

Emergency Support Function #8 – Public Health and Medical Services Annex

Agency	Functions
<p>Department of State</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinates international activities related to chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear incidents and events that pose transborder threats as well as naturally occurring disease outbreaks with international implications. Contributes to the development of projections of the international consequences of the event (e.g., disease spread, quarantine, isolation, travel restrictions, pharmaceutical supply and distribution, and displaced persons) through coordination with foreign states and other international stakeholders, and assists in communicating real-time actions taken by the United States and U.S. projections of the international consequences of the event. • Assists with coordination with foreign states concerning offers of support, gifts, offerings, donations, or other aid. This includes establishing coordination with partner nations to identify the U.S.-validated immediate support in response to an incident. • Acts as the health and medical services information conduit to U.S. Embassies/Consulates.
<p>Department of Transportation (DOT)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In collaboration with DOD, GSA, and other transportation-providing agencies, provides technical assistance in identifying and arranging for all types of transportation, such as air, rail, marine, and motor vehicle and accessible transportation. • Coordinates with the Federal Aviation Administration for air traffic control support for priority missions. • At the request of ESF #8, provides technical support to assist in arranging logistical movement support (e.g., supplies, equipment, blood supply, etc.) from DOT resources, subject to DOT statutory requirements.
<p>Department of Veterans Affairs</p>	<p>Subject to the availability of resources and funding, and consistent with the VA mission to provide priority services to veterans, when requested:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinates with participating NDMS hospitals to provide incident-related medical care to authorized NDMS beneficiaries affected by a major disaster or emergency. • Furnishes available VA hospital care and medical services to individuals responding to, involved in, or otherwise affected by a major disaster or emergency, including members of the Armed Forces on active duty. • Designates and deploys available medical, surgical, mental health, and other health service support assets. • Provides a Medical Emergency Radiological Response Team for technical consultation on the medical management of injuries and illnesses due to exposure to or contamination by ionizing radiation. • Alerts VA FCCs and provides reporting instructions to support incident relief efforts. • Alerts VA FCCs to activate NDMS patient reception plans in a phased, regional approach, and when appropriate, in a national approach. • Buries and memorializes eligible veterans and advises on methods for interment of the dead during national or homeland security emergencies.
<p>Environmental Protection Agency</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides technical assistance and environmental information for the assessment of the public health/medical aspects of situations involving hazardous materials, including technical and policy assistance in matters involving water and wastewater systems, for critical health care facilities. • Provides support for public health matters for radiological incidents through the FRMAC and the Advisory Team for Environment, Food, and Health. • Assists in identifying alternate water supplies and wastewater collection and treatment for critical health care facilities. • Provides environmental technical assistance (e.g., air monitoring) and information in the event temporary interment is necessary and/or human remains are contaminated.

