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National Healthcare Disaster Certification  
Test Content Outline – Effective Date: May 1, 2017

There are 175 questions on this examination. Of these, 150 are scored questions and 25 are pretest questions that are not scored. Pretest questions are used to determine how well these questions will perform before they are used on the scored portion of the examination. The pretest questions cannot be distinguished from those that will be scored, so it is important for a candidate to answer all questions. A candidate's score, however, is based solely on the 150 scored questions. Performance on pretest questions does not affect a candidate's score.

This Test Content Outline identifies the areas that are included on the examination. The percentage and number of questions in each of the major categories of the scored portion of the examination are also shown.

Category	Content Domain	Number of Questions	Percentage
I	Mitigation	28	19%
II	Preparedness	54	36%
III	Response	44	29%
IV	Recovery	24	16%
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>150</b>	<b>100%</b>



## **I. Mitigation (19%)**

### **A. Assessment of Risks and Hazards**

#### *Knowledge of:*

1. Health, safety, environmental, and security risks
2. Personal safety measures
3. Organizational safety measures
4. Community safety measures

#### *Skills in:*

5. Threats, hazards, and vulnerabilities (e.g., Hazard Vulnerability Assessment (HVA))

### **B. Mitigation of Risks and Hazards**

#### *Knowledge of:*

1. Mitigation principles
2. Organizational care and self-care principles
3. Resilience (e.g., physical, social, spiritual, emotional, and infrastructure)
4. Backup or redundant systems

#### *Skills in:*

5. Risk-reduction strategies and tactics (e.g., Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP))
6. Mitigation integration strategies (e.g., lessons learned, best practices, and process improvement)
7. Continuity Plans (e.g., operations, business, recovery)

## **II. Preparedness (36%)**

### **A. Health and Safety Needs**

#### *Knowledge of:*

1. Population-based health principles
2. Disaster health consequences
3. Disaster epidemiology (e.g., incidence, distribution, and control of diseases)
4. Personal needs (e.g., medications, food, water, money, shelter, and pets)
5. Functional and access needs (e.g., at-risk populations, disabilities)

#### *Skills in:*

6. Health interventions in disasters and emergencies
7. Infection prevention and control (e.g., isolation, quarantine, prophylaxis)
8. Selection of personal protective equipment

### **B. Resources**

#### *Knowledge of:*

1. Operational area resources (e.g., shelters, point of distribution (POD) sites, healthcare system capabilities)
2. External resources (e.g., Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), disaster volunteer groups, non-governmental organizations)
3. Health-hazard notification tools and agencies (e.g., National Weather Service Early-Warning programs, syndromic surveillance systems)
4. Asset procurement

#### *Skills in:*

5. Allocation of scarce resources

C. Planning and Communications

*Knowledge of:*

1. Disaster-related statutes, regulations, and standards (e.g., liability, rapid licensure/credentialing, consent)
2. Reporting requirements
3. Ingress and egress (e.g., evacuation, access for resources)
4. Mass Casualty Incident (MCI)
5. Surge capacity roles and functions
6. Mutual aid agreement and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

*Skills in:*

7. Emergency operations planning (e.g., protocols, practices, personnel)
8. Exercise planning (e.g., Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Plan (HSEEP))

### III. Response (29%)

A. Command, Control, and Communication

*Knowledge of:*

1. National Incident Management System (NIMS)
2. Disaster terminology
3. Public information (e.g., Joint Information Systems (JIS), Joint Information Center (JIC), social media, credible sources)
4. Provider information (e.g., inter-professional communication)
5. Incident Action Plan
6. Healthcare system status
7. Mapping systems (e.g., Geo-spatial Information Systems (GIS))

*Skills in:*

8. Incident Command System (ICS)
9. Crisis communications (e.g., delivery modalities, language, culture)

B. Health Care Interventions

*Knowledge of:*

1. Scene safety
2. Delivery of care (e.g., first aid, psychological first aid, behavioral health, pre-existing conditions)

*Skills in:*

3. Use of personal protective equipment
4. Signs and symptoms of disaster-related illnesses and injuries
5. Triage systems
6. Decontamination (e.g., dry, wet)

C. Ethical Considerations in Disaster Response

*Skills in:*

1. Crisis standards of care (e.g., scope of practice, level of care, adaptation of systems)
2. Ethical considerations (e.g., resource allocation, medical ethics)
3. Privacy protection

## IV. Recovery (16%)

### A. Short-term Recovery

#### *Knowledge of:*

1. Decontamination of assets and places
2. Post-disaster cleanup (e.g., debris management, restoration of services, infrastructure)
3. Incident-related individual health consequences
4. Resupply
5. Fatality management

#### *Skills in:*

6. Documentation (e.g., expenses, time, claims, incidents)
7. Family reunification
8. Demobilization

### B. Long-term Recovery

#### *Knowledge of:*

1. Fiscal accountability
2. Incident-related public health consequences (e.g., epidemiological surveillance)
3. Incident-related environmental health consequences
4. Recovery resources (e.g., long-term recovery groups, disaster recovery center)

#### *Skills in:*

5. After Action Report and Improvement Plan (AAR/IP)

Last Updated: 7/20/16

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