

EXERCISE SAFETY

EXERCISE PARTICIPANT IDENTIFICATION

Participants can be recognized by a badge color-coded by exercise function.

Exercise Director
Exercise Evaluators
Exercise Controllers
Support Staff
Exercise Observer/VIP

White
Red
Green
Grey
Blue

WEAPONS POLICY

Weapons safety will follow the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) exercise safety policy. The following weapons will **NOT** be introduced into designated exercise play area(s) regardless of normal scope of functional duties:

- Loaded firearms, knives, or explosive devices
- Less-than-lethal weapons, tools, or devices
- Any object capable of causing bodily harm

ACTUAL EMERGENCIES

Real-world emergencies and participant safety take priority over exercise conduct. In a real-world emergency, notify the nearest **controller** and state, **"This is a real-world emergency."** Cease all exercise play immediately, and comply with exercise control staff instructions.

ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

All players have a basic responsibility to act as safety officers. Immediately report safety concerns, unsafe acts or conditions, injuries, and accidents to the nearest **controller**.

EXERCISE SCHEDULE

April 26, 2012

Registration/Briefing (HCCC):	1245
Start of Exercise @ HCCC (StartEx):	0100
End of HCCC @ Exercise:	0400
Registration/Briefing (RWJH):	0445
Start of Exercise @ RWJH (StartEx):	0500
ENDEX	0800
Hot Wash:	After ENDEX

EXERCISE LOCATIONS

Hamilton Continuing Care Center
1059 Edinburg Road
Hamilton, NJ 08690
(609)-588-0091

RWJ University Hospital – Hamilton
One Hamilton Health Place
Hamilton, NJ 08690
609-586-7900

SIMULATION CELL

Please note that a "simulation cell" has been established for use during this exercise – all phone calls to outside agencies should be directed to the following phone number:

609-306-8619

Please state – "This is an exercise"

PLEASE NOTE

Project ESCAPE will be conducted in a no-fault learning environment and will evaluate existing plans, policies, and procedures as if players were responding to a real-world emergency. The exercise should not be viewed as a test or inspection of individual performance.



Project ESCAPE (Evaluate Surge Capacity and Prioritized Evacuation)

Player Information Handout



April 26, 2012

The Project ESCAPE Exercise Director is:

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PURPOSE, SCOPE, AND SCENARIO

PURPOSE

The Project ESCAPE FSE was designed to test and evaluate evacuation and medical surge capabilities within two healthcare facilities including LTC and acute care.

SCOPE

The e Project ESCAPE will be conducted at Hamilton Continuing Care Center and Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital on April 26, 2012 in response to a simulated fire resulting in the evacuation and medical surge. Project ESCAPE is scheduled for seven (7) hours or until the **Exercise Director** and the **Senior Controller** have determined that the exercise objectives have been fully addressed.

SCENARIO

On the early morning hours of April 26, 2012, unbeknownst to the healthcare workers at Hamilton Continuing Care Center, accumulated paper debris falls into the base of a window heating unit and begins to smolder. Within minutes, a fire erupts and quickly travels inside the wall between two residential rooms that are occupied by elderly residents of the nursing home. The fire results in injuries to both residents and staff of the nursing home facility.

There is an unusually high emergency room volume across the Central West Medical Coordination Center Region of the State. Hospitals within Hunterdon and Somerset Counties are on **"DIVERT"** status as indicated in Hippocrates. Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital – Hamilton can expect to receive a large medical surge of critically ill patients directly related to this incident.

TARGET CAPABILITIES AND EXERCISE OBJECTIVES

The Exercise Planning Team has selected the **Evacuation, Medical Surge, Communications and Incident Management** target capabilities on which to focus the exercise. These capabilities form the basis of exercise evaluation. The following objectives have been created to exercise the selected capabilities:

1. Evaluate the ability to safely and efficiently evacuate residents from a long term care facility. Hamilton Continuing Care Center staff are expected to establish internal command and control structure in response to an internal emergency event, communicate effectively, ensure the medical needs and safety of residents are met at all times, establish a triage area for coordination of the evacuation of residents, ensure that all necessary medical records and other immediately essential information is communicated and/or transported to receiving agencies.
2. Evaluate medical surge into an acute care hospital from the CW Regional community. RWJUH-H responders are expected to manage and expand the capacity of their existing health care system in order to provide appropriate levels of triage and subsequent medical care. This includes providing definitive care to individuals at the appropriate clinical level of care, within sufficient time to achieve recovery and minimize impact to the day-to-day medical capacity of the hospital.

GENERAL INFORMATION

EXERCISE DOCUMENTATION

Any documents generated by players during exercise play must be submitted to a **controller** or **evaluator** as part of the overall exercise documentation (e.g., Hippocrates entries, e-mail messages, notes, exercise response and/or mitigation activity logs).

PARTICIPANT FEEDBACK FORMS

Please complete the participant feedback form distributed at the end of the exercise, and return it to a **controller** or **evaluator**.

COMMUNICATIONS

Players will use voice, handheld radio, and overhead paging systems, and phones during the exercise. Players will communicate and coordinate only with participating entities or the exercise controllers. All exercise transmissions must begin and end with the statement **"This is an exercise."**

ASSUMPTIONS AND ARTIFICIALITIES

Earnest effort has been made to create a plausible and realistic scenario to exercise and validate identified objectives.

Participating entities will identify all agencies and individuals simulated during the exercise.

Exercise operations will occur at predesignated sites and facilities to maximize exercise control.