

HOSPITAL EVACUATION COURSE

BACKGROUND

What happens when a hospital becomes victim to a natural disaster or man-made event and can no longer provide care to its patients? What happens when instead of supporting first responders during an emergency the hospital itself needs to be evacuated?

Hospital evacuation is the process of moving patients, staff and visitors from their at-risk location within a medical facility or campus to a safe holding area or alternate location. The decision to partially or completely evacuate a hospital is a complex issue that needs to balance the nature of the threat against the risk patients and staff would face. A hospital evacuation requires time, labor intensive resources, and materiel at levels that most hospitals don't possess for routine emergencies. The challenge of evacuation is compounded by the fact that the full scope of the threat may not be known, is constantly changing and often extremely difficult to predict.

OVERVIEW

Duration: 6 hours

Class Size: Maximum of 25

Class Location: Onsite at the client hospital

This introduction to hospital evacuation course prepares hospital managers and staff to properly assess a situation, categorize patients for movement, establish and coordinate various movement teams and staging areas, and how to integrate the process of evacuation into the incident command system.

The program combines lecture, tabletop exercise, equipment demonstration and facilitated discussion to help enable attendees to prepare for and respond to the many nuances associated with a hospital evacuation.

TRAINING TOPICS

- Instruction on the various types of hospital evacuation, alternatives to evacuation, and evacuation decision making
- Appraisal of patient status reporting, preparation and categorization activities based on mobility level and resource needs for evacuation and early discharge planning
- Discussion of the evacuation process to include the establishment and orchestration of movement teams, staging areas, and resource needs
- Outline of the various evacuation planning considerations, patient tracking and accountability requirements, and patient destination selection criteria
- Review the key concepts of the Hospital Incident Command System (HICS). Walk through how to apply the principles of HICS to the evacuation process to include specifics on command, control and communication activities
- Hands-on demonstration of evacuation mobility devices
- Facilitated tabletop exercise that provides participants with an opportunity to apply their new knowledge and understanding of hospital evacuation to their own institution

SUPPORT

The Introduction to Hospital Evacuation includes a subscription to DQE-on-Demand™ Hospital Evacuation internet training to support added learning of hospital leadership and managers.