



Summary Report

ETR/KCHD Chempack Dispensing Workshop

April 30, 2013
Knoxville, Tennessee

Controlled/Unclassified Information





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PREFACE

This Summary Report was produced with advice and input from participants. The purpose of the report is to provide written documentation explaining the purpose, structure and findings related to the Workshop. This report is tangible evidence of the Federal, State, and local Domestic Preparedness Program (DPP) partnership that exists within this community. This Report will contribute to the overall improvement in the community response to emergencies and threat situations, responder training, exercise and preparedness testing, and the provision of expert assistance.



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Workshop was conducted at Knox County Health Department located in Knoxville, TN on April 30, 2013, between the hours of 11:00am and 1:00pm. A total of ten (10) people were involved in this exercise. Participants included representatives from local/state public health, emergency management (EMA), Regional Medical Communications Center (RMCC) and hospitals.

The objectives of the Workshop were to provide an overview of the Tennessee Department of Health's Chempack Deployment Plan, identify opportunities to improve the plan, and allow local agencies the opportunity to make recommendations and consider modifications to their own plans in order to ensure compatibility with the local plan. The Workshop also provided a forum for local responders and planners to better understand the overall approach to the management of a large scale neurological mass casualty.



SECTION 1: EXERCISE OVERVIEW

Exercise Name

ETR/KCHD Chempack Dispensing Workshop

Exercise Date

April 30, 2013

Location

Knox County Health Department, Knoxville, TN

Duration

Two Hours (11:00 am to 1:00 pm)

Sponsors

Knox County Health Department

Type of Exercise

Workshop

Classification

Controlled/Unclassified Information

Focus

Chempack Distribution at Local Level

Scenario

The following scenario was used as a tool to enable the review of each step of the plan, utilizing a realistic situation that might be faced in the region:

- Weather is clear skies, high near 70°F, & NW wind @ 14 mph.
- UT's Orange and White Football game is today and is drawing large crowds to Neyland Stadium.
- First responders & resources are on standby at the event to provide First Aid and transport to area hospitals if needed.
- 911 call from first responder on scene that a train derailed nearby & is on fire.
- Train company also calls dispatch to report an emergency & there are hazardous materials on board.
- Within minutes, additional first responders arrive on scene & find 3 train cars derailed.
- Smoke & visible liquid are pouring from the derailed cars.
- Flames are visible for miles.



- A crowd is forming to gawk & take pictures with cell phones.
- First responders & victims on scene complaining of eyes burning & respiratory problems.
- Many are going to the first aid tent for care; others are leaving to self-transport to the hospital.
- Fire Department initiates decon on scene.
- People are beginning to panic and swarm EMS and self-report to hospitals.
- HazMat identifies the chemical as the organophosphate pesticide, Malathion.
- EMS Chempack is requested to be deployed to the scene.
- Nearby hospitals (ETCH, FSRMC, and UTMC) begin receiving patients.

Representation at the Exercise

See Appendix A for details.



SECTION 2: EXERCISE DESIGN SUMMARY

Exercise Purpose and Design

The purpose of this Workshop was to give participants an opportunity to consider the latest available information concerning the Knox/East Region Chempack Plan, make suggestions for its improvement, and consider modification to their own plans. Copies of the Plan were distributed to all participants prior to the start of the Workshop.

The Workshop consisted of the following:

- A brief overview of the Chempack Plan by Charity Menefee, Regional Hospital Coordinator, Knox County Health Department
- Review of key portions of the plan using a tabletop-like scenario.
- Comments, discussion and questions among Participants

The Workshop was moderated by Charity Menefee, Knox County Health Department.



SECTION 3: PRINCIPAL FINDINGS

In the course of conducting the Workshop, several observations and suggestions were offered by Participants. Among the most significant issues were the following:

1. **University of Tennessee Medical Center (UTMC) should include in their plan a designated location for the requested Chempack supplies to be divided for delivery.** UTMC pharmacist would prefer to divide supplies in the pharmacy and then transport them to LifeStar for transport however, discussion ensued that the division of supplies could also be handled at the LifeStar location.

In addition to the above finding, UTMC should re-evaluate current plan if request for Chempack occurs at night. UTMC is reduced to two security officers and two pharmacists and based on the current plan activities will not be followed as written due to diminished staffing levels. The plan should address after hours requests.

Based on UTMC's realization of staffing shortages, it is recommended that **ALL** hospitals evaluate their hospital based plans on how they will maintain hospital dispensing and Chempack dispensing with limited number of pharmacists. Additionally, based on the classification of medications dispensed from the Chempack do the hospitals' plans address security in compliance with Federal Laws? (Additional pharmacists, security and a secured location may be needed.)

2. **TDH should readdress the allocation table for the 2nd Chempack Container. UTMC will not be able to treat the number of patients covered by a 2nd container's Orange Allocation.**

Knox County Health Department (KCHD) will discuss with the Tennessee Department of Health, the possibility of dividing the second orange Chempack into smaller packs labeled different colors than those that are already in use. This will allow more hospitals to quickly be able to receive Chempack Assets during a large scale event.

3. **Plan must address protocols regarding the receiving hospital's responsibility on returning the unused cache.** Suggest providing a second chain of custody form to the receiving hospital, so that they can return the cache to UTMC following the event.



4. **Transportation of Chempack could be an issue if Rural Metro Ambulance Service is at level zero (there are no available ambulances in service).** KCHD should work with partners to discuss alternate transportation plans in the event that Rural/Metro cannot provide ground transportation.

SECTION 4: CONCLUSION

The ETR/KCHD Chempack Dispensing Workshop was a successful endeavor. Participants provided several points for consideration that will be carefully considered as revisions to the Plan are completed. This report cites several of these suggestions.



APPENDIX A: REPRESENTATION AT THE WORKSHOP

Participants, Observers, Subject Matter Experts, and Exercise Planning Team

Cochran, Jack	TDH-East Region (ERC)
Cathey, Jim	East Tennessee Children's Hospital (Pharmacy)
Hutsell, Larry	Knox County Health Department (ERC)
Flatt, Amy	UT Medical Center (Pharmacy)
Menefee, Charity	Knox County Health Department (RHC)
Roberts, Wanda	TDH-East Region (RHC)
Rowe, Janet	UT Medical Center (Disaster Coordinator)
Lawson, Alan	Knox County EMA (Director)
Slemp, Drew	UT Medical Center (RMCC)
Sparks, Amber	Knox County Health Department (EP Health Educator)