

**Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives
(CBRNE)
TERRORISM RESPONSE ANNEX**

**DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH – MAHONING COUNTY
YOUNGSTOWN CITY HEALTH DISTRICT**

**MAHONING COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH CBRNE ANNEX
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MAHONING COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH

CHEMICAL BIOLOGICAL RADIOLOGICAL NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES (CBRNE) TERRORISM RESPONSE ANNEX

I. INTRODUCTION

(i) **PURPOSE:**

Mahoning County offers potential terrorist targets for using Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD), involving Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosives (CBRNE) Agents. It is necessary that the Mahoning County Health Departments (Youngstown and Mahoning County) be prepared to respond to such emergencies to minimize public health effects and manage the consequences by appropriate response plan.

(ii) **PLAN ORGANIZATION:**

(a) **Health Department Plan:**

- The Mahoning County Public Health Emergency Response Plan provides a plan for Natural and Hazardous Material incidents. Emergency Response procedures for specific incidents are attached as Annexes and Appendices to the Mahoning County Public Health Emergency Response Plan.
- This Annex is specific to CBRNE incidents and is a supplemental document to the Mahoning County Public Health Emergency Response Plan. This Annex refers to the relevant sections of the Public Health Emergency Response Plan and other coordinating Annexes and Appendices.
- Public Health's role and only special health department functions in response for CBRNE incidents are included in the CBRNE Disaster Response Annex such as the organized effort necessary to minimize the effects of CBRNE agents used by terrorists through response including Detection, Treatment, Preventive and Remedial measures.

II. ASSUMPTIONS

- In the event of a CBRNE incident, Mahoning County response agencies may receive State and Federal agency assistance and guidance. The designated response agencies have sophisticated systems to detect and monitor CBRNE agent exposures and predict its spread. Mahoning County Health Departments will not duplicate these resources.
- Outside assistance would complement and not supplement Mahoning County Health Department's own operating system.
- The two Health Departments of Mahoning County work cooperatively in situations which supercede geopolitical boundaries. In the event of a CBRNE incident, one single Health Department will provide command for all Health Department functions.
- All the agencies involved would operate under the Incident Command System.

III. OPERATIONS

(i) GENERAL:

- Health Department activates the Public Health Emergency Response Plan and its coordinating Annexes and Appendices during any disaster, as needed.
- Health Department will participate as a lead or supporting response agency depending on the type of CBRNE event. Public Health will follow local guidelines, ordinances, and laws as well as guidelines given from the Ohio Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control during an event.
- CBRNE Public Health activities are outlined in this Annex by the type of CBRNE incident.
- Local government officials have first line of responsibility for emergency planning and response within their jurisdiction.
- Many elements of local, state and federal government will be integrated into a coherent biological response system including Facilities, Equipment, Trained Personnel, Communications and Plans and Procedures.

(ii) COMMUNICATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS:

- Notification of the event is made to the public health agency through multiple avenues
 - Concerned / threatened citizen or an organization
 - Mahoning County Emergency Management Agency
 - Any First Responder Agency
 - Threatening person or organization
- If first to receive the call, the health department notifies Mahoning County EMA , who will initiate contact with the local medical systems and facilities
- The notified health department notifies the other county health departments and establishes a primary public health responder agency. The primary public health responder will delegate tasks and responsibilities to the secondary departments as needed per event.
- The primary public health responder agency notifies Ohio Department of Health of the incident, if needed.
- The primary public health responder agency consults with other local, state, and federal agencies regarding Evacuation and Isolation, Risk of contagion, Sheltering and subsequent re-opening of site, Decontamination of individuals and property, Specimen Collection, Laboratory Capabilities / time frame, Special instructions to Hospitals, Diseased individuals, Test Result Notification, Use and supply of Prophylaxis/Vaccine, Surveillance, Public Health Advisories.
- Mahoning County EMA notifies State EMA, FBI, and other government agencies as the event develops.
- Based on the first responder's assessment and recommendations, the Mahoning County EMA may activate the Emergency Operation Center. MCDBOH will coordinate communications with other response agencies from the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), if activated.
- Protocol for Local, State and National emergency declarations will be same as the Mahoning County Emergency Operations Plan.

IV. HEALTH DEPARTMENT RESPONSIBILITIES

A. BIOLOGICAL:

Responsibilities:

Public Health would be considered a lead response agency in a Biological Attack.

- **See the Mahoning County Public Health Epidemiology Response Annex for direction on Biological incidents.**
- **See the Mahoning County Public Health Mass Clinic/SNS Annex for treatment and prophylaxis during a biological incident.**

B. CHEMICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, NUCLEAR, EXPLOSIVES:

Responsibilities:

Public Health will play a supportive role in the response in Chemical, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive Incidents. First responder agencies such as Fire, Police, HazMat, EPA, etc will be the lead agencies in this type of incident.

- Provide technical assistance to the ICS on the scene with regard to:
 - Decontamination
 - Personnel protection equipment
 - Exposure assessment
 - Prophylaxis/vaccine use
 - Methods of collecting samples
- Act as a liaison between Incident Commander and Ohio Department of Health and CDC
- Provide up to date guidance on triage, infection control, and treatment to the hospitals, physicians, and EMS staff as provided by ODH/CDC.
- May provide Public Health nursing assistance to hospital if needed and requested.
- Activate and coordinate MRC volunteers for other agencies.
- Provide health and medical support at the any opened shelters.
- Receive sample analysis reports and assist in implementing the health protection and prevention guidelines provided by ODH/CDC/EPA
- Follow up with victims, conduct surveillance and provide analysis.
- Coordinate with contiguous county health departments and prepare public health information to be distributed to responders, medical professionals, and the public.

- Coordination with County Coroner and funeral homes to obtain the vital statistics information.
- Coordinate with Red Cross for assistance with shelters
- Provide a representative at the County Emergency Operation Center when activated
- Participate in the JIC and provide information to the public, medical community, and other local agencies.
- Provide notifications and information to Functional Needs agencies within the county during an incident through the established Notify Now system.
- Provide assistance with a radiological event.
 - Open and coordinate a Community Reception Center along with other first responder agencies to screen and register the public exposed in the event or evacuated due to an event.
 - Radiological equipment may be obtained through the County Radiological Officer. Personnel will continue to be trained in radiological monitoring and response or assigned State EMA Radiological Officer will be present.
 - Adequate protective equipment, clothing, instruments, and antidotes are available locally to efficiently and effectively respond to a hazardous chemical or radiological scene.

V. RESOURCES COORDINATION

a. PHARMACEUTICALS AND VACCINE:

Public health will play a lead response role in distributing pharmaceuticals or vaccine to first responders and the public. Public Health will work in coordination with Mahoning County EMA for obtaining materials needed. **See the Mahoning County Public Health Mass Dispensing Annex for procedures.**

b. DECONTAMINATION:

The Mahoning County HazMat team will be the lead agency for decontamination. Public Health will play a supporting role, as needed.

c. EVACUATION AND SHELTERING:

Red Cross and Mahoning County EMA will be the lead agencies in requesting and setting up shelters as needed during a disaster. Mahoning County Public Health will play a supporting role, as needed.

- Health Department may dispatch sanitarians to inspect the safe habitation in the designated shelters in coordination with Red Cross.
- Health Department may dispatch public health nurses to the shelters to provide assistance in providing the disease investigation and surveillance and administering the prophylaxis/vaccine if needed in coordination with Red Cross.
- Mahoning County Medical Reserve Corps volunteers may be dispatched to assist at the Red Cross shelter.

d. COMMUNITY RECEPTION CENTER (CRC):

Public Health will play a lead role in opening, operating, and coordinating a Community Reception Center. This center will accept the public that may have or have not been exposed to a radiological event. They will be screened for radiation, register, and then discharged home or to a shelter if they were ordered to evacuate. Local Fire, Police, Hazmat, and EMA will be needed to run the CRC. **See the CRC SOG for detailed information on the operations.**

VI. PUBLIC INFORMATION

For most CBRNE events a Joint Information Center (JIC) will be established because many agencies will be responding to the incident. Each responding agency will have materials, instructions, and updates that will need to be released publicly. The JIC will coordinate this information before it is released as a way to keep the message to the public consistent. One spokesperson will be made available to address all of these issues to the media.

VII. MAINTENANCE AND REVIEW

The CBRNE Annex will be reviewed and updated by the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator annually or as changes are needed.