



Activation Triggers

An increase in patient surge and staff/student illness caused by a pandemic influenza outbreak begins to stress the ability of the Texas Medical Center (TMC) member institutions to meet the demand to provide adequate patient care.

How to Activate this Framework

- The TMC Pandemic Influenza Advisory Group will meet with the city, county, and state public health authorities to discuss the effect of the pandemic flu outbreak and implement the plan if needed to respond to the crisis.
- The TMC Pandemic Influenza Preparedness Response Guide includes the TMC roles and responsibilities during the following 4 activation levels:
 - **Level 4: Normal Conditions** —TMC's potential actions may include communicating among member institutions and disseminating information; increasing public awareness of pandemic influenza and means to prevent exposure; conducting training for Public Relations Advisory Council (PRAC) members in Xebec, PIER system, and social media; coordinating security and police for TMC property; participating in drills and exercises; and maintaining the Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Guide.
 - **Level 3: Increased Readiness** — TMC's potential actions at level 3 activation include the ongoing actions from level 4 as well as providing hand sanitizer at common facilities and garage elevators; and managing utilities offered by TMC in common areas.
 - **Level 2: Escalated Response** —TMC's potential actions at level 2 include ongoing actions from levels 3 and 4 as well as participating in the joint information center (JIC), including news conferences; providing updates to media regarding operational status of TMC member institutions; moving to 24-hour operations and activating the emergency operations center (EOC); coordinating transportation and mobility with the Metropolitan Transit Authority (METRO), Houston Police Department (HPD), City of Houston Traffic Division and Tran Star; activating the TMC Pandemic Influenza Advisory Group and conducting emergency meetings, place conference calls or send e-mails.
 - **Level 1: Emergency Conditions**—TMC's potential actions at level 1 include ongoing activities from levels 2-4 as well as providing resource support referrals for mass fatality response operations within the TMC and activating continuity of operations plans.

Operational Considerations

- Upon activation of the TMC Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Guide, TMC and its member institutions will follow the National Incident Management System (NIMS) Incident Command System (ICS).
- When activated, the CMOC provides assistance to TMC healthcare member institutions during a pandemic flu event.

Communications Considerations

Throughout a pandemic flu event, the TMC Pandemic Influenza Advisory Group will communicate with the member institutions, response partners, and the media through a variety of methods:

- Health Alert Network (HAN)
- Member Internet/Intranet sites
- Harris County two-way radios
- Public Information Emergency Response (PIER) system
- Regional Joint Information Center
- Satellite phones
- Government Emergency Telecommunications Service (GETS) cards
- Wireless Priority Service (WPS) cards
- Xebec
- Social networks
- Mass notification systems

RCPI Plan Integration

MACC	
CMIS	
HURR-SAR	
IED-SAR	
AMOPS	
CMOC	X
RNEMR	
PHCF	X
MFM	X
RECP	X
SWI	