



FEMA

## Lessons Learned Information Sharing

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### PRACTICE NOTE

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## Points of Dispensing Operations: Positioning the Incident Command Post

### PRACTICE

During a point of dispensing (POD) full-scale exercise (FSE), exercise planners from the Yolo County, California, Health Department positioned the incident command post in a location that overlooked the vaccination floor. This allowed command staff members to observe operations on the vaccination floor during the FSE.

### DESCRIPTION

On December 1 – 3, 2008, the Yolo County, California, Health Department participated in a two-phase FSE with the University of California, Davis (UCD). The first phase occurred on December 1 – 2 and exercised just-in-time training for POD personnel and communication between Yolo County Health Department personnel and UCD officials. The second phase began on December 3 and consisted of a functional flu clinic to exercise mass prophylaxis POD plans and operations. The exercise scenario was based upon a potential novel H1N1 influenza subtype pandemic. Exercise participants included 139 players and 778 clinic patients.

During the FSE, exercise planners positioned the incident command post on a stage overlooking the vaccination floor. This provided command staff members with a view of vaccination floor operations at all times and allowed POD managers to observe staff members and patients throughout the day. Further, this positioning enabled command staff members to conduct briefings on the vaccination floor at the end of operational periods.

### CITATION

Yolo County, CA, Health Department. *Operation Aggie Flu After Action Report/Improvement Plan*. 15 Jan 2009.

<https://www.llis.dhs.gov/docdetails/details.do?contentID=40800>

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