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# Public Health & Medical Partners in California Emergency Response (public & private)

- Local Agencies/Providers (LHDs, LEMSAs, emergency management, medical transportation, environmental health, mental/behavioral health, fire, etc.)
- Health Care System (facilities, providers, labs, blood banks, pharmaceutical & medical supply vendors, etc.)
- State Agencies (CA ESF 8)
- Federal Agencies (ESF 8)

# Standardized Emergency Management System

- The Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) is the fundamental structure for the response phase of emergency management.
- State Agencies are required by law to comply with SEMS.
- Local governments are required to comply with SEMS in order to be eligible for response-related costs under California's disaster assistance programs.

# SEMS (cont.)

- Established so that emergency response agencies operate with a clear and consistent organizational structure.
- Facilitates interagency cooperation, priority setting, and the efficient flow of information and resources.

# SEMS and the Public Health and Medical System

**State Level**  
Duty Officer/ MHCC

**Region Level**  
RDMHC Program

**Operational Area Level**  
MHOAC Program, OA EOC

**Local Government Level**  
LHD, LEMSA, DOC

**Field Level**  
EMS Providers, Healthcare Facilities

**Immediate Medical  
Needs**

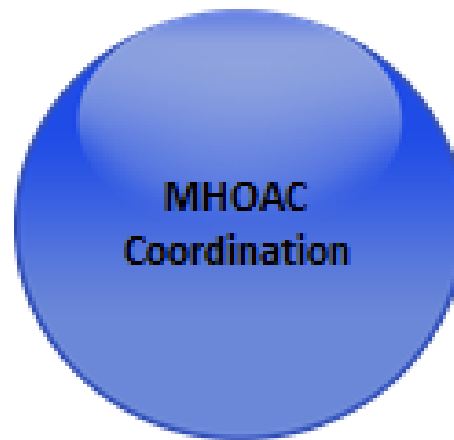
**Patient Movement**

**Disaster Medical and  
Health Resources**

**Field Treatment Sites**

**Public information and Communication**

**Pre-Hospital Emergency  
Medical Services  
(Fire and non Fire based)**



**Medical Care Providers  
(Outpatient, Inpatient  
and Emergency Care)**

**Drinking Water Safety**

**Food Safety**

**Mental Health Services**

**Communicable Disease Control**

**Hazardous Exposures**

**Epidemiology,  
Surveillance and  
Investigation**

**Vector Control**

**Hazardous Wastes**

# MHOAC Program (cont.)

- The MHOAC program expectations:
  - Maintains 24/7 points of contact
  - Provides situational reports
  - Maintains a directory of health and medical resources in the Operational Area

# MHOAC Program (cont.)

- Supports Mutual Aid/Assistance Coordination for Public Health and Medical within the OA
- Supports the Medical and Health needs within the LHD DOC and/or OA EOC
- Ensures the 17 functions are adequately addressed in the Operational Area Medical and Health Disaster Plan as well as during response



# California Mutual Aid Regions



# CCDEH Regions

**Not the same as CA Mutual Aid Regions**

**During Emergencies, mutual aid regions are used.**



# Relevant Statutes

- CA Health & Safety Code Section 1797.153 established the Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC)
- CA Health & Safety Code Section 1797.152 established the Regional Disaster Medical and Health Coordinator (RDMHC)

# RDMHC Program

- A regional-level program which includes:
  - RDMHC (*Coordinator*) is an appointed position within each of the six Mutual Aid Regions
  - RDMHS (*Specialist*) supports the RDMHC in the implementation of the RDMHC program functions. Currently, there are 2 assigned to each region.
  - May support the Medical & Health Branch at the REOCs

# RDMHC Program (cont.)

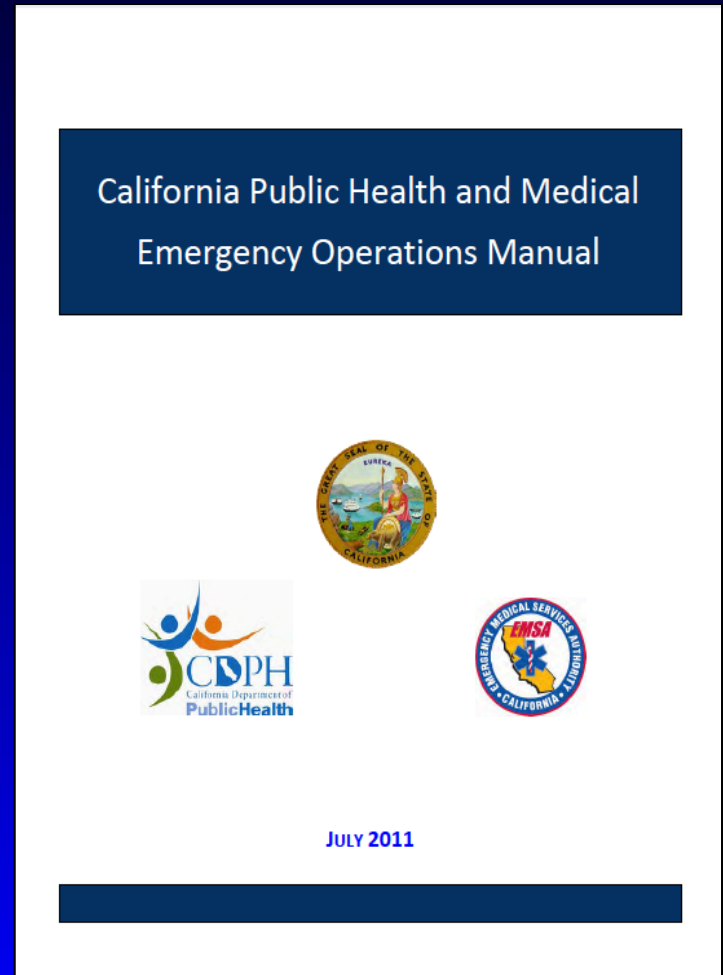
- Maintains a 24/7 point of contact
- Coordinates with the MHOAC Programs within the region
- Coordinates information sharing, situational reporting, and medical and health resource management
- Ensures the availability of public health and medical emergency resource directories within each Operational Area

# RDMHC Program (cont.)

- Coordinates PH, EMS, EH and MH/BH Mutual Aid/Assistance within the Region
- Supports activated Medical and Health Branches at REOCs
- Coordinates with CDPH and EMSA when state level support is required. (e.g., resource request management)

# California Public Health and Medical Emergency Operations Manual

- Establishes a Common Operational Framework that strengthens the ability of the Public Health and Medical System to rapidly and effectively respond to emergencies
- Presents key concepts, basic roles, and activities of the Public Health & Medical System



# Purpose of the EOM

- Primary focus is the *standardization* of operational processes between:
  - Operational Areas (OAs)
  - Mutual Aid Regions
  - State (e.g., CDPH, and EMSA)
- ...*during unusual events and emergency system activation*



# Purpose of the EOM (cont.)

- Provides baseline expectations and functional assumptions to optimize the support and coordination within the Public Health and Medical System
  - Situation Reporting
  - Resource Requesting and Management
  - Standardized terminology

# Purpose of the EOM (cont.)

- EOM does not specify how local entities organize within their Operational Area to achieve these expectations
  - EOM refers to local plans, policies, and procedures

# On-Going Challenges

- Integration of all 17 MHOAC functions into local PH, EMS, EH and BH/MH
- Integration with local DOCs and OA EOC activities
- Need for On-going Training and Exercises
  - SEMS/PH/M Emergency Operations Manual (EOM)
  - Implementing lessons learned & corrective actions associated with recent emergency responses
  - Maintaining relationships between the different disciplines in PH, EH, EMS & BH/MH

# MHOAC Contact List

- <https://emsa.ca.gov/medical-health-operational-area-coordinator>

# Questions?



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