VHA Comprehensive Emergency Management Program Analysis

Capabilities Scoring Tool

**VISN Office Comprehensive Emergency Management**

**Program**

Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration

Office of Public Health and Environmental Hazards, Emergency Management Strategic Health Care Group

## vaseal

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[Directions 5](#_Toc204400931)

[1 PROGRAM LEVEL CAPABILITIES 6](#_Toc204400932)

[1.1 Systems-Based Approach to the Development, Implementation, Management, and Maintenance of the Emergency Management Program 6](#_Toc204400933)

[1.2 Administrative Activities ensure the Emergency Management Program meets its Mission and Objectives 6](#_Toc204400934)

[1.3 Development, Implementation, Management, and Maintenance of an Emergency Management Committee process to support the Emergency Management Program 7](#_Toc204400935)

[1.4 Incorporation of Comprehensive Preparedness Planning in the VISN’s Coordination Activities in Conjunction with the Individual Facility Emergency Management Programs. 8](#_Toc204400936)

[1.5 Incorporation of Continuity Planning into the Coordination Activities of the VISN office’s Emergency Management Program 8](#_Toc204400937)

[1.6 Development, Implementation, Management, and Maintenance of an Emergency Operations Plan 9](#_Toc204400938)

[1.7 Incorporation of Training into the Preparedness Activities of the VISN’s Emergency Management Program 10](#_Toc204400939)

[1.8 Incorporation of a Range of Exercise Types into the VISN Emergency Management Program 10](#_Toc204400940)

[1.9 Demonstration of Systems-Based Evaluation of the VISN’s overall Emergency Management Program and its Emergency Operations Plan 11](#_Toc204400941)

[1.10 Incorporation of Accepted Improvement Recommendations into the Emergency Management Program and its Components such that the Process becomes one of a Learning Organization. 12](#_Toc204400942)

[2 Incident Management Capabilities 13](#_Toc204400943)

[2.1 Initial Incident Actions (e.g., First 4 Hours) 13](#_Toc204400944)

[2.1.1 Processes and Procedures for Incident Recognition, Activation of EOP/EOC and Initial Notification of Staff 13](#_Toc204400945)

[2.1.2 Mobilization of Critical Staff and Equipment for Incident Response 13](#_Toc204400946)

[2.1.3 Situational Assessment of Response and Coordination Efforts for Initial Incident Management 14](#_Toc204400947)

[2.2 Management of Extended Operations (e.g., After First 4 Hours) 15](#_Toc204400948)

[2.2.1 Management of Extended Operations 15](#_Toc204400949)

[2.2.2 Public Information Management Services during an Incident 15](#_Toc204400950)

[2.2.3 Management and Acquisition of Resources for Incident Response and Recovery Operations 16](#_Toc204400951)

[2.2.4 Processes and Procedures for Demobilization of Personnel and Equipment 17](#_Toc204400952)

[2.2.5 Processes and Procedures for a Return to readiness of Staff and Equipment 17](#_Toc204400953)

[3 Occupant Safety Capabilities 18](#_Toc204400954)

[3.1 Evacuation vs. Shelter-in-Place 18](#_Toc204400955)

[3.1.1 Processes and Procedures for Evacuation of Patients’, Staff, and Visitors’ 18](#_Toc204400956)

[3.1.2 Processes and Procedures for Sheltering-in-Place 19](#_Toc204400957)

[3.1.3 Processes and Procedures for Sheltering for Family of Critical Staff 19](#_Toc204400958)

[3.2 Perimeter Security and Management of Access/Egress to Facility during an Incident (e.g., Lock Down) 20](#_Toc204400959)

[3.3 Processes and Procedures for Managing a Hazardous Substance Incident 21](#_Toc204400960)

[3.4 Infection Control 22](#_Toc204400961)

[3.4.1 Biohazard (Infection) Control Surge Services during Emergencies 22](#_Toc204400962)

[3.4.2 Selection and Use of Personal Protective Equipment for Incident Response and Recovery Operations 23](#_Toc204400963)

[3.4.3 Processes and Procedures for Staff and Family Mass Prophylaxis during an Infectious Outbreak (i.e., Influenza) 23](#_Toc204400964)

[4 Resiliency/Continuity of Operations 24](#_Toc204400965)

[4.1 Personnel Resiliency 24](#_Toc204400966)

[4.1.1 Maintaining Authorized Leadership (Leadership Succession) 24](#_Toc204400967)

[4.1.2 Maintaining Employee Physical and Mental Welfare during an Incident 25](#_Toc204400968)

[4.1.3 Dissemination of Personnel Incident Information to Staff during an Incident 25](#_Toc204400969)

[4.2 Mission Critical Systems Resiliency 26](#_Toc204400970)

[4.2.1 Maintaining Information Technology (IT) and Computing Systems Resiliency during an Incident 26](#_Toc204400971)

[4.2.2 Maintaining Access to Critical Commodities and Services during Response and Recovery Operations 27](#_Toc204400972)

[4.3 Communications 28](#_Toc204400973)

[4.3.1 Maintenance of Voice and Data Communication through Satellite Link 28](#_Toc204400974)

[4.3.2 Interoperable Communications with External Agencies 28](#_Toc204400975)

[4.3.3 Interoperable Communications with VISN Facilities’ 29](#_Toc204400976)

[4.4 Healthcare Systems Resiliency 30](#_Toc204400977)

[4.4.1 Management of Primary Care for Special Needs Patients, including Home-Based Care during Incidents 30](#_Toc204400978)

[5 Medical Surge 30](#_Toc204400979)

[5.1 Processes and Procedures for Expansion of Staff for Response and Recovery Operations 30](#_Toc204400980)

[5.2 Management of Volunteers Deployment Support (e.g., DEMPS) during Response and Recovery Operations 31](#_Toc204400981)

[5.3.1 Processes and Procedures for Deployment and Return to Readiness of the VA All-Hazards Emergency Cache Program 32](#_Toc204400982)

[5.3.2 Designated Capability for Expanded Patient Triage, Evaluation and Treatment during Surge 33](#_Toc204400983)

[5.3.3 Processes and Procedures for Control and Coordination of Mass Fatality Management 34](#_Toc204400984)

[6 Support to External Requirements 34](#_Toc204400985)

[6.1 Provision of Supplemental Health Services to Support the National Disaster Medical System 34](#_Toc204400986)

[6.2 VA/DOD Contingency Hospital System 35](#_Toc204400987)

[6.3 Support under the National Response Framework 36](#_Toc204400988)

# Directions

The purpose of this document is to assist the assessment team in scoring each individual capability. Please use the following document at the end of each day of each day by placing an “X” next to the appropriate measure. Include justification for your score in the comment/rationale box. Detailed descriptions of each capability are included in the “VHA Comprehensive Emergency Management Program Analysis Capabilities Description.” Once this tool is complete, the measurements and scoring can be transferred to the site final report.

**See example below**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including a 1-800 number for employee call-in and advising. Program is tested semiannually. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place with an employee call-in number. System is tested annually. |
|  | 2 | Developed | VISN has an established call-in number and/or communications plan for notifying and advising employees. Program is tested annually. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | VISN has a plan for notifying and advising employees during an emergency. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of capability and appropriate planning to keep employees informed during an emergency. |
|  |  | Comment/Rationale |  |

# PROGRAM LEVEL CAPABILITIES

## 1.1 Systems-Based Approach to the Development, Implementation, Management, and Maintenance of the Emergency Management Program

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present.  |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place and the EMP is reviewed annually.  |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place. VISN meets the underlying requirement of annual review and update of the EMP. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, some key components are not yet developed. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of capability, as evidenced by lack of an EMP planning process. |
|  |  | Comment/Rationale |  |

## 1.2 Administrative Activities ensure the Emergency Management Program meets its Mission and Objectives

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place and there is an annual assessment of the resources needed to sustain the EMP and accomplish the defined operational objectives for the upcoming year. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place. Funding is provided as needed. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, some key components are not yet developed, including a lack of staffing to accomplish the full scope of the EMP. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of capability exhibited by a lack of staffing to accomplish the full scope of the EMP to the point that accreditation is at risk. |
|  |  | Comment/Rationale |  |

## 1.3 Development, Implementation, Management, and Maintenance of an Emergency Management Committee process to support the Emergency Management Program

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place and the EMC meets at least quarterly with ad hoc meetings as necessary.  |
|  | 2 | Developed | There is an equivalent meeting of individuals at the VISN level to oversee VISN facility preparedness. Resources and training are in place.  |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | The EMC has been appointed, but does not meet at least quarterly, and the role of the EMC is not fully developed, including a lack of meeting minutes. Or, there is only ad hoc meetings at the VISN level on facility preparedness. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of capability because the EMC meets sporadically, lacks meeting minutes, and does not play a significant role in the overall management of the program. Or there is no equivalent VISN level meetings to assess facility preparedness and VISN coordination capabilities. |
|  |  | Comment/Rationale |  |

##

## 1.4 Incorporation of Comprehensive Preparedness Planning in the VISN’s Coordination Activities in Conjunction with the Individual Facility Emergency Management Programs.

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present including a semiannual briefing to the EMC on planning activities. A written report summarizing planning activities and identifying recommended planning objectives is submitted annually. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place including an annual evaluation and report submitted to the EMC. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Facility has an ongoing emergency management planning program coordinated with the EMC. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | There are elements of an emergency management planning program, but it is not fully coordinated with the EMC. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | Facility lacks an integrated emergency management planning program. |
|  |  | Comment/Rationale |  |

## 1.5 Incorporation of Continuity Planning into the Coordination Activities of the VISN Office’s Emergency Management Program

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including briefings to the EMC and ELC on continuity planning activities. A written report summarizing continuity planning activities and identifying recommended continuity planning objectives is submitted annually. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place including an annual evaluation and report submitted to the EMC and ELC. |
|  | 2 | Developed | VISN has ongoing continuity planning program. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | There are elements of a continuity planning program. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | VISN lacks an integrated continuity planning program. |
|  |  | Comment/Rationale |  |

##

## 1.6 Development, Implementation, Management, and Maintenance of an Emergency Operations Plan

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including a semiannual briefing to the EMC and/or ELC on EOP activities. A written report summarizing continuity planning activities identifying recommended continuity planning objectives is submitted annually. At least one exercise is conducted annually. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place including, an annual evaluation, exercise and report submitted to the EMC and/or ELC. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Facility has one EOP briefing coordinated with the EMC. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | There are elements of a program to update the EOP, but it is not fully coordinated with the EMC. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | Facility lacks an integrated EOP. |
|  |  | Comment/Rationale |  |

##

## 1.7 Incorporation of Comprehensive Instructional Activity into the Preparedness Activities of the VISN’s Emergency Management Program

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including a semiannual briefing to the EMC and/or ELC on continuing education activities. A written report summarizing continuity education activities and identifying a recommended training objective is submitted annually. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training activities are in place including an annual evaluation and report submitted to the EMC/ELC. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Facility has an ongoing continuity education program coordinated with the EMC. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | There are elements of a continuing education program, but it is not fully coordinated with the EMC. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | Facility lacks an integrated continuing education program. |
|  |  | Comment/Rationale |  |

## 1.8 Incorporation of a Range of Exercise Types that Test the VISN’s Emergency Management Program

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present. Exercise program includes at least two exercises per year. An AAR is produced after each exercise, and the results are included in the EOP, which must be updated at least annually. The VISN EPC also participates with the community in designing and/or planning a community exercise that involves the VISN. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place, and the capability is tested semiannually. Exercise program includes two exercises per year. An AAR is produced after each exercise, and the results are included in the EOP, which must be updated at least annually.  |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place. VISN meets underlying requirement where applicable. Exercise program includes one exercise per year. An AAR is produced after each exercise, and the results are included in the EOP, which must be updated at least annually. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, some key components are not yet developed. VISN conducts one exercise annually, but it does not prepare detailed AARs or incorporate the recommendations into the annual review of the EOP. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of capability. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

## 1.9 Demonstration of Systems-Based Evaluation of the VISN’s overall Emergency Management Program and its Emergency Operations Plan

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including a semiannual briefing to the EMC/ELC on program evaluation activities. A written report summarizing program activities and identifying recommended training objectives is submitted annually. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training activities are in place including an annual evaluation and report submitted to the EMC. |
|  | 2 | Developed | VISN has ongoing program evaluation activities coordinated with the EMC. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | There are elements of program evaluation activities, but they are not fully coordinated with the EMC/ELC. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | VISN lacks an integrated program evaluation activity. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

## 1.10 Incorporation of Accepted Improvement Recommendations into the Emergency Management Program and its Components such that the Process becomes one of a Learning Organization.

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including a semiannual briefing to the EMC/ELC on organizational learning activities.  |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training activities are in place including an annual evaluation and report submitted to the EMC/ELC. |
|  | 2 | Developed | VISN has ongoing organizational learning program coordinated with the EMC/ELC to ensure consistency across the entire spectrum of this activity. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | There are elements of an organizational learning program, but they are not fully developed. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | VISN lacks an integrated organizational learning program. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

# Incident Management Capabilities

## 2.1 Initial Incident Actions (e.g., First Four Hours)

### 2.1.1 Processes and Procedures for Incident Recognition, Activation of EOP/EOC and Initial Notification of Staff

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including establishing an IMT consistent with the VISN’s EOP and tested annually. AARs are developed and used for continuous quality improvement. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place, and mobilization is practiced at least annually. AARs are developed and used for continuous improvement. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place, including a written mobilization plan. AARs are used. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, mobilization plan is being developed and exercises are planned.. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of a mobilization plan or exercises. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

### 2.1.2 Mobilization of Critical Staff and Equipment for Incident Response

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including establishing an IMT consistent with the VISN’s EOP and tested annually. AARs are developed and used for continuous quality improvement. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place, and mobilization is practiced at least annually. AARs are developed and used for continuous improvement. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place, including a written mobilization plan. AARs are used. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, mobilization plan is being developed and exercises are planned.. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of a mobilization plan or exercises. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

###

### 2.1.3 Situational Assessment of Response and Coordination Efforts for Initial Incident Management and EOC Activation

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including an annual activation of the EOC and accomplishment of a risk assessment. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place, and the EOC activation is tested annually. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place. VISN can activate the EOC and perform a hazard risk assessment. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, some key components, as described above are not yet developed. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of an EOC activation plan and/or major components as described in the above assessment. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

###

## 2.2 Management of Extended Operations (e.g., After First Four Hours)

### 2.2.1 Management of Extended Operations

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present including an annual briefing to the EMC/ELC on the plan for extended operations. A written report summarizing continuity planning activities identifying recommended continuity planning objectives is submitted annually. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place, including an annual evaluation and report submitted to the EMC/ELC. |
|  | 2 | Developed | VISN has ongoing continuity planning program  |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | There are elements of an extended operations plan |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | VISN lacks an extended hours plan. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

## 2.2.2 Public Information Management Services during an Incident

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including establishing contact with the local mass media. The media communications plan is practiced semiannually. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place and the media communications plan is practiced at least annually. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place including a written media communications plan. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, a media communications plan is not written or practiced at least annually. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of a VISN media relations plan. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

## 2.2.3 Management and Acquisition of Resources for Incident Response and Recovery Operations

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including a pre-planning incident assessment for resource allocation and evidence of including facility hazard mitigation and other emergency preparedness projects in VISN NRM and Minor Construction Programs.. Resources are identified by kind and type. Facility has a system in place to identify, inventory, track, allocate, deploy, and return resources to normal status during and after an incident. The resource management plan is practiced semiannually. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place and the resource management plan is practiced at least annually. Hazard mitigation and other emergency preparedness projects are included in VISN NRM and Minor Construction programming. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place including a written resource management plan that covers operational and NRM/Minor construction funding.. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, a resource management plan is not written or practiced at least annually. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of a resource management plan. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

## 2.2.4 Processes and Procedures for Demobilization of Personnel and Equipment

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including established demobilization procedures. Demobilization plan is practiced semi-annually. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place, and demobilization is practiced at least annually. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place, including a written demobilization plan. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, the demobilization plan is not written or practiced at least annually. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of a mobilization plan. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

## 2.2.5 Processes and Procedures for a Return to Readiness of Staff and Equipment

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including established demobilization procedures. The Return to Readiness Plan is practiced semiannually. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place and the Return to Readiness Plan is practiced at least annually. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place including a written Return to Readiness Plan. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, the Return to Readiness Plan is not written or practiced at least annually. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of Return to Readiness Plan. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

##

# Occupant Safety Capabilities

## 3.1 Evacuation vs. Shelter-in-Place

### 3.1.1 Processes and Procedures for Evacuation of Patients’, Staff, and Visitors’

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including identifying of an evacuation area, alternate care sites, and safe transportation. The evacuation plan should be exercised at least annually. The plan should include horizontal and vertical evacuations. Facilities should have evacuation devices at or under the patient beds where applicable. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Evacuation plan includes identifying an evacuation area, alternate care sites, and safe transportation. Evacuation plan is exercised at least annually. The plan includes horizontal and vertical evacuations. |
|  | 2 | Developed | VISN evacuation plan is current and coordinated with facility plans.  |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | VISN lacks evacuation plan or has not exercised the evacuation plan within 15 months. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of capability, including lack of an evacuation plan. |
|  |  | Comments//Rationale |  |

### 3.1.2 Processes and Procedures for Sheltering-in-Place

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including pre-identified locations within the VISN suitable for shelter-in-place activation for patients and staff. Plan includes provisions for housing, food, water, and security. Plan is exercised at least annually.  |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place to support the shelter-in-place capability. Plan includes provisions for housing, food, water, and security. Plan is exercised at least annually.  |
|  | 2 | Developed | Shelter-in-place plan is developed and tested on regular basis at frequency determined by the VISN. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | VISN lacks a detailed shelter-in-place plan and does not test its capability on a regular basis. VISN is developing a plan but has not yet implemented it. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of capability evidenced by lack of a shelter-in-place plan. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

### 3.1.3 Processes and Procedures for Sheltering for Family of Critical Staff

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including a written plan approved by the EMC. Plan includes identification of facilities for family shelter, housing, beds, food, and supplies and is tested annually. It also includes provisions for pets.  |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place to support the family shelter, including identification of facilities for family shelter, housing, beds, food and supplies and is tested annually. It also includes provisions for pets.  |
|  | 2 | Developed | VISN has a Family Shelter plan for critical employees. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | VISN does not have a Family Shelter plan for families of critical employees, but it is developing one. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | VISN does not have a Family Shelter plan for families of critical employees. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

## 3.2 Perimeter Security and Management of Access/Egress to Facility During an Incident (e.g., Lock Down)

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including the ability to lockdown the VISN. Methods for securing means of egress to and from the VISN are equipped with panic hardware to prevent entrance but allow egress. Plan is tested annually. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | The lockdown plan includes the ability to lockdown the VISN. Methods for securing means of egress to and from the VISN are equipped with panic hardware to prevent entrance but allow egress. Plan is tested annually. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place. Regular testing of lockdown procedure as defined by the VISN occurs. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, some key components are not yet developed including a regular exercise of the campus and/or individual building lockdown procedures. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of capability demonstrated by not being able to lockdown the VISN. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

## 3.3 Processes and Procedures for Managing a Hazardous Substance Incident

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including the presence of a fixed decontamination capability. At least one annual exercise includes the VAMC’s All-Hazards Emergency Cache. VAMC have the decontamination team integrated with patient reception and evacuation teams.  |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place, and the decontamination program is tested annually with the VAMC All-Hazard Emergency Cache. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place. Facility meets underlying requirement, where applicable, including OSHA and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements under Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (OSHA 29 CFR, 1910.120) (HAZWOPER) and the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) for decontamination team members and proper disposal of waste water. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, some key components are not yet developed including integrating decontamination exercises with the VAMC All-Hazard Emergency Cache or integration of decontamination team with patient reception or evacuation. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of capability demonstrated by not being able to activate decontamination equipment or lack of an annual decontamination exercise. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

## 3.4 Infection Control

### 3.4.1 Biohazard (Infection) Control Surge Services during Emergencies

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | VISNS ensure and are aware that all of the above assessment components are present, including the ability to identify and secure supplies and personnel to expand the IC program’s capability as needed. The IC staff are trained on their role. The expanded program is tested at least once a year, and the exercise integrated with the facility wide exercise. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | VISNS ensure that resources and training are in place, and the IC capability is tested annually. Facility staff are aware of the expanded capability and can identify personnel designated to serve as adjuncts to the IC program. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place. VISN facilities meet underlying requirements, where applicable, including OSHA requirements for personal protection.  |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist for the expanded IC program; however, some key components are not yet developed. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of an expanded IC program. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

###

### 3.4.2 Selection and Use of Personal Protective Equipment for Incident Response and Recovery Operations

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | VISN assures that all of the above assessment components are present, including a hazard analysis of all employees with roles in emergency management response and recovery. This includes staff enrolled in the Respiratory Protection Program as part of the decontamination program.  |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place at the VISN facilities, and the PPE issued to employees with a role in the EMP is reviewed annually for suitability, including fit testing for those in the decontamination program. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place for all employees with a role in response and recovery efforts.  |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, some key components are not yet developed, including annual review of PPE suitability. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of capability, including lack of a job hazard analysis or regular review of PPE issued to those with a role in emergency management response and recovery activities. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

### 3.4.3 Processes and Procedures for Staff and Family Mass Prophylaxis during an Infectious Outbreak (i.e., Influenza)

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | VISN is aware and assures that all of the above assessment components are present, including an adequate inventory of prophylactic medications for staff and family. There is a well-documented process for administering the prophylaxis and that process is tested annually.  |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place to support the mass prophylaxis program and the capability is tested annually. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place to support the mass prophylaxis program. Facility meets underlying requirements of VHA where applicable. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, some key components of the mass prophylaxis program are not yet developed. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of mass prophylaxis capability. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

# Resiliency/Continuity of Operations

## 4.1 Personnel Resiliency

### 4.1.1 Maintaining Authorized Leadership (Leadership Succession)

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including the immediate ability for personnel to take on leadership roles. The line of succession is published and distributed to key VISN and facility staff and is located in the EOC. Leadership succession is exercised during drills and actual incidents.  |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place. The line of succession is published and distributed to key VISN and facility staff. This information is also located in the EOC. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place.  |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, some key components are not yet developed.  |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of a line of succession at the VISN level. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

### 4.1.2 Processes and Procedures for Personal Preparedness and Employee Welfare

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including the identification of critical employees on a callback roster. “Go Kits” are also ready in the event of an evacuation.  |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Critical employees have been identified; are on a callback roster; and have “go kits” ready in the event of an emergency activation. Program is reviewed annually. |
|  | 2 | Developed | VISN has a plan for ensuring critical employee wellness and safety, including personal preparedness plans. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist, with evidence that this capability is being addressed. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of capability with respect to employee welfare and personal preparedness. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

### 4.1.3 Dissemination of Personnel Incident Information to Staff during an Incident

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including a 1-800 number for employee call-in and advising. Program is tested semiannually. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place with an employee call-in number. System is tested annually. |
|  | 2 | Developed | VISN has an established call-in number and/or communications plan for notifying and advising employees. Program is tested annually. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | VISN has a plan for notifying and advising employees during an emergency. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of capability and appropriate planning to keep employees informed during an emergency. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

## 4.2 Mission Critical Systems Resiliency

### 4.2.1 Maintaining Information Technology (IT) and Computing Systems Resiliency during an Incident

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including a business continuity and resiliency program as well as the back-up of business data and other critical data systems to mirror the site at least daily. VISN has documented risk assessment identifying high-risk data systems. Staff are fully and regularly trained. System is tested semiannually. Emergency power for extended (days) operation exists.  |
|  | 3 | Excellent | VISN has a business continuity and resiliency program. VISN has documented risk assessment identifying high-risk data systems. Staff are fully trained and system is tested annually. Emergency power is available. |
|  | 2 | Developed | VISN has a business continuity and resiliency program. Only UPS power is available for a few hours. Provisions have been made to move to a fully supported EOC after UPS power has been exhausted. Staff are trained.  |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | VISN has developed a business continuity and resiliency program but staff need further training to fully implement. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of capability evidenced by a lack of business continuity and resiliency plan. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

### 4.2.2 Maintaining Access to Critical Commodities and Services during Response and Recovery Operations

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including a needs assessment to determine the critical commodities and services requiring priority contracts during emergencies. The VISN and the facilities can access VACO BPAs should local contractors be unable to provide the services and commodities needed. A systematic evaluation of needs is conducted at least annually. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | All of the above assessment components are present, including a needs assessment to determine the critical commodities and services requiring priority contracts during emergencies. Needs are evaluated at least annually. |
|  | 2 | Developed | The VISN and VISN facilities have contracts for most critical items based on a needs assessment. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | The VISN and the facilities are developing a needs assessment but lacks the majority of priority contracts |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of capability because there is no needs assessment and few if any priority contracts have been implemented. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

## 4.3 Communications

### 4.3.1 Maintenance of Voice and Data Communication through Satellite Link

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including a satellite link for back-up voice and data. Capability is tested quarterly. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | VISN and/or servicing VAMC have a satellite link for back-up voice and data. Capability is tested annually. |
|  | 2 | Developed | VISN has a limited voice and data back-up plan and contingency plan for restoration of services or mobile capability brought to the facility. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | VISN is developing a back-up capability, but is not yet in place. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of satellite link for voice and data back-up and no plans to develop this capability. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

### 4.3.2 Interoperable Communications with External Agencies’

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present with all agencies. Communications equipment is tested at least quarterly and as part of the exercise with the community. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Interoperable communications with police, fire, and EMS are present. Communications equipment is tested at least annually as part of an exercise with the community. |
|  | 2 | Developed | All of the above assessment components are present. Communications equipment is tested at least annually. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | VISN is developing interoperable communications capabilities and has identified a plan of operations.  |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of interoperable communications with external agencies. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

### 4.3.3 Interoperable Communications with VISN Facilities’

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including at least three means of internal communications such as satellite phones, handheld radios, and telephones. Communications are tested at least quarterly. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Staff are properly trained and VISN has at least two means of internal communications. Communications are tested at least semiannually. |
|  | 2 | Developed | VISN has at least two means of internal communications. Communications are tested at least annually. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | VISN has a means of internal communications. Communications are tested at least annually. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of back-up means of internal communications or any testing. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

##

## 4.4 Healthcare Systems Resiliency

### 4.4.1 Management of Primary Care for Special Needs Patients, including Home-Based Care during Incidents

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including the consistent ability to support home-based patients throughout the duration of the emergency. Home-based care is tested annually and the capability is integrated with the VAMC and VISN yearly exercises. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place to support continuous home-based care in an emergency and the capability is tested annually. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place. VISN meets underlying requirement where applicable. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist to support home-based care; however, some key components are not yet developed. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of home-based services in an emergency.  |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

# Medical Surge

## 5.1 Processes and Procedures for Expansion of Staff for Response and Recovery Operations

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including the ability for called back staff to report within 12 hours. Staff are trained on their role after being called back and understand the Incident Command structure. Physical and mental health needs are addressed. The ability to callback staff is tested quarterly, and the capability is integrated into the VISN’s exercises. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place to support the called back staff, and the capability is tested. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place. Facility meets the underlying requirement where applicable. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist to support staff expansion; however, some key components are not yet developed. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of medical surge capability. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

##

## 5.2 Management of Volunteers Deployment Support (e.g., DEMPS) during Response and Recovery Operations

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the program elements are in place, including DEMPS being fully operational at the VISN facilities and trained coordinators assigned. The program has a number of volunteers pre-identified and a means for updating the database at least quarterly. The program is supported by senior management, and employees are encouraged to enroll. The DEMPS coordinator has a working relationship with the national DEMPS program manager in Emergency Management Strategic Healthcare Group (EMSHG), and they work together to keep the database up to date. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | DEMPS is fully operational at the VISN facilities and trained coordinators are assigned. The program has a number of volunteers pre-identified and a means for updating the database. The program is supported by senior management, and employees are encouraged to enroll. |
|  | 2 | Developed | DEMPS is fully operational at VISN facilities and trained coordinators are assigned. The program has a number of volunteers pre-identified and a means for updating the database. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | DEMPS program is partially functional, but it has not identified all of the components. There are volunteers in the database but no regular means for updating it. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | The DEMPS program is not functioning at VISN facilities. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

### 5.3.1 Processes and Procedures for Deployment and Return to Readiness of the VA All-Hazards Emergency Cache Program

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | VISN assure that the above components are present, and the VA All-Hazards Emergency Cache is accessible. The stock is rotated to prevent shelf-life expiration in accordance with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)/DOD Shelf Life Extension Program (SLEP). It is tested at least once a year. The cache is stored and secured consistent with VHA policy. Appointment of a Liaison with the Pharmacy Benefits Management Service (PBM). |
|  | 3 | Excellent | The VA All-Hazards Emergency Cache is accessible. The stock is rotated to prevent shelf-life expiration in accordance with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)/DOD Shelf Life Extension Program (SLEP). The cache is stored and secured. Mobilization procedures are exercised annually.  |
|  | 2 | Developed | The VA All-Hazards Emergency Cache is accessible. The stock is rotated to prevent shelf-life expiration in accordance with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)/DOD Shelf Life Extension Program (SLEP) and the cache is secured. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | The VA All-Hazards Emergency Cache is accessible.  |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | The infrastructure and processes necessary to manage the VA All-Hazards Emergency Cache are not developed. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

### 5.3.2 Designated Capability for Expanded Patient Triage, Evaluation and Treatment during Surge

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | VISNs are aware and assure that all of the above assessment components are present, including the ability to care for victims of a number of scenarios. Facility personnel understand their role in the designated areas and are trained to recognize various biological agents. The set-up and management of the designated areas is well-exercised through facility exercises. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place, and personnel understand their roles in the designated areas. The capability is tested annually at the facilities.  |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place. Facilities meet underlying requirement where applicable. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist; however, some key components are not yet developed. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There are no designated areas for patient triage, evaluation, and treatment in an emergency. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

### 5.3.3 Processes and Procedures for Control and Coordination of Mass Fatality Management

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including the ability to manage large numbers of fatalities (either through internal surge mechanisms or through MOAs/MOUs with community resources). Staff are trained on safe and appropriate handling of human remains and have adequate PPE. The capability is tested once a year in facility wide and/or community exercises. VISNs are fully aware of individual facility mass fatality plans in order to assist in supplementing individual facility resources. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place and personnel are trained on their role in mass fatality management. The capability is tested annually. VISNs are aware of facility plans are able to coordinate the process of supplementing individual facility resources.  |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place. Facility meets underlying requirement where applicable. VISNs are aware of facility plans. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist to support mass fatality management; however, some key components are not yet developed. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of a mass fatality management plan and resources. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

# Support to External Requirements

## 6.1 Provision of Supplemental Health Services to Support the National Disaster Medical System

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present, including the ability to effectively communicate with the FCCs. Communication infrastructure is in place and the VISN is able to communicate with its community partners. Community facilities exercise together at least once a year. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | Resources and training are in place, and the capability is tested through a facility or other exercise annually |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place. VISN and FCC meets underlying requirement where applicable. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some capability elements exist to support NDMS; however, some key components are not yet developed. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of NDMS capability. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

## 6.2 VA/DOD Contingency Hospital System

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | The VISN has oversight over, and is knowledgeable regarding, the responsibilities of VISN facilities for the above assessment components, including conducting all required bed counts and exercises. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | The VISN is knowledgeable that all the resources and training are in place, and VA/DOD bed expansion is tested annually. |
|  | 2 | Developed | Resources and training are in place. VISN meets underlying VA requirements for the oversight this program. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | Some bed expansion capability exists; however, some key components are not yet developed. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of this capability. |
|  |  | Comments/Rationale |  |

## 6.3 Support under the National Response Framework

Measurement Factors

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 4 | Exemplary | All of the above assessment components are present. Communications protocols are tested as part of the exercise with the community. Evidence of ongoing relationships with federal, local and state emergency management and public health agencies are present. |
|  | 3 | Excellent | VISN has communications with emergency management authorities on an ongoing basis. Communications are tested at least annually as part of the exercise. |
|  | 2 | Developed | VISN has identified POCs and developed relationships in the event of emergencies with emergency management authorities. |
|  | 1 | Being Developed | VISN can communicate with emergency management authorities, but it does not have an established collaborative relationship. |
|  | 0 | Needs Attention | There is an absence of collaboration with POCs and emergency management authorities. |
|  |  | Comment/Rationale |  |