

## ESF #8 – Public Health and Medical

<b>ESF #8 Coordinator:</b>	Kansas Department of Health and Environment
<b>Primary Agency:</b>	Kansas Department of Health and Environment
<b>Support Agencies:</b>	The Adjutant General's Department, Kansas Division of Emergency Management The Adjutant General's Department, Kansas National Guard The Adjutant General's Department, Kansas Civil Air Patrol Kansas Department of Agriculture, Division of Food Safety Kansas Attorney General's Department, Kansas Bureau of Investigation Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services Kansas Geological Survey Kansas Highway Patrol Kansas Human Rights Commission American Red Cross Kansas Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters, Kansas Funeral Directors and Embalmers Association Kansas Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters, Kansas Veterinary Medical Association

## Purpose

Emergency Support Function (ESF) #8 - Public Health and Medical Services provides the mechanism for coordinated State assistance to supplement local resources in response to public health and medical care needs for potential or actual disaster/emergencies involving a potential health or medical situation.

## Scope

ESF #8 provides supplemental assistance to local governments in identifying and meeting the public health and medical needs of victims of a disaster/emergency. This support is categorized in the following functional areas:

- Provision of medical equipment and supplies to clinics, hospitals and long term care facilities (See Kansas Biological Incident Annex (BIA) for details);
- Provision of emergency mental health crisis counseling for individuals and the community;
- Identification and mitigation of environmental health issues (food and water contamination/clean-up);

- Fatality management;
- Worker health and safety;
- Public health and medical information; and
- Re-establishment of all health and medical systems.

## **Policies**

The Secretary of the Department of Health and Environment (KDHE), through the State Health Officer, coordinates state ESF #8 preparedness, response, and recovery actions. These actions do not alter or impede the existing authorities of any department or agency supporting ESF #8. KDHE coordinates all ESF #8 response actions consistent with KDHE policies and the BIA. The BIA describes the roles of public health authorities in responding to outbreaks of disease.

## **Concept of Operations**

### **General**

Throughout the response and recovery periods, ESF #8 will evaluate and analyze information regarding medical, health, and public health assistance requests for response, develop and update assessments of medical and public health status in the impact area and do contingency planning to meet anticipated demands.

### **Organization**

During an emergency or disaster, the primary and support agencies of ESF #8 will assign personnel to the SEOC. ESF #8 will respond directly to the Emergency Services Branch Chief who reports to the Operations Section Chief.

During the response phase, ESF #8 will evaluate and analyze information regarding medical and public health assistance requests. Also, ESF #8 will develop and update assessments of medical and public health status in the impact area and do contingency planning to meet anticipated demands.

### **Notifications**

- Kansas Division Emergency Management (KDEM) will notify the ESF #8 agencies when an area of Kansas is threatened or has been impacted by an emergency or disaster event;
- The designated agencies notified will report to the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) if so advised or requested by the KDEM; and
- The agencies designated to report to the SEOC will notify their agency personnel of the impending or actual event.

## **Actions**

Once activated in the SEOC, ESF #8 team members on duty will accomplish one or more preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation actions. The following is a list of those actions:

- **Preparedness**
  - Conduct planning with support agencies;
  - Conduct training for Kansas Emergency Response Team (KERT);
  - Develop and refine procedures to be used in field surveys;
  - Establish Geographical Information System (GIS) maps for critical facilities and target populations;
  - Maintain liaison with health and medical volunteer organizations, Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT) and Disaster Mortuary Response Teams (DMORT); and
  - Develop rapid response mechanism for crisis mental health counseling and assist in the development of public health nursing disaster protocols.
- **Response**
  - Manage all field-deployed assets;
  - Conduct field assessments and surveys;
  - Provide staff and services for monitoring public health conditions;
  - Determine needs for health surveillance programs;
  - Arrange for the provision of medical personnel, equipment, and supplies as needed to health and medical facilities;
  - Assist with patient evacuation and post-event relocation;
  - Identify hospitals bed space;
  - Assist in hazardous materials response through consultation, technical supports or staff deployment;
  - Arrange for emergency mental health services to individuals and communities;
  - Support response personnel with critical incident stress debriefing resources;
  - Arrange for DMORT or victim identification services;
  - Monitor water quality and provide guidance for an regulatory oversight of emergency wastewater treatment, water supply, and purification operations;
  - Perform on-site inspections to ensure emergency food supplies and stored and dispensed at feeding stations in a safe and sanitary manner;
  - Provide laboratory facilities for analyses of health and environment samples; and
  - Initiate on-site public education programs on the health problems associated with the emergency or disaster.

- **Recovery**
  - Maintain support of the Joint Field Office (JFO);
  - Restore essential health and medical components of delivery systems and permanent medical facilities to operational status;
  - Restore pharmacy services to operational status;
  - Monitor environmental and epidemiological systems;
  - Monitor public and private food supplies, water, sewage, and solid waste disposal systems;
  - Compile health reports for state officials;
  - Initiate grants for environmental and epidemiological surveillance;
  - Support emergency services staff and operations until the local system is self-sustaining maintain provision of long-term emergency environmental activities;
  - Identify populations requiring event-driven health, medical or social services post-event; and
  - Initiate financial reimbursement process for support services.
- **Prevention**
  - Increase use of GIS to identify location of all vulnerable sites or populations;
  - Stockpile critical medical supplies in strategic locations throughout the state;
  - Identify and seek auxiliary power for critical facilities; and
  - Conduct epidemic intelligence, evaluation, and prevention of communicable diseases.

### **Direction and Control**

- Activities will be coordinated through the SEOC that will serve as the source of all direction and control;
- The Adjutant General (TAG) or designee of KDEM provides direction and control for ESF #8 to include mission assignments, mutual aid, KERT, contracts for goods and services, radiological emergencies, and recovery and mitigation activities;
- ESF #8 falls within the Emergence Services Branch Chief's arena;
- Agencies of ESF #8 may serve the KERT in Field Operations (i.e., the Kansas Assessment Team, JFO operations, Disaster Recovery Center operations, intrastate and/or interstate mutual aid assistance, etc.);
- When a request for assistance is received by ESF #8 it is assigned to the agency or agencies that have the most appropriate resources and expertise to accomplish the task; and
- KDEM will assist in the coordination of federal response efforts under the provisions of a Presidential Disaster Declaration.

## Responsibilities

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is designated as the coordinator for ESF #8. As ESF coordinator, KDHE and the KDEM coordinates meetings, plans, exercises, training, and other activities with, the private sector, and the ESF #8 support agencies.

### **Kansas Department of Health and Environment** ***Division of Health***

- Provide leadership in directing, coordinating and integrating overall state efforts to provide health, medical, public health assistance to the affected area;
- Staff, operate a command, and control structure to assure that services and staff are provided to areas of need;
- Provide assistance and guidance to county health departments regarding preparedness and response to public health emergencies;
- Activate a state-wide Health Alert Network (HAN) to include physicians, hospital, and health departments, when required;
- Prepare general information material for general public and clinicians;
- Detect and investigate unusual disease events or clusters;
- Provide recommendations and decisions on mass prophylaxis and treatment:
  - Request the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) push package or vendor managed inventory;
  - Send a pre-designated official to meet and sign for SNS assets;
  - Maintain control of SNS assets and provide continued tracking; and
  - Assist dispensing agencies with media relations and risk communication issues.
- Supply information to the public on personal protective measures through the Joint Information Center (JIC):
  - Adapt and reproduce fact sheets with relevant information.
- Provide information to providers on prophylaxis and treatment guidelines:
  - Adapt and reproduce prepared fact sheets with relevant information;
  - Distribute information to clinicians and hospitals; and
  - Provide two-way communication through EPI-X.
- Implement public health control measures:
  - Recognize and determine the need for isolation and quarantine measures; and
  - Perform applied epidemiology.
- Expedite processing of vital records (birth, marriage, and death certificates) for disaster victims.

### ***Division of Health and Environmental Laboratories***

- Provide required laboratory services:
  - Maintain a Bio-safety Level 3 (BSL3) laboratory capability;
  - Provide a Level A laboratory technician;
  - Provide a Level 2 Diagnostic Chemistry Laboratory in Topeka, Kansas;
  - Disseminate an all hazards chain-of-custody for clinical specimens;
  - Maintain protocols for specimen submission;
  - Maintain a list of Sentinel Laboratories;
  - Provide training and guidance on packaging and shipping regulations inclusive of evidence control measures;
  - Pre-position packing materials for biological specimens, when necessary;
  - Provide a list of packing materials that the must be maintained by the facility collecting specimens in the instance of a chemical emergency or terrorist event;
  - Provide information on specimen transportation and the modes of transportation available, including the Courier Service and Hot Shot;
  - Implement Memorandums of Understanding and contractual agreements as needed during a response that involves the Department of Health & Environment Laboratory;
  - Develop and maintain Mutual Aid Agreements with other State Laboratories and Biological Security Level 3 Laboratories;
  - Implement protocols to process specimens for law enforcement officials; and
  - Contract with laboratories for overflow of clinical specimens during a bioterrorism event.

### ***Division of Environment***

- Provides assistance with vector control on infected premises;
- Provide air and radiation monitoring;
- Provide radiation, remediation, water, and remediation coordination;
- Provide technical guidance and support;
- Provide technical instrumentation as required;
- Provide liaison services to other federal agencies;
- Provide list of all radiation instruments, monitoring, and air monitoring equipment;
- Assist in the preparation of technical information as it relates to the environment; and
- Coordinate investigation as it relates to radiation or other environmental areas.

## **The Adjutant General's Department**

### ***Kansas Division of Emergency Management***

- Coordinate supplemental assistance for the identification, movement, storage, and disposition of victims; and
- Maintain liaison with the information clearinghouse regarding missing persons and casualties managed by the American Red Cross (ARC).

### ***Kansas National Guard***

- Provide limited medical support and first aid services;
- Provide emergency transportation of blood, blood products, and medical equipment;
- Identify possible medical resources for deployment such as Expeditionary Medical Support System (EMEDS); and
- Provide patient evacuation support (ground and air).

### ***Kansas Civil Air Patrol***

- Provide emergency transportation of blood and blood products; and
- Provide transportation of donor organs.

## **Kansas Department of Agriculture**

### ***Division of Food Safety***

- Conduct inspections of stored food, markets, food processing plants, and distribution points for possible chemical, biological, and radiological contamination;
- Provide regulatory oversight of the disposal of damaged food products; and
- Initiate the following activities regarding a radiological emergency incident:
  - Determine the needs of the agricultural industry during a radiological emergency;
  - Recommend protective actions measures as guided by the KDHE when a radiological hazard is detected; and
  - Draft and promulgate agricultural procedures that will be effective during nuclear power plant emergencies.

## **Attorney General's Office**

### ***Kansas Bureau of Investigation***

- Provide technical expertise and assistance in identification of human remains.

## **Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services**

- Provide technical expertise and training on regulations and modifications to standard practices upon activation of ESF #8.

## **Kansas Geological Survey**

- Provide technical assistance on ground water quality, quantity, and availability.

### **Kansas Highway Patrol**

- Provide emergency transportation of blood, blood products, medical supplies, and donor organs; and
- Provide assistance in the rapid transportation of samples for analysis as necessary.

### **Kansas Human Rights Commission**

- Process complaints alleging unlawful discriminatory practices based upon race, religion, sex, color, disability, national origin, ancestry or age, made by disaster victims in the area of health and medical services.

### **American Red Cross**

- Provide blood and blood products.

### **Kansas Voluntary Organizations Active in Disasters**

#### ***Kansas Funeral Directors and Embalmers Association***

- Provide victim identification and mortuary services; and
- Assist the County Coroner.

#### ***Kansas Veterinary Medical Association***

- Identify local veterinarians or veterinary technicians willing to donate services, supplies and/or facilities;
- Augment medical resources such as manpower, facilities, and equipment for the treatment of both humans and animals; and
- Assist in the coordination of veterinary medical care relief efforts at the local level.