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Participants Included:
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- Fort Loudon Medical Center
- Newport Medical Center
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- Penobina Psychiatric Hospital
- Big South Fork Medical Center
- TN Department of Health, Health and EMS
- Knox County Health Dept.
- Knoxville / Knox County Emergency Management Agency
- Roane County Office of Emergency Services
- AMR
- Medlink II - Regional Medical Communications Center
- Blount County Emergency Management Agency

Kristin Manuel

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The report indicated clear strengths in every capability. Our Coalition has a firm foundation in the areas of members, administrative documentation and medical surge planning and response, to name a few.

Areas to further develop were the need for a response plan (in the works) and strategies to protect health care information systems and networks. We will be discussing details of the Assessment Report at the upcoming meeting and will post online.

From Your RHCs

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- Hospital Emergency Department Management of Radiation Accidents

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Stop The Bleed
A working inventory list with current assets available to the Healthcare Community can be found here: http://www.ketcoalition.org/regional-assets/

KETCoalition.org Regional Assets

Region II EMS has (1) Ambus located at Anderson County 911 center which can be requested for use. The Ambus is a medically retrofitted school bus that can transport up to twenty ambulatory patients, such as hospitals and retirement communities.

See our new Disaster Assistance section under the Guidance tab. Here you will find:

1. Facility Status Update Form (This can be used to provide information to the RHCS/RMCC during an event/emergency)

2. Regional Assets: See a working inventory list of what’s available and how to request the items, if needed.

Sign Up-Sign In: We are encouraging all our community partners to sign up under this membership tab. You will have access to your contact information and can determine who to add. This list will allow us to share training/exercise information with your facility, specific to the group you’ve registered under. You can register today following this link: http://www.ketcoalition.org/membership-sign-up/#join

Upcoming KETHC Presentations:
- 2018 Emergency Management Association of Georgia:
  - The Team the Plays Together, Saves Together
  - Recruitment and Retention of Hospital Decon Teams
  - You've Got To Be "KID"ding: Coalition Response to Ped. Prep.
  - Navigating the Murky Waters Between CMS and Role of Coalition

East Tennessee Dialysis Clinics Leading the Way to Meet Emergency Communications Gaps

On March 10, representatives from area dialysis clinics worked together to address one of the leading gaps during any emergency: communications. The Knoxville/East Tennessee Healthcare Coalition (KETHC), in partnership with METERS (Middle, East Tennessee Emergency Radio Service), provided an Amateur Radio Technician’s class for interested clinics. The class quickly filled with clinic representatives willing to dedicate the time necessary to study the material and attend an all day training before the test was given to become licensed HAM technician operators.

Dialysis clinics in this region are leading the way to not only identify gaps in overall healthcare preparedness, but coming together to meet those gaps. The corporate lines have been temporarily brushed aside as these facilities eagerly work together to improve the overarching preparedness needs within the healthcare community as a whole.

Dialysis clinics became part of the KET HC in 2015 after participation in a regional water contamination exercise with area hospitals. That exercise demonstrated the need to formalize a partnership with dialysis services. Since then, dialysis has been represented on the coalition and recently has expanded to include a larger dialysis clinic participation between all the corporate agencies in our region: Fresenius, Davita and DCI.

This is a great example of a coordinated effort between the healthcare community and the coalition to mitigate possible gaps once identified.

Creating partnerships, exercising together and identifying needs are without impact unless steps like these are taken to address the potential problems.

The KET HC is proud to work alongside partners like the dialysis communities that are willing to go above and beyond and their typical scope of services to prepare for an emergency and strengthen our preparedness efforts region-wide.

On November 6, 2016, the dialysis clinics became a integral part of a region wide exercise that included over 124 participating agencies, including: dialysis, hospitals, EMA, EMS, National Weather Service, Public Health (state, county, and regional), ambulatory surgical centers, home health agencies, hospices, intermediate care facilities, skilled nursing/long term care facilities, rehabilitation agencies and rural health clinics. This group also meets quarterly to discuss emergency preparedness concerns, regulatory updates, exercise and planning.

From these exercises/meetings, redundant communication was quickly identified as a gap that needed to be prioritized. The dialysis clinics partnered with the KET HC and METERS to offer an amateur radio technicians training and the class quickly filled with eager participants. As part of the coalition’s efforts, handheld HAM radios were offered to each clinic free upon successful completion of testing. Testing fees and food were paid by the coalition and METERS instructors volunteered their time.
Hazard Vulnerability Assessment
Each year the KET HC does a regional Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA) based on local ICP’s. Once approved by the Coalition, it is posted on our website and can be accessed any time by members.

Regional MOU

Preparedness Plan

See our new Disaster Assistance section under the Guidance tab. Here you will find:

1. Regional Asset Status Update Form (This can be used to provide information to the RHCS/ RMCC during an event/emergency)
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Coalition Documents on Website
Disaster Assistance
On Website
\*Click on Document on the left panel to access:
- Regional Asset Status Update Form
- Regional Assets

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