

Monterey County EMS System Policy



Policy Number: 8080
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MONTEREY COUNTY MHOAC NOTIFICATION/ACTIVATION

I. PURPOSE

To provide guidance to the EMS Duty Officer, Medical/Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC) program, and operational lead and/or supporting agencies responsible for ensuring that medical and health preparedness and response activities are completed. Within the Operational Area (OA) various departments and programs may be responsible for one or more of the 17 MHOAC program functions outlined in Health and Safety Code §1797.153.

II. POLICY

The Board of Supervisors has designated the EMS Director as the Monterey County MHOAC. The MHOAC program will be facilitated through a collaborative effort between the Monterey County EMS Agency, the Monterey County Health Officer, and the Monterey County Health Department.

III. PROCEDURE

A. Notification

1. Any agency that is impacted by a trigger event or situation (as outlined below) shall contact the EMS Duty Officer by calling the Monterey County EMS Communications Center at **831-796-6444**.
2. The Monterey County EMS Communications Center will contact the EMS Duty Officer, based upon internal notification policies.
3. If the Monterey County EMS Communications Center becomes aware of or identifies an event or situation that meets the notification/activation triggers they shall notify the EMS Duty Officer.
4. The EMS Duty Officer will notify the MHOAC.

B. Triggers for Notification of the MHOAC

Any of the following conditions may trigger the notification of the MHOAC:

1. An incident that significantly impacts or is anticipated to significantly impact public health, the medical/health system, behavioral health, environmental health, or emergency medical services;
2. An incident where resources are needed or are anticipated to be needed beyond the capabilities of the OA, including those resources available through existing

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agreements;

3. An incident that leads to a regional or state request for information or mutual aid; and/or
4. An incident in which increased information flow from the OA to the region and the state will assist in the management or mitigation of the incident's impact.

C. Role of the EMS Duty Officer

1. Day to day system operational issues will be managed by the EMS Duty Officer.
2. If the situation/event meets a notification/activation trigger as described above, the EMS Duty Officer shall contact the MHOAC.

D. Role of the MHOAC

1. Identify resources and coordinate the procurement and allocation of public and private medical, health and other resources required to support disaster medical and health operations in affected areas.
2. Request and respond to situation status reporting and resource requests generated by OA hospitals, Health Care Facilities and medical care entities and providers.
3. Communicate the medical and health status and needs to local, regional, and state governmental agencies and officials inside and outside of the OA.
4. Coordinate with the Regional Disaster Medical Coordinator/Specialist (RDMHC/S) program for medical and/or health mutual aid support from outside the OA as needed.
5. Coordinate with OA Supporting Agencies, and with regional and state entities as appropriate.
6. Ensure the completion and submission of a Situation Status Report inclusive of all Medical/Health awareness information within the OA as per guidance in the California Public Health and Medical Emergency Operations Manual.
7. Coordination and support of the specific MHOAC Program functions with the Operational Area Lead and/or Support Agencies.

E. The Operational Area Lead and/or Support Agency is responsible for:

1. Coordination of notifications within their respective agency, with the MHOAC, other OA agencies and with regional and state entities.
2. Ensuring situational awareness information is shared with the MHOAC for inclusion in any notifications and/or situation status reports.
3. Coordination and support of the specific MHOAC Program functions in which they are participating.

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F. MHOAC Program Function Matrix

MHOAC Program Response Function	Operational Area Lead	Operational Support Agency
1. Assessment of immediate medical needs	EMS	PH
2. Coordination of disaster medical and health resources a. Medical b. Health c. Mental Health	MHOAC	HO and PH
3. Coordination of patient distribution and medical evaluation	EMS	PH
4. Coordination with inpatient and emergency care providers	EMS	PH
5. Coordination of non-hospital medical care providers	MHOAC	EMS and PH (Outpatient Clinics, Skilled Nursing, Long Term Care, Dialysis Centers, Urgent Care Centers & Surgery) Centers
6. Coordination and integration with fire agency personnel, resources, and emergency fire pre-hospital medical services	EMS	OES
7. Coordination of providers of non-fire based prehospital emergency medical services	EMS	OES
8. Coordination of the establishment of temporary Field Treatment Sites	EMS	PH and OES
9. Health surveillance and epidemiological analyses of community health status	CDU	PH

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MHOAC Program Response Function	Operational Area Lead	Operational Support Agency
10. Assurance of food safety	EH	HO
11. Management of exposure to hazardous agents	EH	HO/Regional HazMat Team
12. Provision or coordination of mental health services	BH	PH
13. Provision of medical and health public information protective action recommendations	HO and PH PIO	HO and OES PIO
14. Provision or coordination of vector control services	EH	HO / PH
15. Assurance of drinking water safety	EH	HO / PH
16. Assurance of the safe management of liquid, solid and hazardous wastes	EH	PH
17. Investigation and control of communicable disease	CDU	PH

Matrix Key:

AG	Agriculture Commissioner
BH	Behavioral Health
CDU	Communicable Disease Unit
EH	Environmental Health
EMS	EMS Agency
HO	Health Officer
MHOAC	Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator
OES	Office of Emergency Services
PH	Public Health
PIO	Public Information Officer (Health Department)

G. Sustaining the MHOAC program in a long-term event

The MHOAC Program will be sustained through a collaborative effort among the Monterey County EMS Agency, the Monterey County Health Officer, and the Monterey County Public Health Bureau for the duration of the event and through the recovery process. For sustained events requiring substantial expansion of the ICS/MAC structure, mutual aid may be necessary.

1. The Public Health Bureau and EMS Agency will ensure that they can adequately supply qualified staff to perform as the MHOAC designee.
2. The Public Health Bureau and EMS Agency will create a MHOAC staffing schedule to be utilized in the event of a long-term event, to include the activation of the DOC or the Operational Area EOC in order to fill the Medical/Health Branch.


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3. The Public Health Bureau and EMS Agency will identify the Lead Agency referencing the MHOAC Program Function Matrix
- H. Triggers to sustain the MHOAC program in a long-term event include:
4. Event lasting longer than 48 hours; or
 5. Operational Area EOC activation; or
 6. Public Health Officer directive; or
 7. Activation of Public Health DOC

IV. REFERENCES

Health & Safety Code §1797.153 (MHOAC) & §1797.152 (RDMHC)
California Health and Medical Emergency Operations Manual, July 2011

END OF POLICY



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