

Disaster Behavioral Health Tools and Resources for the Washington State Healthcare Workforce

INTENDED AUDIENCE

Mental health providers, social workers, physicians, nurses, EMTs, first responders, faith-based chaplains, health planners, emergency response planners, other public health practitioners, and health educators.

PRE-REQUISITES

None.

FORMAT

Web-based, Flash presentation. This online module has an audio narration and interactive exercises and scenarios.

ESTIMATED TIME TO COMPLETE

This module takes approximately one hour to complete.

LEAD COURSE DEVELOPER

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Northwest Center for Public Health Practice
Schools of Nursing and Public Health and
Community Medicine
University of Washington

ACCREDITATION

It has been accredited by CDC. See back for accreditation statements.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

See <http://www.nwcphp.org/dbh>

If you have questions, please contact the Northwest Center for Public Health Practice.



Northwest Center for Public Health Practice

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COURSE DESCRIPTION

This online course aims to enhance the networking capacity and training of healthcare professionals to recognize and coordinate care of those with behavioral health consequences of bioterrorism and other public health emergencies.

The course outlines the psychosocial phases of a community-wide disaster and explains common temporal patterns of behavioral responses. Mental health risks that disaster victims and rescue personnel face after a disaster, and abnormal signs that might indicate the need for a psychological evaluation are discussed. Finally, the course addresses the local preparedness role in public mental health emergencies.

Although the case studies and examples are based on the agencies and preliminary plans in Washington State, the majority of the content is applicable to mental health preparedness and response in any location. Therefore, this course can serve as a reference for all healthcare and emergency response professionals interested in learning about community-wide mental health disaster response, regardless of the state in which they work.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- List three (3) of the common psychosocial phases of a community-wide disaster.
- Describe the various individual behavioral health outcomes that usually occur in the aftermath of disasters.
- Identify abnormal reactions to disaster that might indicate a need for a psychological evaluation.
- Describe how the Washington State mental health disaster response plan incorporates local, state and federal agencies.

COMPETENCIES ADDRESSED

This module provides an awareness-level training in the following competencies:

Competency	Description
Bioterrorism Competencies for Clinicians: Recovery and Evaluation	Recognize and treat the psychological impact of a BT event on victims and health care professionals as appropriate to the event.
Clinician Competencies During Initial Assessment and Management of Emergency Events	Identify and manage the expected stress/anxiety associated with emergency events, making referrals to mental health services if needed.

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About the Course Developer

Randal Beaton, PhD, EMT, is a research professor and clinical psychologist in the Psychosocial and Community Health Department in the School of Nursing; and a research adjunct professor in the Department of Health Services in the School of Public Health and Community Medicine. Dr. Beaton is also a volunteer EMT and has twenty-five years experience as a clinical psychologist. He has headed NIOSH and FEMA funded programs to examine the causes and effects of stress in firefighters and other emergency responders. His recent research has focused on psychosocial aspects of terrorism; especially in first responders.



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ACCREDITATION

This course was developed by the Northwest Center for Public Health Practice in cooperation with the Washington State Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). It has been accredited by CDC.

- **Medical Accreditation Statement (CME):** This activity has been planned and implemented in accordance with the Essential Areas and Policies of the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education through the joint sponsorship of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Northwest Center for Public Health Practice. CDC is accredited by the ACCME to provide continuing medical education for physicians. CDC designates this educational activity for a maximum of 1.0 hours in category I credit towards the AMA Physician's Recognition Award. Each physician should claim only those hours of credit that he/she actually spent in the educational activity.
- **Nursing Accreditation Statement (CNE):** This activity for 1.0 contact hours is provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which is accredited as a provider of Continuing Nursing Education by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation.
- **Health Educator Accreditation Statement (CHES):** The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is a designated provider of continuing education contact hours (CECH) in health education by the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing, Inc. This program is a designated event for the CHES to receive 1.0 Category I contact hours in health education, CDC provider number GA0082.
- **Continuing Education Statement:** The CDC has been reviewed and approved as an Authorized Provider by the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET). The CDC has awarded 0.1 to participants who successfully complete this program.