

# SUGGESTED OBJECTIVES, CAPABILITIES, AND TASKS FOR THE CRC DRILL

## General Drill Scenario

An improvised nuclear device (IND) detonates in another city in the region. The community reception center (CRC) is activated and begins receiving and processing evacuees on the day after the event. The CRC is located outside of the fallout zone and radiation levels are at normal background levels.

## Primary Objective

The primary objective of the drill is to activate and manage a CRC that performs the following elements:

- (A) Receives, registers and tracks potentially radiologically contaminated persons.
- (B) Screens the affected population for external contamination.
- (C) Decontaminates persons with identified external contamination
- (D) Provides first aid for minor injuries.
- (E) Provides psychosocial first aid as needed.
- (F) Refers individuals for additional medical, psychological, or health physics assistance as necessary.
- (G) Addresses the communication and information issues related to operation of the CRC.

The Drill Planning Team can include additional goals and objectives. For example, if the drill will integrate CRC activities with those of an outside activity, such as transportation, communication with the media, sheltering, or law enforcement, goals and objectives can be added to address those specific areas. Or, if a particular aspect of the CRC is to receive special attention, such as dose assessment, registration data management, or first aid, goals and objectives can be added to deepen the evaluation of those areas.

## Core Capabilities and General Targets

CRCs are in the Response Mission Area. The primary objective of a CRC as given above aligns to the following Core Capabilities and Response-specific targets, as quoted from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) National Preparedness Goal (September 2011) and the Universal Task List: Version 2.1 (May 23, 2005):

- Mass Care Services: Move and deliver resources and capabilities to meet the needs of disaster survivors, including individuals with access and functional needs and others who may be considered to be at-risk. [Primary Objective]

Tasks associated with this capability include:

- ✓ **Res.C.3 3** Coordinate mass care, housing, shelter, and human services support for response to incidents of national, regional and State significance for providing mass care
  - ✓ **Res.C.3 3.1** Coordinate and provide the delivery of mass care services to disaster victims to include sheltering, feeding, basic first aid, bulk distribution of needed items and other related services
  - ✓ **Res.C.3 3.1.1** Coordinate and provide recovery and mitigation assistance to reduce duplication of efforts and benefits
  - ✓ **Res.C.3 3.1.2** Provide logistical support for mass care activities, short-term and long term housing
  - ✓ **Res.C.3 3.1.2.2** Coordinate with local emergency management and law enforcement to ensure security is provided for shelters, mass care and medical facilities
  - ✓ **Res.C.3 3.1.3** Coordinate voluntary agency activities in support of immediate personal needs
  - ✓ **Res.C.3 3.3** Ensure comprehensive stress management strategies and programs are in place and operational for all emergency responders and workers
  - ✓ **Res.C.3 4** Implement Plans and Protocols for Providing Mass Care
  - ✓ **Res.C.3 4.1** Assess the situation and forecast response needs for victims
  - ✓ **Res.C.3 4.2** Activate mass care plans to include sheltering, feeding, basic first aid, bulk distribution of needed items and other related services
- Environmental Response/Health and Safety: Conduct health and safety hazard assessments and disseminate guidance and resources, to include deploying hazardous materials teams, to support environmental health and safety actions for response personnel and the affected population. Assess, monitor, perform cleanup actions, and provide resources to meet resource requirements and to transition from sustained response to short-term recovery. [Elements B and C]

Tasks associated with this capability include:

- ✓ **Res.B.1 16** Provide for worker health and safety
- ✓ **Res.B.1 16.1** Ensure coordination of assets assigned to perform worker safety and health risk assessment and risk management
- ✓ **Res.B.1 16.2** Create and implement a site specific safety and health plan for site stabilization, rescue and recovery operations

- ✓ **Res.B.1 16.3** Perform ambient and task specific worker exposure monitoring for hazardous substances and inform workers of relevant risks
- ✓ **Res.B.2 5.5.4** Decontaminate people
- ✓ **Res.B.2 5.5.4.1** Conduct screening of affected persons
- ✓ **Res.B.2 5.5.4.2** Decontaminate affected persons, including injured victims, exposed to CBRNE materials
- ✓ **Res.B.2 5.5.4.4** Report decontamination results to appropriate health authorities
- ✓ **Res.C.1 1.5.1** Establish criteria for patient decontamination
- ✓ **Res.C.1 1.5.1.1** Develop facilities and procedures for patient decontamination
- ✓ **Res.C.1 4.1.4** Conduct laboratory assessment
- ✓ **Res.C.1 4.1.4.1** Implement protocols/guidelines for processing of samples from collection to delivery to the appropriate laboratory
- ✓ **Res.C.1 4.1.4.2** Coordinate/implement procedures to properly collect, package, store and transport biological/chemical samples to national laboratories
- **Public Health and Medical Services:** Deliver medical countermeasures to exposed populations. Complete triage and initial stabilization of casualties and begin definitive care for those likely to survive their injuries. ...Complete health assessments, and identify recovery processes. [Elements D, E, F]

Tasks associated with this capability include:

- ✓ **Res.C.1 4.3.1.2** Triage and treat patients at the decontamination site
- ✓ **Res.C.1 4.3.2** Track patient status and location
- **Public Information and Warning:** Inform all affected segments of society by all means necessary...of critical lifesaving and life-sustaining information to expedite the delivery of emergency services and aid the public to take protective actions. Deliver credible messages to inform ongoing emergency services and the public about protective measures and other life-sustaining actions and facilitate the transition to recovery. [Element G]

Tasks associated with this capability include:

- ✓ **Res.B.5 3** Coordinate emergency public information through the Joint Information System (JIS)
- ✓ **Res.B.5 3.1** Coordinate the provision of timely and accurate information
- ✓ **Res.B.5 3.2** Establish communications with domestic and international public
- ✓ **Res.B.5 3.3** Coordinate internal information programs
- ✓ **Res.B.5 3.6** Plan and coordinate public warnings, instructions, and information updates

The CRC drill will also test, indirectly, the implementation of the following universal Core Capabilities and their Response-specific targets:

- **Planning:** Develop operational plans...in the states and territories that adequately identify critical objectives based on the planning requirement, provide a complete and integrated picture of the sequence and scope of the tasks to achieve the objectives, and are implementable within the time frame contemplated in the plan using available resources.

Tasks associated with this capability include:

- ✓ **Pro.C.1 1.1** Develop Plans and Programs to Safeguard Public Health
  - ✓ **Pro.C.1 1.4.2** Conduct an inventory of all analytical laboratories
  - ✓ **Pro.C.1 1.4.2.1** Establish operational relationships among the various types of analytical laboratories within the jurisdiction (and other jurisdictions as appropriate) that are relevant to preparedness for and response to bioterrorism and other public health emergencies
  - ✓ **Pro.C.1 2.2.3** Conduct Laboratory Analysis
  - ✓ **Pro.C.1 2.2.3.1** Coordinate laboratory testing of human and environmental samples
  - ✓ **Pro.C.1 2.2.3.2** Disseminate laboratory testing results
  - ✓ **Pro.C.1 2.2.3.3** Provide laboratory and diagnostic support, subject-matter expertise, and technical assistance
- **Operational Coordination:** Mobilize all critical resources and establish command, control, and coordination structures within the affected community and other coordinating bodies in the surrounding communities...as needed throughout the duration of an incident.

Tasks associated with this capability include:

- ✓ **Res.B.1 2** Activate the Incident Command System
- ✓ **Res.B.1 2.2.1** Implement personnel accountability procedures
- ✓ **Res.B.1 2.3.1** Develop and Execute incident action plan
- ✓ **Res.B.1 2.3.2** Track accomplishments of tasks to resolution
- ✓ **Res.B.1 2.4.1** Execute mutual aid agreements
- ✓ **Res.B.1 2.5.1** Establish documentation measures/financial tracking
- ✓ **Res.B.1 2.6.1** Conduct and support emergency operations
- ✓ **Res.B.1 2.6.2** Identify resource requirements

## SMART Objectives

DHS guidance on the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) (April 2013) calls for the designation of specific objectives for exercises that are Specific, Measurable,

Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound. The Toolkit includes suggested objectives; the Drill Planning Team should tailor the objectives to reflect their own specific objectives, and associated capability targets and critical tasks, based on their own goals for the drill and their own emergency plans. The Drill Planning Team should also amend the objectives and capabilities to include performance thresholds, as appropriate, that state the amount of capability that drill players aim to achieve. These thresholds should be quantitative or qualitative measures to make the target capability measurable.

The following are objectives and associated capabilities and tasks that have been used for the Exercise Evaluation Guides. The Drill Planning Team should add objectives and specifics for any elements in their plans or procedures not covered in the toolkit.

Select the objectives you plan to exercise and modify or add to them to meet your needs. Amend the objectives and capabilities to include performance thresholds, as appropriate, that state the amount of capability that drill players aim to achieve.

**Objective 1: Demonstrate the ability to activate and manage a CRC with the appropriate command structure, assets, and resources to handle the expected number of recipients.**

Capability:

Implement the elements of the existing local plan for establishing, staffing, equipping, and operating a CRC.

Tasks:

- Implement a system to receive, identify, and track each person presenting to the CRC.
- Identify those who may need immediate assistance, including decontamination, referral for medical attention, or other assistance.
- Identify and prioritize special populations (e.g., pregnant women, children, nursing mothers, families with children requiring assistance, senior citizens requiring assistance, non-English speakers, people with pets, and people with disabilities requiring assistance).
- Identify those who meet the requirements for express contamination screening (if an express lane has been set up).
- Use a system to collect information from each person passing through the CRC and provide an individual tracking number to each person according to local plans and procedures (e.g., name, address, telephone number, other contact information, location at the time of the incident, and radiation readings).
- Manage companion and service animals brought to the CRC with their owners.
- Implement local procedures for property management, including bagging, identifying, and securing contaminated clothing and other personal effects.
- Use the local information management system in accordance with established plans and

procedures (e.g., paper form, electronic database, following guidelines for confidentiality and privacy).

**Objective 2: Demonstrate the ability to conduct radiological monitoring and decontamination operations for potentially contaminated populations.**

Capability:

Implement procedures for screening for external contamination.

Tasks:

- [Will be specific to local procedures, based on the specific radiation detection equipment instrumentation, staffing resources, size of the population expected to be processed, and facilities and resources available for on-the-scene contamination screening and decontamination.]
- Identify and prioritize those requiring contamination screening and decontamination.
- Properly use radiation detection instruments, interpret the instrument readings, and document the results.

Capability:

Effectively decontaminate persons identified as having radiological contamination.

Tasks:

- [Will be specific to local procedures, based on staffing resources, size of population expected to be processed, and facilities and resources available for on-the-scene decontamination; the decontamination process should include accommodations for modesty and post-decontamination clothing.]
- Re-screen those who have gone through an initial decontamination and take appropriate actions if residual contamination is identified.

Capability:

Implement appropriate procedures to ensure the safety and well-being of CRC staff.

Tasks:

- Identify the need for and proper use of personal protective equipment.
- Ensure adequate rotation of staff members to reduce physical and emotional fatigue.
- Have psychosocial support available for CRC staff and responders.

**Objective 3: Demonstrate the ability to conduct radiological assessments to determine if follow-up medical care is needed.**Capability:

Identify those who have had radiological exposures requiring follow-up.

Tasks:

- Identify persons requiring radiation dose assessments based on established criteria and refer them to the Dose Assessment Station.
- Identify persons requiring follow-up based on established criteria and prepare the documentation for health officials and provide instructions to the individual.

Capability:

Implement established procedures and criteria to screen people for internal contamination.

Tasks:

- Refer people as needed for screening for internal contamination as called for in the local plans and procedures.
- If screening for internal contamination is part of the local CRC, collect, process, and ship bioassay samples as called for in the local plans and procedures.

Capability:

Facilitate follow-up medical care as appropriate.

Tasks:

- Identify those who are presenting with acute radiation sickness (ARS) and provide assistance.
- Prioritize internally contaminated persons for follow-up as called for in the local plans and procedures and the event-specific criteria.
- Refer an individual for medical countermeasures as called for by established plans and procedures.

**Objective 4: Demonstrate the ability to provide psychosocial support and screen and provide referral for medical needs to sick and injured presenting at the CRC.**Capability:

Provide psychosocial support when needed.

Tasks:

- Provide psychological first aid (as needed) to those presenting at the CRC.

- Have age-appropriate psychosocial support available for children.

Capability:

Assist sick or injured persons.

Tasks:

- Provide immediate first aid assistance to those presenting with minor injuries.
- Refer individuals for medical assistance as needed.
- Assist sick or injured persons who are also contaminated.
- Provide those being discharged from the CRC with referrals to medical professionals, mental health support, and providers of shelter or transportation, as needed and as called for in the local plans and procedures.

**Objective 5: Demonstrate the ability to address the communication and information issues related to the operation of the CRC**

Capability:

Effectively address the communication and information needs of people presenting to the CRC.

Tasks:

- Provide clear and correct instructions, answers, and explanatory information to people presenting at the CRC.
- Have simple, easy-to-understand materials and information available to people entering the CRC. This should include materials such as a Q&A explaining the role of the CRC, what a CRC does and what it does not do, and the nature of the radiation monitoring and decontamination process.
- Provide those being discharged from the CRC with clear, easy to understand discharge instructions, in accordance with local plans. [In terms of evaluating the plan, the discharge instructions should notify people that they may be contacted by the health department for further monitoring or evaluation and provide them with basic information about radiation and its effects on human health, recommended actions to be taken by the public to safeguard their health, and points of contact for further information.]

Capability:

Effectively address the communication and information needs of special populations presenting at the CRC.

Tasks:

- Have age-appropriate information and explanations available for children.



- Have information available for pregnant women, including where reproductive counseling may be obtained.
- Be able to address the information needs of non-English speakers, individuals with hearing and visual disabilities, and other special populations.

Capability:

Effectively address the communication and information needs of personnel working at the CRC.

Tasks:

- Through the use of trainings, briefings, or similar mechanisms, ensure that CRC staff members have the opportunity to identify any questions, concerns, or information needs related to CRC operations.
- Produce easy-to-understand informational materials to answer questions, address concerns and respond to information needs of CRC personnel and their families.