GETAC Disaster Preparedness & Response Committee Report August 2023

Chair: Eric Epley, CEM Vice-Chair: Wanda Helgesen, RN



Texas Department of State Health Services

GETAC Disaster Preparedness & Response

Priority Not Implemented Priority Activities Recorded Priorities Completed and being Monitored

Committee Priorities	Current Activities	Status
Evaluate and improve the Texas Emergency Medical Task Force based on real-world responses and data from the field.	 Review wildfire deployment data Program & workgroup updates 2023 Educational overview Updating training opportunities 	
Improve patient tracking utilizing the Texas EMS wristband along with Pulsara.	 Pulsara statewide updates Real world examples reviewed Reviewing Pulsara data & usage 	
Support the supply chain/PPE operations & storage for Texas hospitals & EMS agencies in concert with TDEM.	 Workgroup meetings are on-going Working on hospital participation 	

GETAC Disaster Preparedness & Response

- Items referred to GETAC for future action/guidance:
 1.TEMAC & GETAC Disaster Committee joint MCI/Active Shooter workgroup.
- GETAC Council Updates:
 - 1.Statewide EMS Wristband Project: Pulsara coordination taking place 354 Contracted EMS agencies/ 423 Contracted Hospitals. DSHS & EMTF have purchased Pulsara MED OPS, Pulsara UNITED for EMS, and Pulsara ONE for Hospitals across Texas. Using Pulsara as the method to deliver patient reports from EMS to hospitals daily ensures that your organization is using the same tool in an MCI as you are every day.
 - 2. Regional Heat-Related MCI Response: Due to the increase in heat-related MCIs in TSA-P, the STRAC EMS committee disaster workgroup has developed an effective method to deliver TEMP bags/Ice to the scene.
- TX EMTF Program Updates & Announcements
 - Last 30 Days: 42 Different Fires
 - 4,514 Patient Encounters (26 Treated, 2 Transported)

Completed Training Courses:

• MIST Initial, MEDL & TFL