

Core Competencies and Subcompetencies for Disaster Medicine and Public Health

Note: For all, the disaster or public health emergency context is assumed.

- 1.0 **Maintain personal and family preparedness.**
 - 1.1 Develop a personal/family disaster plan
 - 1.2 Assemble disaster supplies/equipment consistent with personal/family plan
 - 1.3 Evaluate one's personal/family disaster plan on an annual basis.
 - 1.4 Describe methods for enhancing personal resilience, including physical and mental health and wellbeing, as part of disaster preparation and planning.
- 2.0 **Demonstrate knowledge of one's expected role(s) in organizational and community response plans.**
 - 2.1 Explain one's role within the incident management hierarchy and chain of command established within one's organization/agency.
 - 2.2 Develop a personal professional disaster plan consistent with one's overall agency, organizational, and/or jurisdictional plan.
 - 2.3 Explain mechanisms for reporting actual and potential health threats through the chain of command/authority as established.
 - 2.4 Modify one's personal professional disaster plan based on regular exercises and drills.
- 3.0 **Maintain situational awareness of actual/potential health hazards.**
 - 3.1 Identify general indicators and epidemiological clues that may signal the onset or exacerbation of the situation.
 - 3.2 Describe measures to maintain situational awareness before, during, and after.
- 4.0 **Communicate effectively with others.**
 - 4.1 Identify authoritative sources for information.
 - 4.2 Explain principles of crisis and emergency risk communication to meet the needs of all ages and populations.
 - 4.3 Identify strategies for appropriate sharing of information.
 - 4.4 Identify cultural issues and challenges in the development and dissemination of risk communication.
- 5.0 **Demonstrate knowledge of personal safety measures that can be implemented.**
 - 5.1 Explain general health, safety, and security risks.
 - 5.2 Describe risk reduction measures that can be implemented to mitigate or prevent hazardous exposures.
- 6.0 **Demonstrate knowledge of surge capacity assets, consistent with one's role in organizational, agency, and/or community response plans.**
 - 6.1 Describe the potential impact of a mass casualty incident on access to and availability of clinical and public health resources.
 - 6.2 Identify existing surge capacity assets which could be deployed.
- 7.0 **Demonstrate knowledge of principles and practices for the clinical management of all ages and populations affected by disasters and public health emergencies, in accordance with professional scope of practice.**
 - 7.1 Discuss common physical and mental health consequences for all affected ages and populations.
 - 7.2 Explain the role of triage as a basis for prioritizing or rationing healthcare services for all affected ages and populations.
 - 7.3 Discuss basic lifesaving and support principles and procedures that can be utilized at a disaster scene.
- 8.0 **Demonstrate knowledge of public health principles and practices for the management of all affected ages and populations.**
 - 8.1 Discuss frequently seen public health consequences.
 - 8.2 Identify all ages and populations with functional and access needs who may be more vulnerable to adverse health effects.
 - 8.3 Identify strategies to address functional and access needs to mitigate adverse health effects.
 - 8.4 Describe common public health interventions to protect the health of all affected ages and populations.
- 9.0 **Demonstrate knowledge of ethical principles to protect the health and safety of all affected ages, populations, and communities.**
 - 9.1 Discuss ethical issues likely to be encountered.
 - 9.2 Describe ethical issues and challenges associated with crisis standards of care.
 - 9.3 Describe ethical issues and challenges associated with allocation of scarce resources.
- 10.0 **Demonstrate knowledge of legal principles to protect the health and safety of all affected ages, populations, and communities.**
 - 10.1 Describe legal and regulatory issues likely to be encountered.
 - 10.2 Describe legal issues and challenges associated with crisis standards of care.
 - 10.3 Describe legal issues and challenges associated with allocation of scarce resources.
 - 10.4 Describe legal statutes related to healthcare delivery that may be activated or modified under a state or federal declaration of disaster or public health emergency.
- 11.0 **Demonstrate knowledge of short- and long-term considerations for recovery of all affected ages, populations, and communities.**
 - 11.1 Describe clinical considerations for the recovery of all affected ages and populations.
 - 11.2 Discuss public health considerations for the recovery of all affected ages and populations.
 - 11.3 Identify strategies for increasing the resilience of affected individuals and communities.
 - 11.4 Discuss the importance of monitoring the mental and physical health impacts on responders and their families.

Adapted from: Walsh L, Subbarao I, Gebbie K, Schor K, Lyznicki J, Strauss-Riggs K. Core competencies for disaster medicine and public health. *Disaster Med Public Health Prep.* 2012;6(1):44-52.