

MINUTES
CENTRAL CALIFORNIA HEALTH CARE COALITION
JULY 8, 2019
COMMUNITY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER – EAST MEDICAL PLAZA
3:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE:

Ray Madrigal	Adventist Health
Claudia Razo	Adventist Health
Cindy Schueler	American Ambulance
Curtis Jack	Central California EMS Agency
Ronele Brooks	Central California EMS Agency
Aaron Dwoskin.....	Community Medical Centers
Mitch Farmer	Community Medical Centers
Marc Higgins	Community Medical Centers
Amy Campbell.....	Community Regional Medical Center
May Cha	Fresno ASC
Anton Kremer.....	Fresno County DPH - PHEP
Naomi Wooten.....	Fresno County DPH – PHEP
Denny Vloria	Hinds Hospice
Olivia Rendon.....	Kaiser Permanente
Nick Nevers	Kings County PHEP
Abraham Valencia	Kings County PHEP
Terrance Carter.....	Madera County Dept. of Public Health
Myriam Alvarez.....	Madera County Dept. of Public Health
Marisol Torres	Madera County Dept. of Public Health
Leslie Cotham.....	Oakwood Gardens/SNF Collaboration
Mark K. Rakis	San Joaquin Valley Rehab
Annette Burgos.....	Tulare County H&HS
Ashley Ave	Valley Children’s Hospital
Mary Jo Quintero.....	Valley Children’s Hospital

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. by Curtis Jack.

2. **NEW/OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. **Incidents**

There was a discussion on the recent earthquakes in Ridgecrest. There continues to be thousands of aftershocks. The Ridgecrest Hospital was evacuated. The power came back on yesterday, and they got OSHPOD approve to reopen their E.D. today. They are working to get their med/surge beds back up. Their nursing homes did not evacuate during the incident because they had 72 hours of supplies and generator power. Curtis sent out notifications during the earthquake and asked the facilities for status updates to be sure they were operational. There was some confusion that Fresno County was asking for bed status, but this did not occur. We did not receive any resource requests from Kern County.

Curtis reported that there have been three hazmat incidents involving pesticide exposures in the last three weeks (Dinuba, Kerman, and the Lemoore/Huron area). All three were

accidental, and the individuals exposed did not work for the company that spread the chemicals. The first two were ground applications, and the third was aerial. There were not enough updates during the incidents because of the chaos at the scenes.

Company supervisors at the Kerman incident were telling their employees to see the physician at the onsite clinic, but they were being told by EMS and fire personnel not to leave the scene. That incident started with five patients and ended up with 29 people having symptoms. There was a delay in identifying the chemical because they had not sprayed it. Once they identified the pesticide and who was exposed and showing symptoms, those individuals went through decon. This took a lot of time, and there were concerns about heat-related issues.

The Dinuba Fire Department put everyone at scene through decon at their incident.

In the Huron incident, there were 100 people exposed by air. Only 20 were left on scene. Two wanted to be evaluated but then signed out RMCT. It turned out to be a benign exposure. It was noted that a StatusNet message should have been sent out alerting the hospitals of the response. Curtis notified Adventist Health and asked Dispatch to send out a message on StatusNet.

The Agriculture Commission is involved in these incidents. Safety Officers at the companies involved need education so that they know how to handle these incidents until responders arrive.

There was a hazmat incident in Five Points on Saturday. It involved a structure fire. There were concerns that the smoke could blow across 98, but there was no wind. It was reported that there were five patients, but none were on-scene when responders arrived.

There was a discussion regarding water safety. More teenagers and adults have been involved in drownings than children this year, and more have involved rivers than swimming pools.

B. Training

American Ambulance recently completed C.E. on hazmats, electricity and gas safety. They have an ICS 300 Class scheduled this week. An employee went through Ambulance Strike Team Leader training which authorizes her to lead a strike team on disasters throughout the State. She is the first in our area to have this certification. Curtis noted that a strike team was sent to the Napa fires.

C. Drills/Exercises

VCH will conduct a decon drill on July 25. They will have two lockdown drills. Patients will be asked to wait at the door for 5-10 minutes unless they are STAT.

RMC will be conducting active shooter training and drills. Three teams will be involved for two-hour periods. The drills are being conducted over an extended period so they can practice hand-offs.

RMC had two incidents recently. There was an internal spill at CMC-Clovis with a toxic substance. There was also the recent shooting involving a Deputy Sheriff. There were security issues due to the number of law enforcement officers and media at the facility.

Madera will be conducting a point of dispensing training drill at the end of August.

There was a discussion regarding the Coalition Surge Test on June 5 at Adventist Health – Hanford. A bed count was conducted, but some hospitals based their responses on bed availability and not what they could surge to; therefore, Curtis is adding this information into the notification. Hospitals will be asked how many and what type of patients they can accept rather than how many beds are available. 70 patients were evacuated, but Adventist Health was able to absorb most of them into their system. A few were transported to RMC.

This was a good exercise and a great experience. There were communications issues. It was identified that more training in ICS is needed, and there is a need for section chiefs to delegate more rather than doing the work themselves.

Next year's surge exercise will involve KDMC (Tulare), followed by VCH (Madera) the following year, and RMC (Fresno) the last year.

There was discussion regarding sending staff along with patients during evacuations. Hospitals may have space but no staff to care for the transferred patients. Nurses should also bring their own paperwork for charting since hospitals use different systems.

The Statewide Medical Health Exercise is scheduled for November. The scenario is a flood. Our area will use infectious disease (Glanders) as the scenario so everyone can be involved.

3. PUBLIC HEALTH/OEM

A. Fresno County Update

Fresno DPH is opening a POD with Kerman Unified. Staff have been trained and exercised. Closed POD training was held in Reedley. 150 children will be participating in the exercise (75 in 2 different groups). The BDS system was tested at the Post Office.

B. Kings County Update

Kings County PHEP is currently working on their annual reports. Curtis noted that 25 individuals attended their last coalition meeting.

C. Madera County Update

Madera DPH is working on their grants and budgets. Their subcommittee met on August 1. They have a regional exercise planned for tomorrow.

D. Tulare County Update

Tulare DPH is also working on their plans and grants. They have a regional meeting scheduled for tomorrow to plan for the Statewide exercise. There was a community power shutoff event in Porterville. Tulare PHEP is recruiting for two extra-help positions.

4. HOSPITALS/FACILITIES

A. Valley Children's Hospital

Mary Jo Quintero reported that VCH continues to see pertussis cases. They recently had a patient come back to the facility. The following day, the father and another child came to the hospital. They had not been treated and wanted antibiotics. Information was sent to Public Health.

VCH had an incident last week where they lost their network for 20 minutes, and there was no overhead paging. This gave them an opportunity to look at their communications and the use of ham radios.

B. San Joaquin Valley Rehab

Mark Rakis reported on SJVR's Joint Commission Survey. They had some minor issues to fix. They asked for some updates, but he informed them that the building was designed 20 years ago. He argued several points, and the surveyor agreed to only write up what they agreed on. The surveyor also met with their safety committee, asked questions, and reviewed records. There were some minor issues involving plastic containers stacked too high in the closet, missing fire extinguishers, etc.

C. Adventist Health

Adventist Health had three of their hospitals surveyed. Selma and Hanford are on the same license, and Reedley is separate. They mostly focused on Life Safety. They also looked at documentation on monitoring of 5150 patients and ligature risk assessments at AH-Hanford.

5. EMS

A. CCEMSA

Curtis Jack reported that members should be sure they are on CAHAN in their operational areas in order to receive information on Public Safety Power Shutoffs. Information comes out faster over CAHAN than through other sources.

The new grant will be starting soon. Curtis will send out information to update contact lists.

Curtis will be on medical leave beginning August 19. He plans to be back by the end of September. Dan Lynch will be covering as the MHOAC during his absence.

6. A.R.E.S./R.A.C.E.S.

There was a discussion on ham radios. Ridgecrest did not know how to program handheld radios, and training is being planned. Curtis received an email from Glenn on this. A tabletop is being planned for each operational area.

7. HVA

Curtis sent out a copy of the new HVA that he would like to use for the Coalition. This tool is not for individual facilities. He noted it uses 30 years as the probability. He would like to change this to 10-15 or less. There was a motion and second to change this to 10 years. It was voted on and approved. Curtis will update the document and send it out for review and feedback.

Curtis reported that the grant recommends that lead and co-lead hospitals be named. The only requirement is that they participate in the coalition. There are no other benefits or extra funding for the hospitals in these positions. RMC will be listed as the lead, and Valley Children's Hospital and Kaweah Delta Medical Center will be co-leads.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2019.