hazard Annexes below the NYSDOH Regional Office is to be notified during normal business hours. **For events that occur on nights, weekends or holidays, notify the NYSDOH Duty Officer at 866-881-2809**.

# Hazard Annex A: Active Threat

**An active threat is an individual or group of individuals actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area, often through the use of firearms.**

| Preparedness | |
|---|---|
| | Conduct a walk-through of the facility to determine vulnerabilities (e.g., publicly accessible entrances), identify emergency escape routes, and determine necessary security measures (e.g., additional locks, cameras). |
| | Train staff on security-related responsibilities and empower staff to report unusual, dangerous, or suspicious activity. |
| | Train staff on the "Run, Hide, Fight" options to enable staff to quickly act during a realworld situation.[13] |
| | Create and implement policies for access control and security:<br>▪ Require all persons to display an authorized identification badge or pass.<br>▪ Ensure locked doors remain closed and locked.<br>▪ Control dissemination of keys and/or keypad code access. |
| | Identify emergency escape routes for each facility office, which may or may not be the same as normal fire evacuation routes. |
| | Identify outside gathering areas within a half mile of the facility and communicate location to staff members for staff, residents, and visitors to convene during an active threat, as appropriate. |
| | Conduct drills with law enforcement officials to familiarize first responders with the facility (e.g., entrances/exits, building layout, notification procedures). |

| Response | |
|---|---|
| | In response to an active threat, each individual (staff, residents, and visitors) will determine the most appropriate response based on their proximity to the threat and their |

13 For more information, refer to *Incorporating Active Shooter Incident Planning into Health Care Facility Emergency Operations Plans* at http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/planning/Documents/active-shooter-planning-eop2014.pdf

| | |
|---|---|
| | mobility level.<br>▪ **RUN:** If it is safe to do so, staff and residents should move as far away from the threat as possible until they are in a safe location.<br>▪ **HIDE:** If running is not a safe option—or for residents with mobility options—individuals should hide in as safe a place as possible (e.g., thicker walls, fewer windows, lock or barricade doors).<br>▪ **FIGHT:** If neither running nor hiding is a safe option, as a last resort and when confronted by the assailant, individuals in immediate danger should consider trying to disrupt or incapacitate the assailant by using aggressive force and items in their environment, such as fire extinguishers, chairs, etc. |
| | The Regional Office or Watch Center should not be contacted as the event is in progress. All DOH or Watch Center notifications should be done after law enforcement has deemed the situation safe.<br>The facility will call 9-1-1 if there is a suspected or actual threat to the facility, staff, or residents and will provide as much of the following information as possible:<br>▪ Facility name and address;<br>▪ Location and number of attacker(s);<br>▪ Description of attacker(s), gender, clothing, among other points; ▪ Number and location of any victims.<br>▪ Type(s) of weapons if known. |
| | After notifying authorities of the emergency, the facility will use its notification methods to warn visitors, off-site staff, and others. |
| | The facility will notify residents, visitors, and staff when law enforcement has determined that the threat has been neutralized. |

# Hazard Annex B: Blizzard/Ice Storm

**A blizzard has a wind speed of 35 mph or higher with blowing snow and extremely limited visibility. An ice storm also reduces visibility and can immobilize ground and air transportation leaving a facility isolated. Ice storms include freezing rain and sleet, both of which cause sheets of ice to form on the ground, which can cause falls. Ice may also build on tree limbs, wires, and awnings. Blizzards and ice storms can cause extreme cold and power outages, and impede travel to and from the facility, impacting delivery of vital services and supplies.**

| Preparedness | |
|---|---|
| | Procure sufficient rock salt/snow melt to clear primary passageways. |
| | Monitor weather forecasts via radio and television (e.g., National Weather Service). |
| | Begin preparations for a blizzard/ice storm as soon as a watch (storm is 36 – 48 hours out) or warning (storm is occurring or will occur in 24 hours) is issued. |
| **Response** | |
| | Ensure all staff and residents remain inside the facility. |
| | Determine which staff will remain on site for up to 72 hours, as shift changes will not be possible during a blizzard due to blocked roads. Develop and disseminate a schedule to ensure all staff have breaks to rest, eat, and sleep. |
| | If the heating system fails, prepare to evacuate, if possible. Contact the NYSDOH Regional Office for guidance on whether to evacuate. If the decision is made to evacuate, please refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template.* |

# Hazard Annex C: Coastal Storms

**Coastal storms may arrive as tropical depressions (maximum sustained winds of 38 mph or less), tropical storms (maximum sustained winds of 39-73 mph), or hurricanes (maximum sustained winds of 74 mph or more, ranging from Category 1-5). Hazards associated with coastal storms include:**

**flooding; flying debris; extreme winds and tornados; torrential rain; and power outages due to downed trees and power lines.**

| | |
|---|---|
| **Preparedness** | |
| | Determine which buildings, infrastructure, and essential services would be at risk by flooding. |
| | Assess potential infrastructure impacts from winds and heavy rains:<br>▪ Assess the ability of facility infrastructure to withstand extreme winds and rain.<br>▪ Consider infrastructure-hardening measures (e.g., impact-resistant windows). |
| | In the days prior to landfall, review forecast information and intelligence, anticipated impacts, and facility resource levels to determine facility readiness to implement protective actions. |
| | Maintain communication with the County Office of Emergency Management and Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition to receive storm reports for the area. |
| | In the absence of direction from NYSDOH and local authorities (e.g., mandatory evacuation order), determine which protective action to implement. |
| | Implement protective action. Refer to *Annex A: Protective Actions* in the Base Plan for more information. If the decision is made to evacuate, please refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template.* |
| | Reassess the situation at regular intervals (e.g., 96 hours, 72 hours, 48 hours, 24 hours) to determine whether additional protective actions are required. |
| **Response** | |
| | Evaluate conditions of staff and residents and identify needs and gaps in services. |
| | Assess infrastructure damage and continued threats to staff and residents. |
| | Report status to external partners (e.g., NYSDOH Regional Office, County Office of Emergency Management) and/or relatives and responsible parties, as appropriate. |

# Hazard Annex D: Dam Failure

**The response to a dam failure will depend on the amount of warning time, which will depend on the cause and extent of flooding or primary dam failure. Heavy rains downstream may give a facility time to prepare for a dam failure while intense storms with flash flooding could cause failure within minutes. It is important to respond immediately to any kind of siren/alarm and/or warning coming from dam officials.**

| Preparedness | |
|---|---|
| | Identify dams near the facility. |
| | Work with County Office of Emergency Management officials to identify the best preparedness actions specific to nearby dams. |
| | Identify which facility buildings, infrastructure, and essential services would be in the path of flood waters as the result of a dam failure. |
| | Consider mitigation activities in areas susceptible to water intrusion. |
| | Develop procedures for relocating resources, vital records, and equipment to assure continuation of services and to prevent damage or loss. |
| **Response** | |
| | If the facility suffers structural damage or if supporting utilities are compromised (e.g., power, water), consider the implementation of a protective action. Refer to *Annex A: Protective Actions* in the Base Plan for more information. |
| | Regularly seek updates on both staff and resident well-being to determine if other protective actions are needed for some or all of the facility's population. |
| | Consider all flood water contaminated. Avoid walking through floodwater and wash hands thoroughly after contact. Do not use pre-packaged food and drink products that have come into contact with floodwater. |
| | Gather critical supplies to take to higher ground (e.g., medications, drinking water, health records, important personal items, communication devices, blankets). |
| | Do not allow electrical devices to come into contact with water. |
| | If the decision is made to evacuate, please refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template.* |

# Hazard Annex E: Earthquake

**Earthquakes cannot be predicted and are considered "no-notice" incidents. Hazards associated with earthquakes include: tsunami (flooding); power outages; fires, and landslides.**

| Preparedness | |
|---|---|
| | Ensure structures are in full compliance with regional building codes. |
| | Implement earthquake protection measures for utilities:<br>▪ Repair defective electrical wiring.<br>▪ Repair leaky gas lines.<br>▪ Install automatic shut off valves triggered by strong vibrations.<br>▪ Repair or replace inflexible utility connections and fittings. |
| | Protect staff and residents from movable objects:<br>▪ Secure water heaters, refrigerators, furnaces and/or boilers, washing machines and dryers, and other gas appliances.<br>▪ Secure top-heavy items.<br>▪ Store large or heavy items on lower shelves.<br>▪ Secure cabinets.<br>▪ Secure overhead lighting. |
| | Stage multiple small fire extinguishers throughout the facility and provide training on fire extinguisher use and associated hazards.[6] |
| **Response** | |
| **During Earthquake** | |
| | Do not attempt to leave the building during an earthquake. |
| | Instruct residents in wheelchairs to lock their wheels in a safe position and cover their head and neck with their arms if they are able to. |

[6] 29 Code of Federal Regulations, 1910.157(g)(1) states that "Where the employer has provided portable fire extinguishers for employee use in the workplace, the employer shall also provide an educational program to familiarize employees with the general principles of fire extinguisher use and the hazards involved with incipient stage fire-fighting." Paragraph (g)(2) states that the "education" required in paragraph (g)(1) "must be provided to employees upon initial employment and at least annually thereafter."

| | |
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| | Instruct residents in beds to remain in their beds. |
| | Instruct personnel to take cover under a desk, table, in a doorway. Place hands over your head for protection. Stay away from windows, glass, and exterior doors. |
| | Encourage everyone to remain in place for a few minutes after the initial shock as aftershocks may occur. |
| **After Earthquake** | |
| | Survey the facility for injuries, structural damage, fire, ruptured gas or water pipes, etc. If necessary, shut off utility lines and/or panels. |
| | Assign staff to assess residents for any injuries that require immediate attention. |
| | Assess the facility for damage that requires immediate attention (e.g., gas leaks, fires, broken glass, spills). |
| | If there is a fire, follow facility protocol. |
| | If a gas leak is suspected, notify the Plant Manager. |
| | If electrical system damage is suspected, follow facility protocol. |
| | If sewage and water line damage is identified, follow facility protocol. |
| | Comply with public health notices/orders regarding water contamination and utilize emergency potable water resources. |
| | If the facility has suffered structural damage, or if supporting utilities are compromised (e.g., power, water), consider the implementation of a protective action. Refer to *Annex A: Protective Actions* in the Base Plan for more information. |
| | If the decision is made to evacuate, please refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template.* |
| | Seek updates from staff on both staff and resident well-being to determine if other protective actions are needed for some or all of the facility's population. |

# Hazard Annex F: Extreme Cold

**Extreme cold can occur independent of any snow, ice, or storm systems. Extreme cold events involve an extended period with temperatures at or below 32°F. The risk to health and personal safety during extreme cold is exacerbated by utility service interruption or loss. Therefore, the facility maintains its building systems ahead of any extreme weather projections. The facility acknowledges and prepares for the possibility of short staffing due to road conditions.**

| Preparedness | |
|---|---|
| | Conduct regular building maintenance and inspection, including maintenance of heating and air conditioning systems and thermostats. |
| | Test all generators involved in supplying power to areas for resident care and ensure the facility has sufficient fuel on-site to fuel the generator for the period of extreme cold. |
| | Routinely monitor the indoor facility temperature when the outdoor temperature is below 65 degrees Fahrenheit to ensure the indoor temperature in residents' rooms and all common areas is maintained at a minimum of 75 degrees Fahrenheit.[7] |
| | Develop resident assessment protocol, including vital sign checks focusing on core temperature and comfort checks. |
| | Develop procedures for internal relocation of residents to warmer parts of the facility. |
| | Document vendors for additional heating units. Establish agreements and/or contracts with vendors, as possible. |

[7] 10 NYCRR 415.5 and 42 CFR 483.15 The regulations contained in 10NYCRR Part 713 require nursing homes to be equipped with a heating system capable of maintaining all resident areas at a minimum temperature of 75 degrees Fahrenheit.

| Response | |
|---|---|
| | Conserve heat:<br>▪ Avoiding unnecessary opening of doors/windows |

| | |
|---|---|
| | ▪ Close off unoccupied rooms<br>▪ Cover windows |
| | If the facility experiences heating equipment malfunctions during normal business hours, immediately contact heating equipment service provider and notify the NYSDOH Regional Office. For malfunctions that occur on nights, weekends or holidays, notify the New York State Watch Center (Warning Point) at 518-292-2200. |
| | If heating equipment has failed, regularly monitor individual room temperatures. |
| | Initiate actions to safely increase resident comfort (e.g., provide additional blankets to residents); offer warm liquids (keeping in mind relevant dietary modifications/restrictions). |
| | Assess residents for signs of distress and/or discomfort. |
| | If the internal temperature of the facility remains low and potentially jeopardizes the safety and health of residents, consider internal relocation to a warmer part of the facility (on sunny side; downwind) or evacuation. |
| | If the decision is made to evacuate, refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template.* |

# Hazard Annex G: Extreme Heat

**Extreme heat events are defined as periods when the heat index is 100°F or higher for one or more days, or when the heat index is 95°F or higher for two or more consecutive days. Prolonged periods of this heat accompanied by high humidity create a dangerous situation for vulnerable populations. Elderly residents and those with chronic medical conditions such as cardiopulmonary conditions, high blood pressure and residents with mental illness are at increased risk for heat exhaustion, heat stroke and heat cramps.**

| Preparedness | |
|---|---|
| | Regularly inspect the building's HVAC system. |
| | Maintain cooling supplies:<br>▪ Portable fans and temporary cooling devices<br>▪ Non-perishable foods and fluids |

| | |
|---|---|
| | Develop procedures to monitor the physical environment of the facility (e.g., temperature, humidity, sun screening, ventilation). |
| | Develop procedures for relocation to cooling centers inside the facility. Procedures for the internal relocation of residents to air-conditioned, or cooler areas, of the facility. |
| | Educate staff on risks of extreme heat, including: heat cramp, heat exhaustion, heat stroke, sunburn, and dehydration. |
| | Develop resident assessment protocol, including vital sign checks focusing on core temperature, comfort checks, and checking for resident dehydration. |
| **Response** | |
| | Conduct wellness checks and safety precautions:<br>▪ Check rooms regularly to ensure that air-conditioning is operational.<br>▪ Keep drapes and windows closed.<br>▪ Decrease physical activity for residents.<br>▪ Keep residents inside facility. |
| | Monitor resident exposure and reactions to heat. Follow protocol for transfer to hospital if resident appears to be suffering from heat-related illness such as heat cramps, heat exhaustion, or heat stroke. |
| | Consider re-locating residents to the coolest locations in the facility or creating “cooling centers” where residents can congregate with limited air conditioning, cool cloths, cold beverages, and similar measures. |
| | If the internal temperature of the facility remains high and potentially jeopardizes the safety and health of residents, notify the NYSDOH Regional Office. On nights, weekends or holidays, notify the New York State Watch Center (Warning Point) at 518292-2200. |
| | If the decision is made to evacuate, please refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template.* |
| | Encourage residents to drink fluids to maintain hydration. |

# Hazard Annex H: Fire

**Fires may occur within the facility or may be a result of external fire activity, including wildfires.**

| | |
|---|---|
| | **Preparedness** |
| | Identify fire and life safety hazards inside the facility:<br>▪ Missing or broken fire safety equipment<br>▪ Blocked fire doors and evacuation routes<br>▪ Accumulated trash<br>▪ Burned out exit lights |
| | Plant Manager will document and inspect facility's fire and life safety emergency systems, including:<br>▪ Manual pull alarms<br>▪ Smoke detectors<br>▪ Exit doors and stairwells<br>▪ Sprinklers System<br>▪ Fire extinguishers<br>▪ Fire alarm monitoring service<br>▪ Self-closing fire doors |
| | Test the facility's fire alarm system and record outcomes, as required by NYSDOH regulation. |
| | Train all staff on the type of fire extinguishers in the building, their location, how to access them, and the types of fires they should be used on. |
| | Conduct quarterly fire drills at unexpected times, under varying conditions, and on each shift. |
| | **Response** |
| | If the fire alarm system is out of service for more than four hours in a 24-hour period, notify the Authority Having Jurisdiction, evacuate the building, or if approved, implement a fire watch until the fire alarm system has been returned to service. |
| | Rescue those in immediate danger in accordance with the facility's fire rescue procedures. |

| | |
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| | Pull the fire alarm and then alert residents and staff members. |
| | Contain the fire if possible.<br>▪ Shut off air flow, as much as possible.<br>▪ Close all fire doors and shut off fans, ventilation systems, and air conditioning/heating systems.<br>▪ Use available fire extinguishers if the fire is small and this can be done safely. |
| | Relocate oxygen-dependent residents away from fire since oxygen supply lines (whether portable or central) may lead to combustion in the presence of sparks or fire. If necessary, remove oxygen and reconnect one resident is in a safe area. |
| | If the decision is made to evacuate, please refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template*. |

# Hazard Annex I: Flood

**Floods may be the result of coastal, lake, river, inland, or indoor flooding.**

| Preparedness | |
|---|---|
| | Implement indoor flooding protection measures for buildings:<br>▪ Repair and replace leaky or broken pipes.<br>▪ Perform maintenance inspections on water heaters and washing machines.<br>▪ Identify clogged sewer or drain lines and contact plumbing services, as needed. |
| | Determine which buildings, infrastructure, and essential services may be at risk of flooding. |
| | Consider mitigating risks associated with flooding:<br>▪ Elevate the furnace, water heater, emergency generator, and electrical panel if susceptible to flooding.<br>▪ Install sewer backwater valves to prevent sewer backups.<br>▪ Build barriers to prevent floodwater from entering the facility.<br>▪ Utilize waterproofing materials to seal walls in basements or identified rooms. |
| **Response** | |
| | Maintain contact and communication with the County Office of Emergency Management and Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition to receive flooding reports for the area. |
| | If the facility has suffered structural damage, or if supporting utilities are compromised (e.g., power, water), consider the implementation of a protective action. Refer to *Annex A: Protective Actions* in the Base Plan for more information. |
| | If the decision is made to evacuate, please refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template.* |
| | If the decision is made to internally relocate, gather critical supplies to take to higher ground (e.g., medications, drinking water, resident records, important personal items, communication devices, blankets). |
| | Regularly seek updates from staff to determine if other protective actions are needed for some or all of the facility's population. |

| | |
|---|---|
| | Unplug non-essential appliances, equipment, and computers. Do not allow electrical devices to come into contact with water. |
| | If a gas leak is suspected, notify the Plant Manager. |
| | Check for water line ruptures and sewage contamination and report utility problems to the utility company. |
| | If water lines are disrupted, consider the water supply to be contaminated and utilize the facility's emergency potable water resources. |
| | Comply with public health notices regarding water contamination (e.g., Boil Water, Do Not Drink Water, Do Not Use Water). |
| | Consider all flood water contaminated. Avoid walking through floodwater and wash hands thoroughly after contact. Do not use pre-packaged food and drink products that have come into contact with floodwater. |

# Hazard Annex J: Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive (CBRNE)

**CBRNE incidents occur when a hazardous substance is released into the environment, causing potential harm to the staff and residents of the facility. CBRNE emergencies are particularly dangerous for facilities, as populations are typically confined indoors with compromised health and immune systems. Released toxic substances, even in small amounts, can further weaken the health and well-being of residents.**

| Preparedness | |
|---|---|
| | Determine the facility's proximity to potential sources of CBRNE exposure (e.g., transportation corridors, nuclear power plant). |
| | Work with local emergency management, public health, environmental health, and other identified stakeholders to develop a decontamination plan. |
| | Properly dispose of potentially toxic substances like unused chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and other substances. |
| | Conduct trainings on safe handling, transportation, and disposal of hazardous wastes. |
| **Response** | |
| | Maintain contact and communication with the County Office of Emergency Management and Health Emergency Preparedness Coalitions to receive updated CBRNE threat information for the area. |
| | Based on the type and location of incident, assess potential impacts of a hazardous materials release. |
| | Review threat information and intelligence, anticipated impacts, and resource levels to determine facility readiness to implement protective actions. Refer to *Annex A: Protective Actions* in the Base Plan for more information. |
| | If the decision is made to evacuate, refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template*. |

| | |
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| | Assess the need to set up “hot, warm, and cold” zones for which access would be restricted. Secure zones accordingly. |
| | Provide guidance and implement protective measures for food handling, mass feeding, and sanitation. |
| | Preemptive methods to mitigate exposure to hazardous substance outside the facility:<br>▪ Close all windows, doors, and vents.<br>▪ Limit the amount of foot traffic in and out of the facility.<br>▪ Do not allow residents outside, as possible.<br>▪ If using heating or air conditioning, set to re-circulate indoor air to shut down exterior air intake. |
| | Carry out established decontamination procedures, as needed. |
| | Monitor staff and residents for delayed physical responses as a direct result of the incident. |
| | Assess residents for worsened health outcomes as an indirect result of the incident. |

# Hazard Annex K: Infectious Disease

Infectious diseases are caused by pathogenic microorganisms, such as bacteria, viruses, parasites or fungi. The circumstances of infectious disease emergencies, including ones that rise to the level of a pandemic, vary by multiple factors, including type of biological agent, scale of exposure, mode of transmission and intentionally.

The facility follows effective strategies for preventing infectious diseases. Each county Local Health Department-(LHD) has prevention agenda priorities compiled from community health assessments that can be reviewed and utilized by the facility in fully developing your CEMP Annex E, planning and response checklist for infectious disease and pandemic situations. The information within this Annex includes the identified priorities and focus areas.

Under the Pandemic Emergency Plan (PEP) requirements of Chapter 114 of the Laws of 2020, special focus is required for pandemics.  Please use the template’s Appendix E and this Hazard

Annex, with prompts for the PEP requirements, to ensure that the plans developed meet all requirements.

## Chapter 114 of the Laws of 2020 (full text):

Section 2803 of the public health law is amended by adding a new subdivision 12 to read as follows:

12. (a) each residential health care facility shall, no later than Ninety days after the effective date of this subdivision and annually thereafter, or more frequently as may be directed by the commissioner, prepare and make available to the public on the facility's website, and immediately upon request, in a form acceptable to the commissioner, a pandemic emergency plan which shall include but not be limited to:

(i) a communication plan:

a to update authorized family members and guardians of infected residents at least once per day and upon a change in a resident's condition and at least once a week to update all residents and authorized families and guardians on the number of infections and deaths at the facility, by electronic or such other means as may be selected by each authorized family member or guardian; and

b that includes a method to provide all residents with daily access,

At no cost, to remote videoconference or equivalent communication methods with family members and guardians; and

(ii) protection plans against infection for staff, residents and families, including:

a a plan for hospitalized residents to be readmitted to such residential health care facility after treatment, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations; and

b a plan for such residential health care facility to maintain or contract to have at least a two-month supply of personal protective equipment; and

(iii) a plan for preserving a resident's place in a residential healthcare facility if such resident is hospitalized, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

b the residential health care facility shall prepare and comply with the pandemic emergency plan. Failure to do so shall be a violation of this subdivision and may be subject to civil penalties pursuant to section twelve and twelve-b of this chapter.

The commissioner shall review each residential healthcare facility for compliance with its plan and the applicable regulations in accordance with paragraphs (a) and (b) of subdivision one of this section.

c within thirty days after the residential health care facility's receipt of written notice of noncompliance such residential healthcare facility shall submit a plan of correction in such form and manner as specified by the commissioner for achieving compliance with its plan and with the applicable regulations. The commissioner shall ensure each such residential healthcare facility complies with its plan of correction and the applicable regulations.

d the commissioner shall promulgate any rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this subdivision.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

# 1. Communicable Disease Reporting:

## 1.1. Importance of Reporting

- NYSDOH is charged with the responsibility of protecting public health and ensuring the safety of health care facilities.
- Reporting is required to detect intra-facility outbreaks, geographic trends, and identify emerging infectious diseases.
- The collection of outbreak data enables the NYSDOH to inform health care facilities of potential risks and preventive actions.
- Reporting facilities can obtain consultation, laboratory support and on-site assistance in outbreak investigations, as needed.

## 1.2. What must be reported?

**NYSDOH Regulated Article 28 nursing homes:**

- Reporting of suspected or confirmed communicable diseases is mandated under the New York State Sanitary Code (10 NYCRR 2.10), as well as by 10 NYCRR 415.19.14

- Any outbreak or significant increase in nosocomial infections above the norm or baseline in nursing home residents or employees must be reported to NYSDOH. This can be done electronically via the Nosocomial Outbreak Reporting Application (NORA). NORA is a NYSDOH Health Commerce System Application. Alternately, facilities may fax an Infection Control Nosocomial Report Form (DOH 4018) on the DOH public website.

14 A list of diseases and information on properly reporting them can be found below.

- Facilities are expected to conduct surveillance that is adequate to identify background rates and detect significant increases above those rates. Healthcare associated infection outbreaks may also be reported to the LHD.

A single case of a reportable communicable disease or any unusual disease (defined as a newly apparent or emerging disease or syndrome that could possibly be caused by a transmissible infectious agent or microbial toxin) must be reported to the local health department (LHD) where the patient/resident resides. In addition, if the reportable communicable disease is suspected or confirmed to be acquired at the NYSDOH regulated Article 28 nursing home, it must also be reported to the NYSDOH. This can be done electronically via the NORA, or, by faxing an Infection Control Nosocomial Report Form (DOH 4018).

- Reports must be made to the local health department in the county in which the facility is located (as the resident's place of residence) and need to be submitted within 24 hours of diagnosis. However, some diseases warrant prompt action and should be reported immediately by phone.

- Categories and examples of reportable healthcare-associated infections include:
  - An outbreak or increased incidence of disease due to any infectious agent (e.g. staphylococci, vancomycin resistant enterococci, Pseudomonas, Clostridioides difficile, Klebsiella, Acinetobacter) occurring in residents or in persons working in the facility.
  - Intra-facility outbreaks of influenza, gastroenteritis, pneumonia, or respiratory syncytial virus.
  - Foodborne outbreaks.
  - Infections associated with contaminated medications, replacement fluids, or commercial products.
  - Single cases of healthcare-associated infection due to any of the diseases on the Communicable Disease Reporting list. For example, single cases of nosocomial acquired Legionella, measles virus, invasive group A beta hemolytic Streptococcus.
  - A single case involving Staphylococcus aureus showing reduced susceptibility to vancomycin.
  - Clusters of tuberculin skin test conversions.
  - A single case of active pulmonary or laryngeal tuberculosis in a nursing home resident or employee.
  - Increased or unexpected morbidity or mortality associated with medical devices, practices or procedures resulting in significant infections and/or hospital admissions.
  - Closure of a unit or service due to infections.

- Additional information for making a communicable disease report:
  - Facilities should contact their NYSDOH regional epidemiologist or the NYSDOH Central Office Healthcare Epidemiology and Infection Control Program for general questions and infection control guidance or if additional information is needed about reporting to NORA. Contact information for NYSDOH regional epidemiologists and the Central Office Healthcare Epidemiology and Infection Control Program is located here: https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/diseases/reporting/communicable/infection/regional_epi_staff.htm. For assistance after hours, nights and weekends, call New York State Watch Center (Warning Point) at 518-292-2200.
  - Call your local health department or the New York State Department of Health's Bureau of Communicable Disease Control at (518) 473-4439 or, after hours, at 1 (866) 881-2809; to obtain reporting forms (DOH-389), call (518) 474-0548.
  - For facilities in New York City:
    - Call 1 (866) NYC-DOH1 (1-866-692-3641) for additional information.
    - Use the downloadable Universal Reporting Form (PD-16); those belonging to NYC MED can complete and submit the form online.

## 2.0. PEP Communication Requirements

As per the requirements of the PEP, a facility must develop external notification procedures directed toward authorized family members and guardians of residents.

To adequately address this requirement, the facility will need to develop a record of all authorized family members and guardians, which should include secondary (back-up) authorized contacts, as applicable.

Under the PEP, facilities must include plans and/or procedures that would enable them to (1) provide a daily update to authorized family members and guardians and upon a change in a resident's condition; and (2) update all residents and authorized families and guardians at least once per week on the number of pandemic-related infections and deaths, including residents with a pandemic-related infection who pass away for reasons other than such infection (e.g., COVID positive residents who pass away for reasons other than COVID-19).

Such updates must be provided electronically or by such other means as may be selected by each authorized family member or guardian. This includes a method to provide all residents with daily access, at no cost, to remote videoconference or equivalent communication methods with family members and guardians.

# 3.0 PEP Infection Control Requirements

In addition to communication-related PEP requirements address above, the facility must develop pandemic infection control plans for staff, residents, and families, including plans for (1)

developing supply stores and specific plans to maintain, or contract to maintain, at least a twomonth (60 day) supply of personal protective equipment based on facility census, including consideration of space for storage; and (2) hospitalized residents to be admitted or readmitted to such residential health care facility or alternate care site after treatment, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, including but not limited to 10 NYCRR 415.3(i)(3)(iii), 415.19, and 415.26(i); 42 CFR 483.15(e) and 42 CFR § 483.80. .

Additional infection control planning and response efforts and that should be addressed include:

- Incorporating lessons learned from previous pandemic responses into planning efforts to assist with the development of policies and procedures related to such elements as the management of supplies and PPE, as well as implementation of infection control protocols to assist with proper use and conservation of PPE.
- All personal protective equipment necessary for both residents and staff in order to continue to provide services and supports to residents. COVID-specific guidance on optimizing PPE and other supply strategies is available on CDC's website: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/index.html. Supplies to be maintained include, but are not limited to:
  - N95 respirators;
  - Face shield;
  - Eye protection;
  - Gowns/isolation gowns;
  - gloves;
  - masks; and
  - sanitizers and disinfectants (EPA Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting):

Other considerations to be included in a facility's plans to reduce transmission regard when there are only one or a few residents with the pandemic disease in a facility:

- Plans for cohorting, including:
  - Use of a part of a unit, dedicated floor, or wing in the facility or a group of rooms at the end of the unit, such as at the end of a hallway.
  - Discontinue any sharing of a bathroom with residents outside the cohort
- Proper identification of the area for residents with COVID-19, including demarcating reminders for healthcare personnel; and
- Procedures for preventing other residents from entering the area.

## 4.0 Other PEP Requirements

PEP further requires that facilities include a plan for preserving a resident's place at the facility when the resident is hospitalized. Such plan must comply with all applicable State and federal laws and regulations, including but not limited to 18 NYCRR 505.9(d)(6) and 42 CFR 483.15(e).

# Hazard Annex L: IT/Communications Failure

**IT/Communications systems failure can impact the following critical systems: computer network; telephone network; on-site data storage; medical devices; medication replenishment; and HVAC system.**

**An IT/communications failure incident may hinder standard notification methods. Alternate forms of notification with staff, residents and external agencies include: pagers, hand-held radios, runners, personal cell phones, and social media.**

| Preparedness | |
|---|---|
| | Utilize cloud-based or off-site servers to store data that also meet resident confidentiality requirements. |
| | Provide staff with training on use of facility computers and potential risks of personal use (e.g., opening attachments from unknown senders). |
| | Ensure redundant communications mechanisms:<br>▪ Consider procurement of handheld radios or walkie-talkies.<br>▪ Store paper-based versions of critical forms and documentation, including contact lists. |
| | Identify and protect resident care systems and records, including resident management systems, medical/resident records, resource availability, etc. |
| | Identify and protect clinical support systems including:<br>▪ Computer desktops, laptops, and tablets at nursing stations, hallways, bedside, laptops, etc.<br>▪ Electronic and automatic transfer of information between IT systems, dietary, etc. |
| | Identify and protect administrative systems including: |

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| | ▪ Telephones, fax machines, databases, networks, wireless network, modems, etc.<br>▪ Fire protection systems, security access, external email, website, etc. |

| Response | |
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| | Implement the facility's business continuity plan, if one exists. |
| | If the disruption is deliberate, contact local law enforcement, the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Cyber Division, and the state cyber terrorism division, as appropriate. |
| | Conduct a risk assessment of affected environmental systems (e.g., utilities) and implement plans to maintain affected systems that support operations. If necessary, consider the implementation of a protective action. Refer to *Annex A: Protective Actions* in the Base Plan for more information. |
| | Isolate and repair, replace, or remove affected systems from the facility network. |
| | Address social media issues as warranted and use social media for messaging as situation dictates. |
| | Implement manual documentation systems (e.g., paper-based systems). |
| | Implement manual inventory and resupply processes, including medication distribution. |
| | In the event of heating or air conditioning system failure and/or failure of medical devices, it may be necessary to evacuate some or all residents. If the decision is made to evacuate, please refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template.* |

# Hazard Annex M: Landslide

**Landslides occur when masses of rock, earth, or debris move down a slope. Mudslides, also known as debris flows, are a fast-moving landslide. Landslides can occur within mere minutes and can travel several miles. Hazards associated with landslides include:**

- **Rapidly moving water and debris that can lead to injury;**
- **Broken electrical, water, gas, and sewage lines that can result in injury or illness; and Disrupted roadways and railways that can endanger motorists and disrupt transport and access to health care.**

| Preparedness | |
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| | Evaluate the facility for landslide hazards (e.g., recent wildfires or other incidents that have destroyed ground cover, which mitigates against landslides). |
| | Ensure structures are in full compliance with regional building codes. |
| | Educate staff on landslide warning signs, including:<br>▪ Springs or saturated ground in areas that are not usually wet.<br>▪ Bulges in the ground; buckling in the ground.<br>▪ Increasing space between soil and foundations.<br>▪ Cracks in foundation. |
| **Response** | |
| | If indoors, staff and residents should take cover under desks, tables, or other heavy pieces of furniture. Residents with wheelchairs should be told to lock their wheels. If outdoors, staff and residents should get out of the path of the mudflow and get to high ground. |
| | Monitor surrounding area for flooding. |
| | Direct emergency response personnel to possible victims. |
| | Check building and surrounding area for damage or other safety issues once given the “all clear” by emergency response personnel. |
| | Listen to local radio and TV for emergency information and updates. |

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| | Report broken utilities and damaged roadways to local authorities. |

# Hazard Annex N: Power Outage

**Loss of electrical services may be the result of natural disasters, industrial accidents at power generation facilities, or damage to power transmission systems. Natural hazards and weather-related incidents that often cause with power outages include: coastal storms; floods; tornados; and blizzards/ice storms.**

| Preparedness | |
|---|---|
| | Regularly inspect and test all generators involved in supplying emergency power to areas for resident care and ensure the facility has sufficient fuel on-site to fuel the generator. |
| | See *Hazard Annex L: IT/Communications Failure* for additional preparedness activities. |
| **Response** | |
| | Assess the situation. Consult decision support considerations (information and intelligence, anticipated impacts, resources). |
| | Maintain contact and communication with the utility company, County Office of Emergency Management, and Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition to receive utilities restoration reports. |
| | Based on facility decision-making criteria, consider the implementation of a protective action. Refer to *Annex A: Protective Actions* in the Base Plan for more information. If the decision is made to evacuate, refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template.* |
| | Continually seek updates from staff on both staff and resident well-being to determine if other protective actions are needed for some or all of the facility's population. |
| | The emergency generator will start automatically immediately at time of an outage. |
| | If the emergency generator does not start automatically, notify the Plant Manager. If necessary, attempt to start the generator manually by following instructions posted in the generator room. |
| | Use available flashlights as temporary sources of light. These can be found at Reception desk, Nurses Stations. |

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| | Take all reasonable steps to protect food and water supplies and maintain a safe environment of care for residents and staff. |

# Hazard Annex O: Tornado

**A tornado is a violently rotating column of air touching the ground, usually attached to the base of a thunderstorm. Winds of a tornado may reach 300 miles per hour. Damage paths can be in excess of one mile wide and 50 miles long.**

| Preparedness | |
|---|---|
| | Develop procedures for quickly moving residents away from spaces with flat, widespan roofs (e.g. cafeterias, auditoriums), which can collapse in the event of a tornado. |
| | Train staff on what **not** to do during a tornado, e.g. move to higher floors or shelter in corners, both of which are dangerous. |
| | Monitor local news and radio outlets for tornado watches or warnings issued by the National Weather Service. |
| **Response** | |
| | If a tornado watch is issued:<br>▪ Ensure all residents and assigned staff are inside the facility and accounted for.<br>▪ Check outdoors and indoors for any objects that might become projectiles.<br>▪ Ensure that windows are kept tightly closed.<br>▪ Move residents, staff, and visitors away from windows, skylights, and exterior walls, as possible. |
| | After tornado impact, assign staff to assess residents for any injuries that require immediate attention. Encourage staff to keep residents as calm as possible. |
| | Survey the facility for injuries, structural damage, fire, ruptured gas or water pipes, etc. If necessary, shut off utility lines and/or panels. |
| | Look for electrical system damage. If there are sparks or broken or frayed wires, or the smell of hot insulation, turn off the electricity at the main fuse box or circuit breaker. If you have to step in water to get to the fuse box or circuit breaker, call an electrician before proceeding. Panel(s) can be found on lower floor near kitchen. |

# Hazard Annex P: Wildfire

**Wildfires threatening the facility may emerge with or without warning, however a wildfire evacuation will most likely occur very quickly, as opposed to a coastal storm.**

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| **Preparedness** | |
| | Implement wildfire protection measures:<br>▪ Clean roof surfaces and gutters<br>▪ Use only fire-resistant materials on the exterior of the facility<br>▪ Consider fire-resistant landscaping |
| **Response** | |
| | Maintain contact and communication with County Office of Emergency Management or Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition to receive wildfire-related updates. |
| | Monitor local news for evacuation reports and instructions. |
| | Based on facility decision-making criteria, consider the implementation of a protective action. Refer to *Annex A: Protective Actions* in the Base Plan for more information. |
| | In case of immediate threat, move residents to a pre-designated staging area for rapid evacuation. If a gas leak is suspected, notify the Plant Manager. |
| | Preemptive methods to mitigate smoke and fire risk:<br>▪ Close all windows, doors, and vents.<br>▪ Limit the amount of foot traffic in and out of the facility.<br>▪ Do not allow residents outside, as possible.<br>▪ If using heating or air conditioning, set to re-circulate indoor air to shut down exterior air intakes. |
| | Regularly seek updates from staff to determine if protective actions are needed for some or all of the facility's population. If the decision is made to evacuate, refer to the *NYSDOH Evacuation Plan Template.* |

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| | Monitor residents and staff for complications related to smoke exposure. |