

**Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH)  
Emergency Preparedness Advisory Council  
Healthcare Sector Conference Call Minutes**

Date and Time of Call: Tuesday, January 26, 2010 - 0830 to 0930

Call Number: **1-888-776-3766**

Call Room Number: **3251726 press the star (\*) key before and after the room number**

*Please note this is a new call-in number and call procedure, the call will not be answered by an operator, but by an automated attendant.*

1. Welcome, Identification of committee members in alphabetical order, Review of Agenda

(Sallie Shipman)

1. Paul Abel, Emergency Preparedness Manager/Safety Officer, DCH System
2. Agha Afgan, Safety Officer, Jackson Hospital
3. Stanley Batchelor, Human Services Branch Director, Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA)
4. Beth Beck, Springhill Medical Center
5. Ann Brantley, Hazard Vulnerability Analysis (HVA) Nurse Coordinator, Asst. Center for Emergency Preparedness (CEP), Healthcare Sector Liaison, ADPH
6. Dr. John Campbell, State Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Medical Director, ADPH
7. Julie Cobb, Emergency Preparedness & Response, Jefferson County Health Department
8. Valerie Cochran, Asst. State Nursing Director, ADPH
9. Charlie Crawford, Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP)/ Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Coordinator, ADPH, CEP
10. Jeff Crews, Jacksonville Medical Center
11. Carolyn Dean, Infection Control Coordinator, Jackson Hospital & Clinic
12. Labridgette Ellis, Chief Operating Officer/HIPAA Privacy Officer, Whatley Health Services, Inc.
13. Carter English, Indigent Drug Program Pharmacist, Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation (ADMH)
14. Dr. Tom Geary, Medical Director for Bureau of Health Provider Standards & ADPH Leader Healthcare Committee, ADPH
15. Yvonne George, Quality of Life Health Services
16. Tina Givens, UAB
17. Barbara Harrold, Black Belt Medical Reserve Corps
18. Ashley Hayes, Director, North Alabama MRC
19. Faye Hicks
20. Karen Holland, Director of Quality and Regulatory Compliance, Jackson Hospital & Clinic
21. Mary Hooks, Black Belt Medical Reserve Corps
22. Tina Howell, Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services
23. Seratia Johnson, Quality Improvement, ADPH, Division of Epidemiology
24. Betty Jowers, Surveillance Nurse Coordinator, ADPH, Area 7
25. Acquanetta Knight, Coordinator of Planning and New Initiatives, ADMH
26. Shirley Lee, Mizell Memorial Hospital
27. Ken Long
28. Stephan Mambazo, Emergency Preparedness Social Worker, ADPH, Bureau of Professional and Support Services
29. John Matson, Director of Communications, Alabama Nursing Home Association
30. Rita Maynard, COOP Liaison, ADPH, CEP

31. Shila McKinney, Disease Intervention Specialist, Emergency Preparedness and Response, Jefferson County Health Department
32. Valeria Patton, Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)/Countermeasure Response Administration (CRA) Coordinator, ADPH
33. Teresa Porter, Emergency Preparedness (EP) Coordinator, ADPH, Area 9
34. Benjamin P. Rackley, Director, Black Belt Medical Reserve Corps
35. Jane Reeves, CEP Nurse Manager, CEP Healthcare Sector Liaison, ADPH
36. Diana Ruzicka, Alabama State Nurse Liaison & Chair, Disaster Health Services, Madison/Marshall County Chapter, American Red Cross
37. Marsha Sepla, Mizell Memorial Hospital
38. Sallie Shipman, HVA Nurse Coordinator, Asst. CEP, Healthcare Sector Liaison, ADPH,
39. Pat Spiller, Infection Preventionist, Walker Baptist Medical Center
40. Charles Thomas, State Pharmacy Director, ADPH
41. Joyce Thomas, Education Specialist/ Emergency Preparedness, Huntsville Hospital Emergency Department
42. Tom Tucker, Finance Director, Alabama Primary Health Care Association, Inc.
43. Dr. Albert White, Public Health Officer, ADPH, Area 3
44. Jora White, Training Coordinator, ADPH, CEP

2. Review and approval of minutes from October 27, 2009 Healthcare Sector Meeting  
(Sallie Shipman)

Minutes were approved without change and are available at:

<http://www.adph.org/CEP/assets/MinutesHCS10-27-09.pdf>

3. Old Business (Subcommittee Co-chair or designee)

Discussion Items:

**A. Subcommittee Updates-**

**Healthcare Coordination/Operational Planning – Teresa Porter**

**Next meeting - Thursday, March 11, 2010 at 3:00 p.m.**

This subcommittee is in the process of reviewing agenda items regarding oxygen, ventilators, etc. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

Due to the H1N1 response, review of [County](#) and [Area](#) Emergency Support Function (ESF) 8 All-Hazard Assessments were delayed and are now currently underway. After this review, there will be improvements made to the assessments. The tentative date for next submission is March/April 2010. The data derived from the assessments is extremely important to ADPH emergency preparedness planning efforts.

The Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH) is accepting requests for N95 respirators from healthcare providers who provide direct patient care to those who have confirmed, suspected, or probable influenza. This is a one-time offer of a limited amount of N95 respirators. Please visit the ADPH website at [www.adph.org](http://www.adph.org) and click on '[Emergency Preparedness](#)' in the blue navigation area on the left side of the home

page and then click [N95 respirators](#) in the navigation area or click the link below. Here you can review information on the process required to request a limited number of the supply for your facility. There is no charge for the N95 respirators. After visiting the website, if you still have questions, call 334-206-3394 or 1-866-264-4073.

### **Training and Exercise Planning – Valeria Patton**

#### **Next meeting - Wednesday, March 17, 2010 at 1:00 p.m.**

Mass Fatality table top exercises will be conducted in the [Coroners Association Districts](#). The current plan is to conduct at least one training in each of the six districts. The confirmed venues are:

**March 2 - District 1** - Baldwin County Central Annex;

**March 4 - District 2** - Troy Sports Multiplex;

**March 29 - District 3** - Tuscaloosa County Health Dept.  
Community Room;

**March 30 - District 4** - Shocco Springs Conference Center in  
Talladega;

**March 22 - District 5** - Cullman Regional Medical Center; and

**March 24 - District 6** - Etowah County Senior Activity Center.

The target audience will be local coroners, funeral directors, medical examiners, hospital administrators, and nursing home administrators. The focus of the discussion is to review the area's local mass fatality response plan.

A **flood table top exercise** will be conducted in Chambers County. Since Chambers County is in a flood plain, the focus of the discussion is to review the current flood response plan. This exercise is planned for **March 25, 2010** at the Valley Recreation Center, 100 Sportsplex Drive, Valley, Alabama.

**Closed point of dispensing (POD) training** will be conducted in the [Hospital Planning Regions](#). The target audience will be Institutes of Higher Education (IHE), such as Community Colleges/Junior Colleges with nursing and social work curriculums. The current plan is to conduct one training in each of the six regions; however, as planning develops, there may have to be two additional trainings in the larger regions. Valeria Patton, Jora White, and DeeAnn White are working with the [EP Coordinators](#) to locate venues that will accommodate the large crowds. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

A **functional exercise** is planned in Bibb County. Since Bibb County is a [Cities Readiness Initiative](#) (CRI) county, the focus of this exercise is to test the response to an Anthrax attack in a small rural county. This exercise is a collaborative effort between ADPH, Bibb County Emergency Management Agency (EMA), and [UAB's South Central Center for Public Health Preparedness](#) and is scheduled for **April**

22, 2010, at the Bibb County High School, 220 Birmingham Road, Centreville, Alabama. More information will be provided as it becomes available.

Please visit the [CEP Training](#) webpage for additional training and exercise information.

### **Pharmacy Issues – Charlie Thomas**

#### **Next meeting - Monday, March 8, 2010 at 1:30 p.m.**

There are 3687 pharmacists in the Alabama Emergency Response Technology (ALERT) system according to Amy Coody, State ALERT Coordinator. Notices have been sent through ALERT to the pharmacists. ADPH is working on increasing the message capacity within ALERT.

ADPH in conjunction with [UAB's South Central Center for Public Health Preparedness](#) is planning to conduct six to eight closed point of dispensing (POD) training exercises will occur in early 2010 in the Hospital Planning Regions (additional information is located in the Training and Exercise Planning update).

Mass Dispensing: Medications will have labels that will route the caller to either Auburn (AU) or Samford drug information centers, or the Alabama Poison Control Center (APC). Countermeasure Response Administration (CRA) system is the data submitted to CDC during an event. An exercise testing this system is in the discussion phase.

### **Faith Based/Community and Other Volunteers Sector – Charlie Crawford**

#### **2010 ADPH Volunteer Symposia - The Role of an ADPH Volunteer in a Disaster**

These symposia will address the need for responding volunteers to be familiar with their role as an ADPH Volunteer. Discipline related topics will be presented as well as an overview of some of the emergency response assets that ADPH currently has in its possession.

Conference presentations include the following:

- The Role of a Nurse in a Disaster
- The Role of a Pharmacist in a Disaster
- The Role of a Social Worker in a Disaster
- The Role of an Amateur Radio Operator in a Disaster
- Showcase of ADPH Emergency Response Assets

### 2010 ADPH Volunteer Symposia - Conference Details

<b>Date</b>	<b>Facility</b>
04/21/2010	<a href="#">Von Braun Center</a> 700 Monroe St Huntsville, Alabama 35801 <a href="#">Map</a>
04/28/2010	<a href="#">Arthur R. Outlaw Mobile Convention Center</a> One South Water St Mobile, AL 36602 <a href="#">Map</a>
05/06/2010	<a href="#">Renaissance Montgomery Hotel at the Convention Center</a> 201 Tallapoosa St Montgomery, Alabama 36104 <a href="#">Map</a>

#### **Notes from the MRC/ESAR-VHP Overview & Update on the Haiti response conference call held Monday 01/25/2010**

As part of the International Response, multiple agencies are involved – lead for United States (US) is [United States Agency for International Development](#) (USAID).

Several [United States Department of Health and Human Services](#) (HHS) teams, including [Disaster Medical Assistance Teams](#) (DMAT) teams have been dispatched to Haiti (over 35 surgeries & 10,000 patients treated) – doing hospital augmentation and staffing clinics in the area.

Approximately 13,000 American citizens have returned from Haiti (those who were visiting, etc.). HHS is supporting with medical and short term lodging assistance.

US Southern Command dispatched (Ft Bragg/Camp Legune and the USS Comfort –floating hospital).

Initial message was that we would not need volunteers as a part of the first response – large demand for specialty MD's (pediatrics, orthopedics, etc.) – asked to reach out to see if MRC had any of these individuals that might be willing to deploy - but since then this need has been met by other agencies (primarily USAID led).

Current message – they don't see a call for MRC volunteers taking place. The limiting factor is having the ability to support the volunteers once they are on the ground (security, space, and food/water needs). At this time, be aware that this could change.

USAID will deploy medical volunteers (Haitians/Haitian Americans) that wish to return to do so as special circumstances to aid. The vision is that this is a long term mission. Volunteers may be more involved in recovery and rebuilding and requested at a later date.

**Questions:**

1. Further post – is there a possibility that some of those Haitians might be transferred to the US until their care is provided for?
  - a. Not sure – it has not come up, but would involve a significant amount of logistics; they have transferred critical care to the US (very small #s) much more likely they would establish field clinics in Haiti.
2. In the papers – hospitals say they are sending folks to Haiti – is that through USAID?
  - a. No, not aware that USAID is deploying hospital personnel; probably on their own or via a Non-governmental organization (NGO).
3. Do you see the MRCs getting involved with the Repatriation centers?
  - a. Yes, this is a potential role (DMAT teams are in FL right now). 13,000 folks have repatriated so far/screening process before they left to ensure safe travel and care upon return.
  - b. 20 citizens recently arrived in DC; expect more in future
4. A group of unaffiliated volunteers/response organizations contacted the State Health Commissioner – requesting to be sent to Haiti – stating they will self-deploy if not sent. Message to them was, if you go on your own, you need to be prepared to sustain yourself for 14 days (food, shelter, supplies, clothing, etc.) and that if they go without these resources they're drawing from the impacted community members resources.
5. Have they started long term planning and scheduling?
  - a. They are collecting the names/info of those who have expressed interest, but no plan yet – it may go to NGO's to coordinate.
6. What is the chain to request volunteers to the state?
  - a. Informational only at this point [messaging from Office of Civilian Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps (OCVMRC) OCVMRC)] – if it was a mission assignment it would follow HHS protocol (appropriate [Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response](#) (ASPR) officials to their main state points of contact, etc.).

#### 4. New Business (Sallie Shipman)

##### Discussion Items:

##### **A. Collaborative Efforts for Emergency Planning Between ADPH and Healthcare Organizations Conference Progress – Sallie Shipman, Hazard Vulnerability Nurse Coordinator**

The “Collaborative Efforts for Emergency Planning Between ADPH and Healthcare Organizations” conferences are complete. These conferences helped to provide guidance for planning efforts regarding shortages of ventilators that could occur during a mass casualty event. The presentations and supporting documentation are posted on the [CEP Presentations](#) webpage. Please view the [Hospital Planning Regions Map](#). The overall [conference summary](#) is available on the [CEP Training](#) webpage.

Following the six hospital regional conferences, a webcast with a Q & A session was conducted on December 1, 2009. The program is now available on-demand at:

<http://www.adph.org/ALPHTN/index.asp?id=3949>.

The next steps will be EMS considerations along with incorporation of the policy into the Alabama Emergency Operations Plan.

##### **B. Alternative/Alternate Care Site Planning– Jane Reeves, CEP Nurse Manager**

Alternate Care sites will be the next issue that ADPH will be working on in collaboration with the healthcare facilities. As a starting point, ADPH is working with the Alabama Hospital Association to identify one hospital in each region and review their existing alternate care plan. According to ASPR guidance, there are several issues that must be addressed in alternate care site plans. If any facility on the call has a plan that ADPH could review and “make generic” to serve as a template, it would be greatly appreciated if you would send it to us.

In support of the [County](#) and [Area](#) Emergency Support Function (ESF) 8 All-Hazard Assessments review, ADPH also plans to have regional response planning sessions in each public health area over the next few months to bring healthcare facilities to the table to discuss ESF-8 emergency preparedness plans. More information will follow.

ADPH will continue to work to identify ways that we can assist healthcare facilities in their alternate care site efforts.

5. New Business, not identified on the agenda (Sallie Shipman)

None noted on the call.

6. Review date and time of next call, **Tuesday, April 27, 2010** then to be held quarterly on the fourth Tuesday of the month from 8:30 a.m. until 9:30 a.m. (Sallie Shipman)

7. Other topics and announcements (All)

None noted on the call.

8. Adjourn