

Terwilliger, Courtney

From: Terwilliger, Courtney
Sent: Wednesday, April 20, 2022 5:29 PM
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Subject: FW:



Southern Regional Disaster Response System

Funded by the Health and Human Services Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (HHS ASPR), the Southern Regional Disaster Response System's (SRDRS) mission is to complement existing preparedness and response frameworks and the partnerships represented by the Health Care Coalitions. The mission is accomplished by integrating clinical and health care systems' operational expertise into existing preparedness and response structures at the local, state, and regional levels across HHS Region 4.

Broadly, the SRDRS aims to:

- Augment horizontal and vertical integration of key stakeholders by championing public-private partnerships and aligning preparedness and response plans, policies, and procedures.
- Improve bidirectional communication and situational awareness of the medical needs and issues of a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive (CBRNE) response between health care organizations and government partners.
- Facilitate greater access to highly specialized clinical expertise and capabilities to improve medical surge capacity.

Select initiatives include:

- Develop a medical operations coordination center, building on existing relationships and infrastructure. This includes tracking out-of-hospital patient movement and improving the visibility of health system capabilities and capacities by enhancing an existing health systems dashboard.
- Improving access to highly specialized clinical expertise in trauma, burns, and CBRNE mass casualty management.
- Expand the use of telemedicine systems, including Tele-Critical Care, Tele-Emergency Medicine, Tele-EMS, and teleconsultation services offered by the regional poison centers.
- Conduct a gap analysis for existing health care system preparedness and response structures to serve as the impetus for designing, conducting, and evaluating discussion and operations-based exercises.

The SRDRS builds on the successful collaboration of the Health Care Coalitions in Georgia and the HHS Region 4 states. The program is funded by a grant awarded to Emory University/Emory Healthcare and its partners, the Georgia Department of Public Health, Augusta University Health System, and the University of Georgia Institute for Disaster Management, responsible for leading the collaboration with regional stakeholders.

Executive Committee

Alexander Isakov, MD, MPH – Emory University – SRDRS Principal Investigator
Curtis Harris, PhD – University of Georgia Institute for Disaster Management – SRDRS Executive Director
Richard Schwartz, MD – Augusta University Health System – SRDRS Medical Director
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