

**Developing Objectives, Content, and
Competencies for the Training of Emergency
Medical Technicians, Emergency Nurses, and
Emergency Physicians to Care for Casualties
Resulting From Nuclear, Biological
or Chemical (NBC) Incidents**



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INTRODUCTION

- The Threat of Terrorism
- Legislative Action & Presidential Decision Directives
- Local Civilian Medical Systems Must Be Prepared

An overall plan must be developed for providing, sustaining, and monitoring appropriate WMD-related educational experiences for EMS providers, emergency nurses, and emergency physicians.

THE NBC TRAINING CONTRACT (ACEP & HHS)

- Identification of the need
- Determination of barriers
- Development of educational goals
- Review of educational curricula
- Definition of levels of proficiency and development of behavioral objectives
- Identification of recommendations for integrating WMD content into initial and continuing education
- Identification of recommendations for sustainment of WMD knowledge & skills
- Specification of techniques to ensure continuing proficiencies

METHODOLOGY

THE PROCESS

- Taskforce of individuals from key professional organizations
- Consensus development approach
- Instructional design methodology
 - ↳ Analysis
 - ↳ Design
 - ↳ Development
 - ↳ Implementation
 - ↳ Evaluation

The analysis stage focused on defining the problem or concern thoroughly and understanding it sufficiently in order to recommend appropriate solutions.

- Audience
- Content & Objectives
- Proficiency Categories
 - ↑ Awareness
 - ↑ Performance
 - ↑ Planning
- Barriers
 - ↑ Undermine the acceptance & delivery of effective WMD-related training
- Curricula and Course Review

RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES

- Recommendations for Integration
- Recommendations for Sustainment
- Ensure Continuing Proficiencies

How do we go about building training that ensures that the levels of proficiencies desired can be met within the accepted training models currently being used to educate the target audience groups?

RESULTS

- Audience
- Content Learning Objectives
- Barriers
- Curricula Reviews
- Recommended Strategies

CONTENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Awareness

- Terrorism
- Event Types
- Index Suspicion and Event Recognition
- Response Systems and Communications
- Key Elements of a WMD Response
- Personal Protection and Safety

CONTENT LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Performance Objectives

- Event Recognition
- Unified Incident Command / Management Structure
- Response Support
- Safety and Protection
- Decontamination
- Isolation and Containment
- Evidence Preservation
- Psychological Effects
- Communication and Agency Interaction
- Triage
- Treatment
- Transportation
- Recovery Operations
- Fatality Management

BARRIERS

EMS PROVIDERS

- No single source of authority
- Excessive time
- EMT curricula would have to expand
- No “approve” body of content or curriculum

EMERGENCY PHYSICIANS

- Curricula are full and time is limited
- No “approve” body of content or curriculum
- The need for training has not been broadly articulated and emphasized
- No advocates

EMERGENCY NURSES

- Existing curriculum full
- No “approve” body of content or curriculum
- No formal acceptance exists

RESULTS

- Audience
- Content Learning Objectives
- Barriers
- **Curricula Reviews**
- Recommended Strategies

RECOMMENDED STRATEGIES

Emergency Medical Technicians

Emergency Physicians

Emergency Nurses

DISCUSSION

Basic or Formative Education

Continuing Education Experiences

Formative and Summative Evaluation Process

LIMITATIONS

Even though these objectives were purposely written in generic terms, the overarching intent and recommendation of this task force is that the objectives be customized to the local setting where needs, resources and procedures will vary.

NEXT STEPS

- “The curriculum guidance” will be sent to an independent interagency / multidisciplinary review panel for review and comments.
- ACEP and OEP will convene a meeting between the original ACEP NBC Taskforce and the independent review panel.
- ACEP will incorporate the comments from the meeting and update the "curriculum guidance".

- Draft a request for information that reflects the recommended curricula set forth by the ACEP NBC Taskforce
- Participate in the evaluation of materials submitted in response to the published RFI
- Plan a curriculum development process that has a goal of integrating physician, nurse and EMS provider training needs and ensuring that the content is complementary across all disciplines.

DEVELOPING LINKAGES

- Ft. McClellan - Noble Hospital
- VA Training Initiatives
- Other Federal & Non-Federal Training Efforts