

EMERGENCY SUPPORT FUNCTION – 8

Public Health and Medical Services

PRIMARY AGENCIES:	Fire Department
SUPPORT AGENCIES:	American Red Cross (ARC)
	Public Works -- Water Maintenance
	Planning Department -- Human Services Division
	King County Emergency Medical Services
	King County Medical Examiner
	Public Health of Seattle and King County
	Private Ambulance Companies
	Federal Response Agencies

I. INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE

This Emergency Support Function (ESF-8) provides the City of Redmond coordinated assistance in response to public health and medical care needs. It provides a structure to coordinate emergency medical services/mass medical activities to ensure the safety of life and property.

B. SCOPE

1. ESF 8 provides assistance in identifying and meeting the health and medical needs of those affected by an incident. The primary support agencies are responsible for coordinating the medical needs of City as well as responding to those with incident related injuries. Support for these responsibilities can be categorized in the following functional areas:
 - Assessment of health and medical needs
 - Medical care personnel
 - Health and medical equipment and supplies
 - Patient evacuation
 - Worker health and safety

- Public health information
 - Potable water, wastewater, and solid waste disposal
2. Mass casualties, fatalities, and public health emergencies can either occur during the disaster or following one. The Fire Department EMS Division and Human Services direct and coordinate the provisions of health and medical assistance in coordination with support organizations and agencies relating to mass casualties and fatalities. This ESF discusses overall public health response and recovery, triage, treatment, and the transportation and evacuation of those affected by the incident. Public health functions include protecting the safety of water supplies, assuring adequate sanitation is maintained, assuring the safety of food supplies, providing mortuary services and preventing or controlling epidemics. This ESF outlines the procedures for providing health services.

II. POLICIES

- A. The City of Redmond’s coordinated health and medical assistance will be directed jointly by the Fire Department and Human Services through the City Emergency Coordination Center (ECC).
- B. The City will activate mutual aid agreements with local jurisdictions when their resources are depleted or otherwise committed. Additional King County, State and federal assistance will be requested, if necessary.

III. SITUATION

A. INCIDENT CONDITIONS AND HAZARDS

See the City of Redmond Basic CEMP for a description of potential emergency conditions (Mitigation Activities section) and vulnerable population information (Access and Functional Needs section).

B. PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS

1. No guarantee of a perfect response system is expressed or implied by this ESF. The City of Redmond will make every reasonable effort to respond based on the situation, information, and resources available at the time of the incident.
2. Available resources may become limited due to high demand in a large-scale incident.
3. All departments are required to support this ESF as necessary.
4. Additional medical capabilities will urgently be needed to supplement and assist the Fire Department Emergency Medical Service (EMS) to triage, treat, and transport casualties.

5. Depending on the nature of the incident, health complications may include general health and mental problems, traumatic injury, communicable disease, and lack of adequate supplies of food and water due to contamination or spoiled supplies.
6. Sewer lines and other sanitation-related infrastructure are susceptible to impact that may result in toxic environmental and public health conditions, thus threatening the surviving population and response personnel.
7. An incident may give rise to secondary sources of infection and disease if proper precautionary steps are not taken in time.
8. Residents or patients at health care facilities may require evacuation due to damage or the threat of damage from an incident.
9. The damage and destruction caused by an incident may produce urgent needs for mental health crisis counseling for victims and emergency responders.
10. The City may require assistance in maintaining a continuity of health and medical services.
11. Disruption of sanitation services and facilities, loss of power, and massing of people in shelters may increase the potential for disease and injury.

IV. CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS

A. PREVENTION AND MITIGATION ACTIVITIES

The City of Redmond has mutual aid agreements with numerous agencies throughout the Puget Sound region. Requests for assistance should be made through these existing agreements. The City ECC will coordinate assistance from local, State, or federal governments.

1. Review the Redmond Hazard Mitigation Plan as a department and discuss implementation strategies.
2. Provide ongoing medical service training to their personnel.
3. Provide general preparedness training to City employees and the public through periodic classes.
4. Establish transport procedures and capabilities to facilitate disaster operations.
5. Work with local and regional health care providers to establish alternate care facilities within the City of Redmond.

B. PREPAREDNESS ACTIVITIES

1. Develop procedures for the accomplishment of response and recovery activities.
2. Work with support departments to develop Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs) and Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) for recovery activities.

3. Identify and plan for special medical needs to include equipment, personnel, and space necessary to provide care to these individuals.
4. Conduct and participate in drills, training, and exercises to validate response and recovery Standard Operating Guidelines (SOGs).
5. Revise this ESF based on drills, exercises, and real event findings.
6. Identify and inventory all community health and medical resources
7. Coordinate, for the utilization of essential public health personnel, supplies and equipment to provide health and environmental sanitation services. These services may include vector control measures and communicable disease surveillance.
8. Support development of a Medical Reserve Corps and volunteer medical personnel, including physicians, nurses and dentists who may be available to augment existing medical staff.

C. RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

1. Provide basic and advanced life support to ill or injured persons.
2. Set-up and staff field aid stations as needed
3. Coordinate the transport of ill or injured persons.
4. Request additional medical services dependent upon the number of injuries.
5. Request critical incident stress teams.
6. Support the medical response team and assist in determining specific health and medical needs and priorities
7. Assist in assessing community health and medical effects of the incident on the general population and on high-risk population groups.
8. Advise Public Health Seattle King County (PHSKC) on protective actions related to direct human and animal exposure and indirect exposure through contaminated food, drugs, water supply, and other media.
9. Coordinate the provisions of water purification and waste water/solid waste disposal equipment and supplies with Public Works and King County Public Health.

D. RECOVERY ACTIVITIES

1. Continue response and recovery efforts in support of this ESF.
2. Create After-Action Reports and Lessons Learned Reports
3. Support recovery activities as required.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. Address the medical needs of the public in a manner that promotes a sanitary and safe environment while working to return the City to an adequately functioning level.
- B. In coordination with other City Departments and support agencies, prepare for, support, and respond to public health issues that may effect large-scale populations.

VI. RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS

- A. Medical response personnel
- B. Logistical and administrative support
- C. Communication systems

VII. FURTHER MATERIALS FOR REFERENCE

- 1. City of Redmond Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) and King County Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan (KCRHMP). See the Resources section of the Redmond CEMP Basic Plan or the Emergency Plans page in the Public Safety section of www.redmond.gov for links.
- 2. National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) response framework
- 3. Refer to primary and supporting department plans for further information supporting this ESF.