CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR HOSPITAL TRAINING AND EXERCISES

Scott Supernaw, M.S., NREMT-P
System-wide Emergency Management Coordinator
Cone Health System
Greensboro, North Carolina
OBJECTIVES

- Identify some of the various regulatory and accreditation requirements for hospital emergency management and preparedness.

- Discuss some of the most common challenges to planning and executing emergency training and exercises in the hospital environment.

- Discuss some of the most common organizational and facility challenges to planning and conducting hospital training and exercises.

- Discuss some of the opportunities to overcome and grow participation and support for hospital training and exercises.
COMMON REGULATORY AGENCIES

- The Joint Commission
- Centers for Medicare Services
- State Licensure Agencies
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration
COMMON MISSED OPPORTUNITIES

- Communications problems
- Lack of testing to stress/failure
- Lack of leadership participation
- Lack of physician participation
- After Action report and Improvement Plan
9 Evaluation Areas

- Re-evaluation areas
- Communications
- Patient & clinical activities
- Support activities
- Staff responses & responsibilities
- Utilities management
- Facilities management
- Outside agency involvement
- New construction areas and departments
**Evaluation Areas**

- Pick 2-3 objectives to exercise
- Communicate the basic information of the scenario
- Conduct tabletop exercises
- Conduct a full-scale exercise
- AAR-IP that is realistic and focused
- Develop a three year planning cycle that maps out variety and includes the critical areas for evaluation.
RESILIENCY

- New focus for Joint Commission emergency management chapter
- Rolls the four phases of EM into one concept
- Major push now by the federal government

Is this not the true core goal of any emergency management program??

So write it in your exercises to demonstrate and add it to your base EOP to remind your and staff!
MULTI-PHASE EXERCISES

- Great for expanding event and “96-hour sustainability” exercises
- Start an event as a full-scale exercise
- End the full scale phase but retain leadership for a continuation of the event as a tabletop
- Simulate the event continues for hours or days during tabletop
- Allows for extended discussions, event leadership transition
- Brings in departments not typically involved in full scale exercises (finance) and real time exercise of MOUs
PATIENTS

Three typical types:
- Volunteers
- Manikins
- Paper patients

All three are acceptable if the “patient” is actually treated as a “patient”
- Placed in chair or bed (not piled on top of a bed or counter)
- Moved as if a real person through the system
- Provided with simulated care throughout the event
HICS/ICS and NIMS Compliance

- Not a JC standard
- NIMS is for federal or state requirements for funding and grants
- New HICS rolled out 5-8-2014
- Identification of leadership position that need training
  - And their primary and alternate roles.
  - Provide job specific training
HICS/ICS Training for Leaders

- Build module approach to the leadership training
- Example:
  - 3 hours of presentation and discussion about structure and operations of HICS/ICS
  - 1 hour tabletop that includes specific exercises
- Provide mentorship during exercises
- Use facility specific HVA item for exercise
- Use facility specific plan or policy for the exercise
- Additional module a month later 2-3 hours of additional concepts and exercise
EXERCISE TRAINING

- Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)
- World Health Organization
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

HSEEP is the most common and is often required to be utilized for State/Federal grants.
EXERCISE DEVELOPMENT SOURCES

- HVA
- Prior after-action reviews
- TJC six critical areas
- Current “hot topics”
  - Also great for table tops and policy discussions
- LLIS for topics and ideas
TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

- Workshops or seminars
- Department and section meetings
- Tabletop exercise
- Department specific functional exercise
- Full scale exercise
- Outside agency or government exercises
EXERCISE SUCCESS

- Provide for a realistic scenario, or super ridiculous.
- Tell leadership and staff the core objectives and scenario
- Develop complications or challenges and provide them as injects during the exercise
- Take them to the point of stress, but not failure
- Provide for saving face during the exercise

EVERY EXERCISE IS A SUCCESS!!!
CONTACT INFORMATION

Scott Supernaw, M.S., NREMT-P
System-wide Emergency Management Coordinator
Cone Health System
Greensboro, North Carolina

336-832-8001 (office)
scott.supernaw@conehealth.com