

Disaster Preparedness

Taking it up a Tier:

The King County Healthcare Coalition

Washington State Joint Conference on Health

October 17, 2006

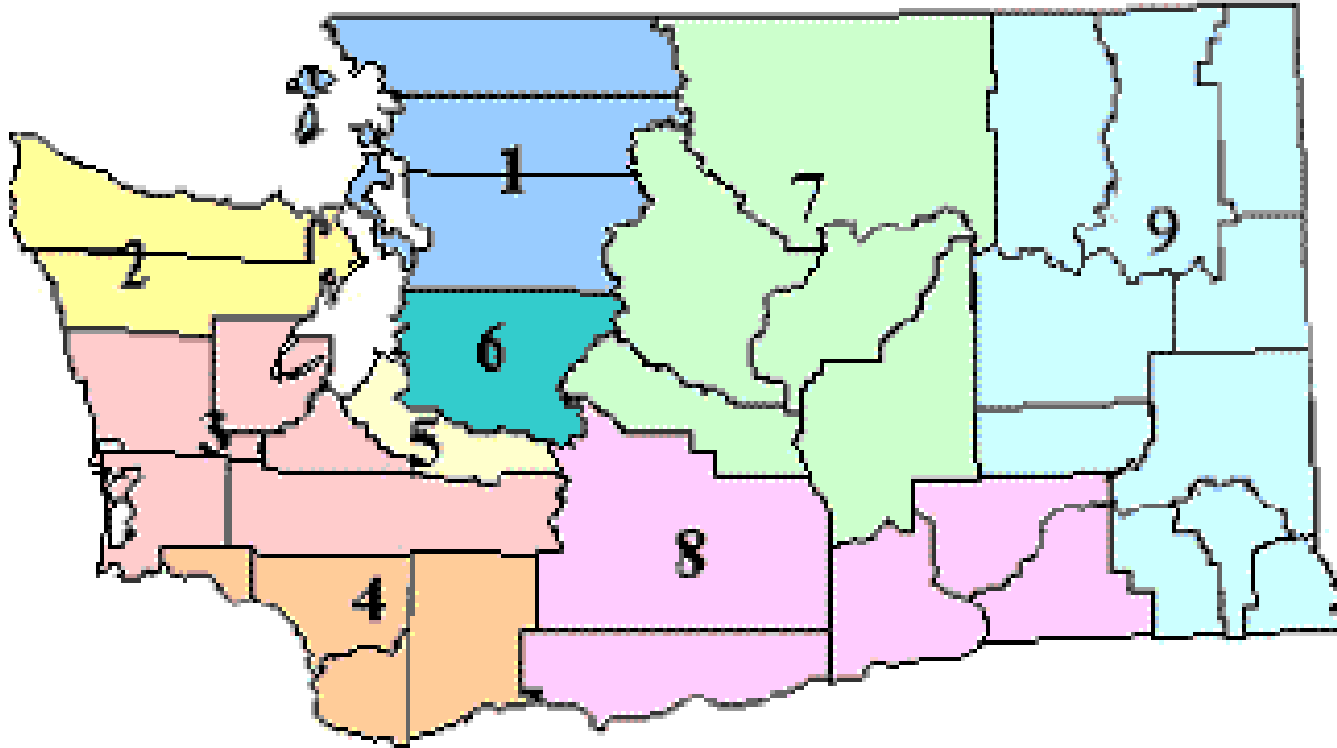
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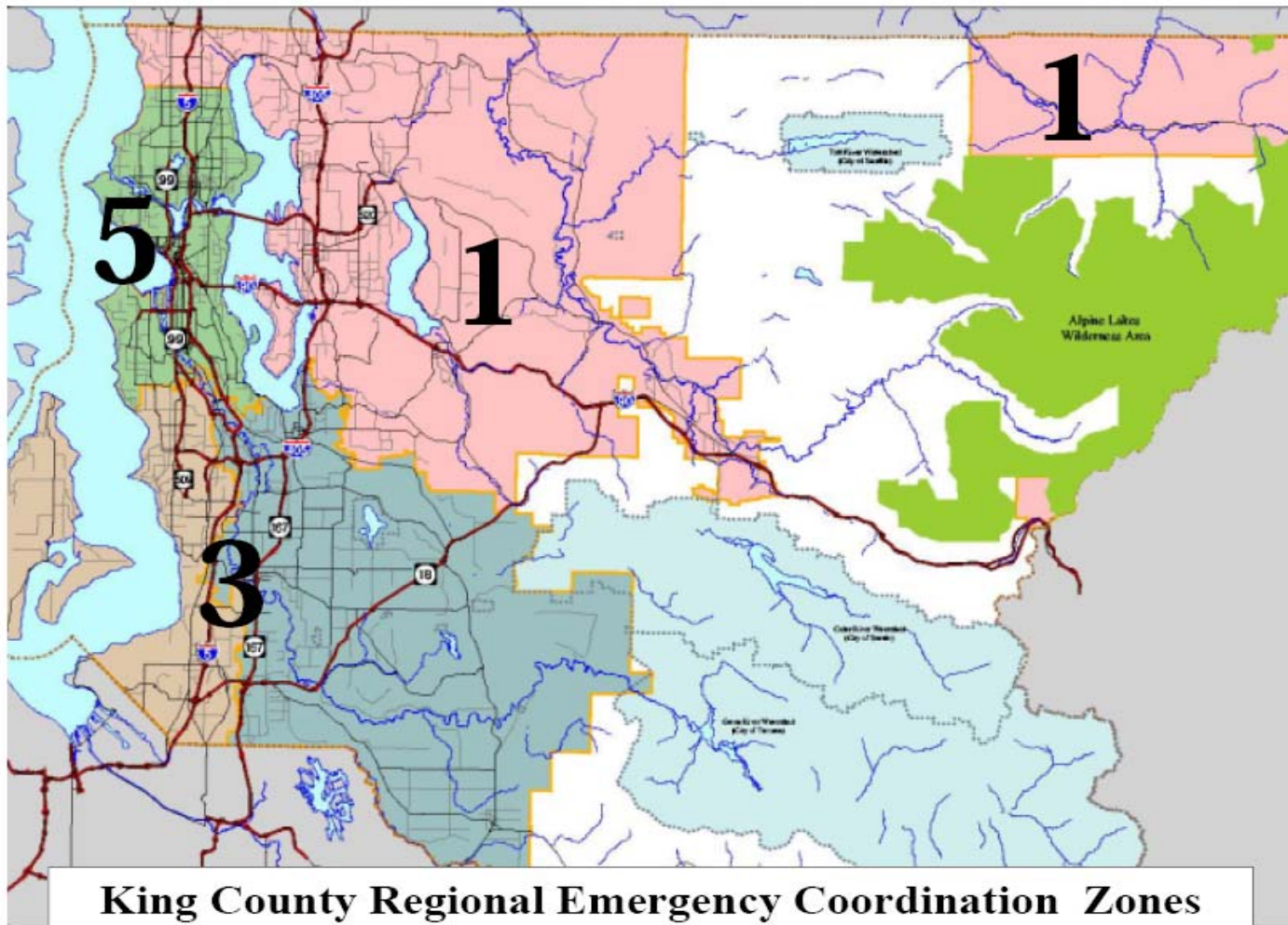
Northwest Hospital

Washington State Emergency Preparedness Regions



Emergency Preparedness Regions for Public Health and
Homeland Security

King County Emergency Coordination Zones



Background – King County

- More than 1.7 million in population
- The 13th most populous County in the nation
- 39 Cities, 120 Special Purpose Districts
- 2 Tribal Nations
- 18 Hospitals with Emergency Rooms
- 5 Specialty Hospitals
- 6 Community Health Centers
- 10 Public Health Clinics



King County Regional Disaster Plan

Background:

- 136 private and government parties on board
 - Managed by the King County Office of Emergency Management
 - Follows the National Incident Management System (NIMS)
 - A key concept of the Regional Disaster Plan is Coordinated Incident Management including mobilization of King County and zone resources
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Emergency Support Function #8

Health and Medical Services

- ❑ Lead Agency:
 - Public Health Seattle & King County
 - ❑ Primary Agencies:
 - Public Health Seattle & King County
 - Region 6 Hospitals – Seattle and King County
 - Public and private Emergency Medical Services providers
 - King County Mental Health Care providers
 - (New) The King County Healthcare Coalition
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Public Health Perspective

Strengths

- ❑ County Emergency Management System is in place
 - ❑ Public Health, local hospitals, and emergency management partners have been engaged in planning and preparedness efforts
 - ❑ Strong health care assets, 911 and Emergency Medical System, Hospital Control
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Public Health Perspective

Weaknesses

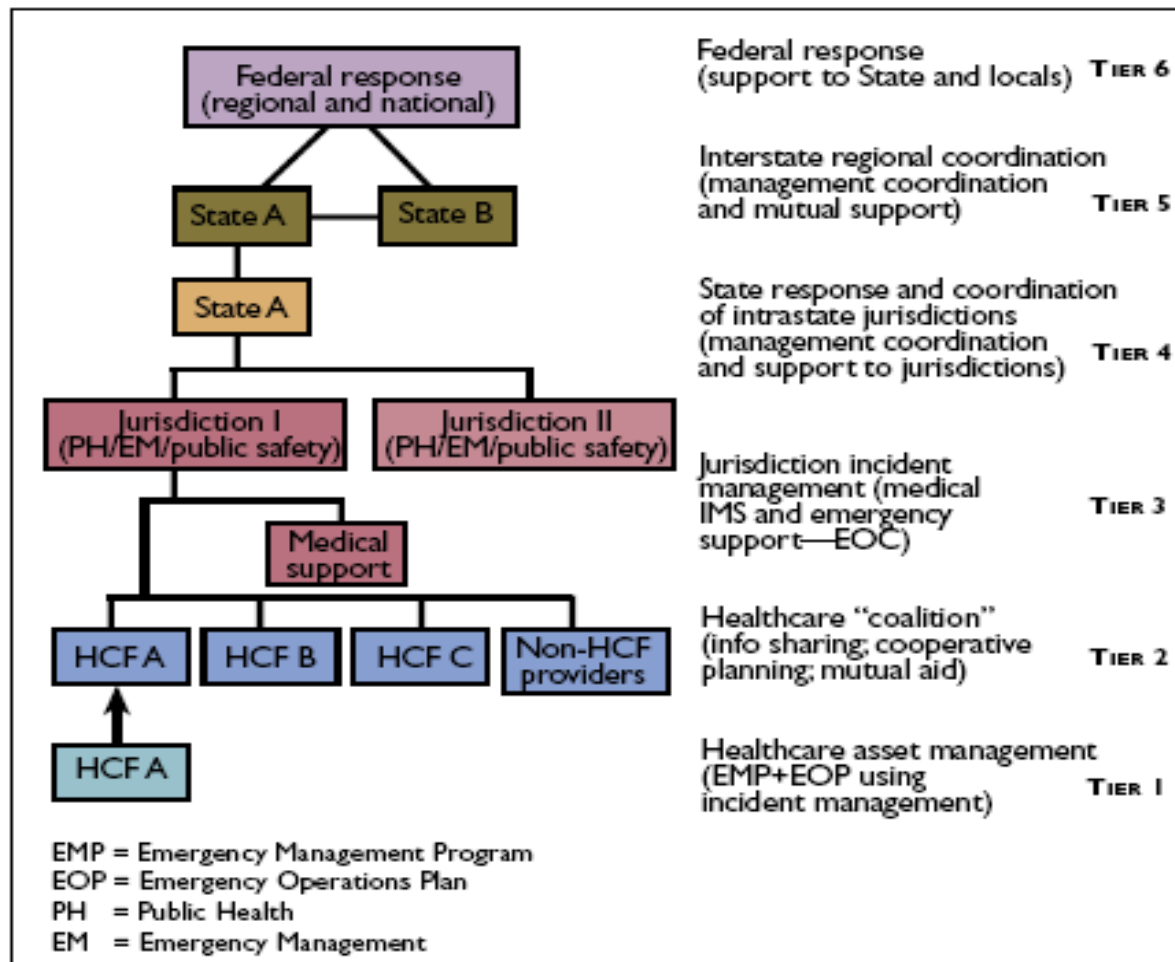
- ❑ Response system may be inadequate for catastrophic disasters
 - ❑ Planning has been hospital-centric, not health care system-oriented
 - ❑ Limited capacity in the healthcare system, not set up for surge in demand
 - Capital Intensive
 - Professional Staff Shortages
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Best Practices

- Consistent with the requirements of the National Incident Management System (NIMS)
 - Similar coalitions have been formed and effectively used in emergency situations in other communities, including Minnesota, Houston, and San Diego.
 - Coalition Model was adapted from the Medical Surge Capacity and Capability (MSCC) Management System
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Medical Surge Capacity & Capability

Figure 1-2. MSCC Management Organization Strategy



Successful Response System

Characteristics of Successful Health Care Emergency Response System

- ❑ Effective partnerships
 - Across jurisdictions - Federal, State, County, City
 - Public-private
 - ❑ Clearly defined and understood authorities & accountabilities, roles & responsibilities
 - ❑ Effective management of resources
 - ❑ Flexible plans
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Healthcare Coalition Purpose

- ❑ The Healthcare Coalition is a network of health care organizations and providers in King County.
 - ❑ The mission of the Coalition is to reduce the burden of illness, injury, and loss of life in the event of an emergency or disaster through coordinated emergency preparedness and response.
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Objectives

- Build emergency response capability across all sectors of the health care system
 - Strengthen coordination and communications among health care providers
 - Create more effective structures and processes that strengthen the public-private partnership
 - Better prepare for catastrophic events, such as a severe pandemic flu
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Coalition's Role in Preparedness and Response

Communications

- ❑ Providers, patients, employees
- ❑ Across health care organizations

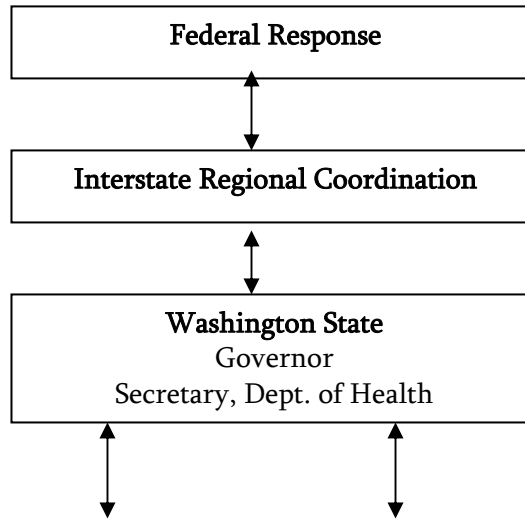
Coordination

- ❑ Resource sharing & distribution
- ❑ Systems approach to problem-solving

Consultation

- ❑ Advisors to Public Officials
 - ❑ Experts to design policies and procedures
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Pre-Coalition Response Structure

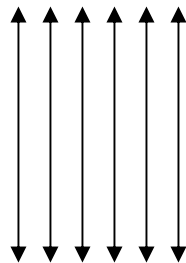
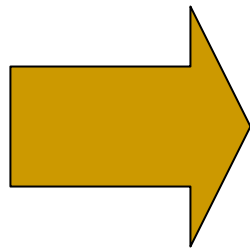
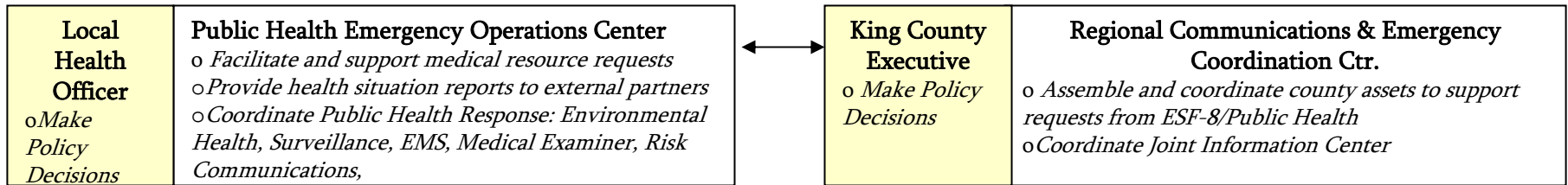


tier 6: Support to state and local

tier 5: Management, coordination & mutual support

tier 4: Management, coordination and support to jurisdictions

tier 3: Jurisdiction incident management, medical IMS and emergency support

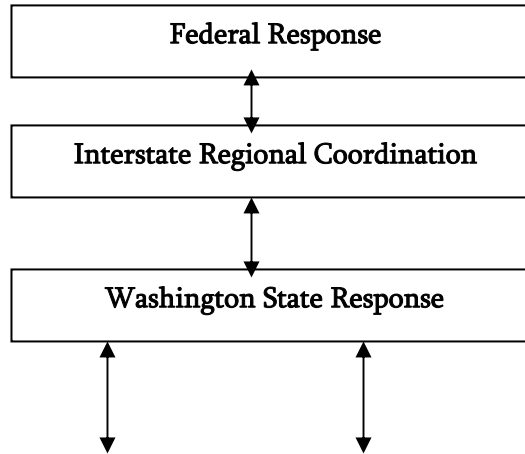


Individual Healthcare Organizations EOC's
o Manage care delivery and resources
o Implement operations changes as advised
o Provide resource needs and situational updates to resource center

tier 2: Information sharing, cooperative planning & mutual aid

tier 1: Healthcare asset management

Healthcare Coalition Tiered Response

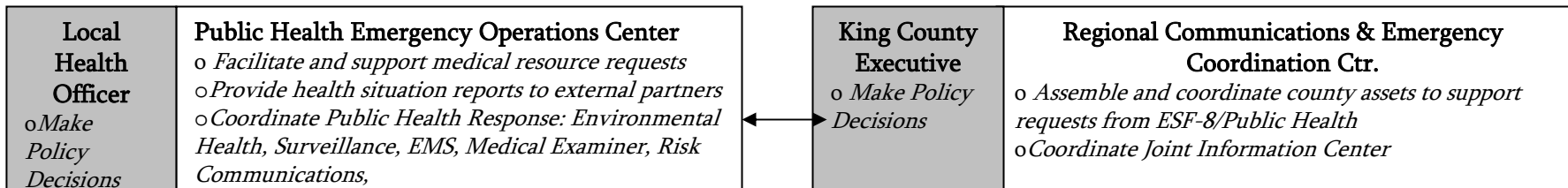


tier 6: Support to state and local

tier 5: Management, coordination & mutual support

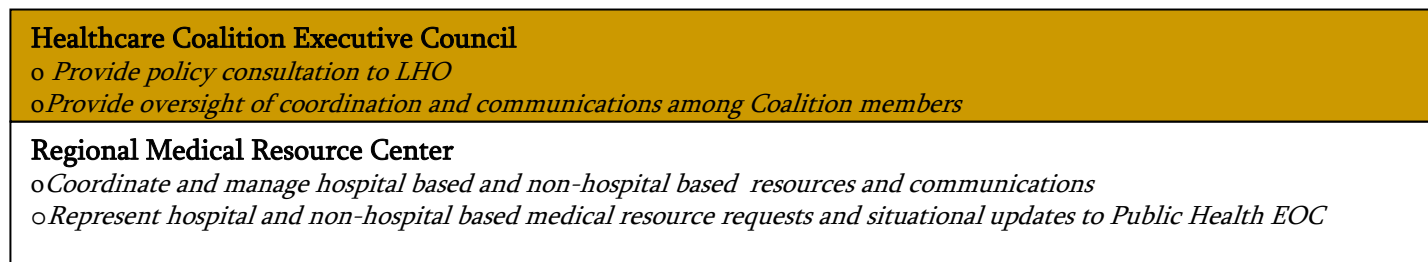
tier 4: Management, coordination and support to jurisdictions

tier 3: Jurisdiction incident management, medical IMS and emergency support



Healthcare Coalition

tier 2: Information sharing, cooperative planning & mutual aid



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tier 1: Healthcare asset management

Coalition Membership

- ❑ Inclusive model - open to all health care organizations providing services in King County
 - ❑ Initial membership
 - Acute Care Hospitals, large Medical Groups, selected associations
 - 30 invitations, 21 formal acceptances
 - ❑ Additional members
 - Add organizations, encourage representative participation
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Membership Roster

- Auburn
 - Children's
 - Enumclaw
 - Evergreen
 - Group Health
 - Harborview
 - Highline
 - Kindred
 - Northwest
 - Overlake
 - Regional Hospital
 - SCCA (Cancer Alliance)
 - St. Francis
 - Swedish
 - UW Medical Center
 - UW Physician Network
 - Valley
 - VA Puget Sound
 - Virginia Mason
 - Community Health Council
 - Poly Clinic
 - UW Physicians Network
 - King County EMS
 - Public Health
 - Puget Sound Blood Center
 - Washington Poison Center
 - King County Medical Society
 - WSHA (Hospital Association)
 - Minor & James Medical
 - Home Care Association of Washington
 - Multicare Medical Center
 - Pacific Medical Centers
 - The Boeing Company
 - Bastyr Center for Natural Health
 - Pediatric Associates
 - Muckleshoot Indian Tribe
 - International Community Health Services
 - Visiting Nurse Services of the Northwest
 - Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
 - Washington Association of Community & Migrant Health Services
 - Country Doctor Community Health Center
 - Pacific Medical Centers
 - King County Community & Health Services
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Coalition Membership

- ❑ Benefits for Members
 - Opportunity to participate actively in county-wide emergency preparedness planning
 - Opportunity to advise local public officials about policy matters in emergency planning and response
 - Strengthened ability to advocate for resources and regulatory changes to support effective emergency preparedness and response
 - Access to timely information
 - Access to an organized system for resource sharing
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Coalition Membership

- ❑ Expectations of Members
 - Share information that is relevant for emergency planning and response planning, ie. existing capacity & resources
 - Participate in coordinating and sharing resources through the Regional Medical Resource Center
 - Have current emergency preparedness plans
 - Operate under an Incident Command Structure during emergencies
 - Participate in Coalition-sponsored preparedness activities, including training and drills
 - Have a designated person who is responsible for emergency preparedness and response efforts
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Coalition Governance

- ❑ Current Structure
 - Interim Steering Committee – encourage development of the Coalition - Members selected by PHSKC
 - Executive Council - governs and steers the Coalition, Provides oversight committees & workgroups, Advises public officials on emergency health policy matters
 - ❑ Council Members - Executive-level representatives from Coalition member organizations
 - ❑ Chairs - volunteers
 - Meetings - 4 - 6 times a year
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Pandemic Flu Planning

Pandemic Flu Planning

Public Health Priorities

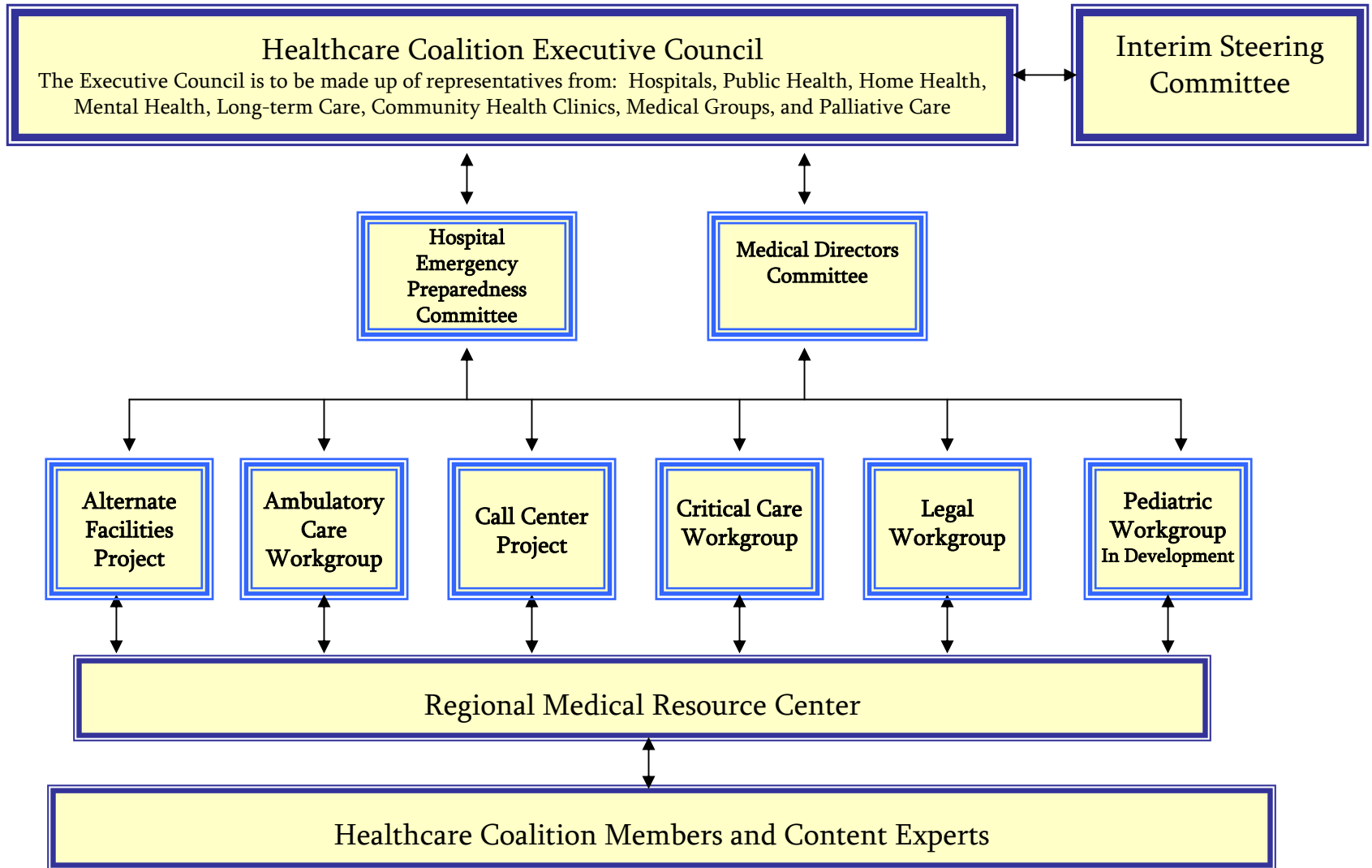
- ❑ Disease Surveillance
 - ❑ Avian Flu Surveillance
 - ❑ Public Education and Communication
 - ❑ Mass Fatality Planning
 - ❑ Vulnerable Populations Planning
 - ❑ Mass Vaccinations and Antiviral Usage
 - Priority-setting, Stockpiling & Distribution
 - ❑ Disease control through non-medical measures
 - Isolation and Quarantine, Social Distancing Strategies
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Pandemic Flu Planning

Healthcare Coalition Priorities

- ❑ Communication & Coordination
 - ❑ Surge Capacity Planning
 - Acute and critical care, ambulatory care, pediatric, mental health, home health
 - Call Center Coordination
 - Alternate Facilities
 - ❑ Regional Medical Resource Center Development
 - Resource management and information management
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Healthcare Coalition Organizational Structure- Preparedness



Hospital Emergency Preparedness Committee

- Emergency Manager Representatives
 - Understand emergency management principles and incident command
 - Current Issues
 - Bed Capacity Planning
 - Personal Protective Equipment for Staff
 - Medical Resource Acquisition & Planning
 - Morgue Capacity
 - Evacuation Planning
 - Security Planning
 - Regional Medical Resource Center
 - Training & Exercising (including HICS/NIMS)
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Medical Director's Committee

- ❑ Provide clinical operational understanding
 - ❑ Serve in a coordinating role
 - ❑ Provide input into policies
 - ❑ Current Issues
 - Antiviral allocation prioritization and distribution
 - Training curriculum for medical staff
 - Regional medical surge strategy
 - Medical staffing
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Ambulatory Care Working Group

- Provide clinical and cultural operational understanding
 - Serve as primary Triage Sites
 - Provide Input into Policies
 - Current Issues
 - Communications
 - Organizational readiness
 - Surge Capacity
 - Awareness, Training and Coordination
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Hospital Control

- Harborview is the Disaster Control Hospital for King County with Overlake as back-up
 - Hospital Control maintains radio contact with hospitals throughout the county and provides medical control for triage of patients from the field.
 - Hospital Control assesses capabilities of each hospital in King County
 - Dedicated web communication system for updates
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Regional Medical Resource Center

- Operates in coordination with Hospital Control and the PH EOC
 - Coordinates operational communications among Coalition members
 - Serves as clearinghouse for managing resources, such equipment, pharmaceuticals and staffing
 - Anticipates needs, monitors available resources and coordinates deployment where needed during emergencies
 - Coordinates with PHEOC on Strategic National Stockpile requests
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Let's put it to the Test!

Pandemic Flu Table Tops - Oct & Nov 2006

- ❑ Surveillance
 - ❑ Leadership & Decision Making
 - ❑ PHSKC Call Center Functional Exercise
 - ❑ Surge Capacity – Resources & Staffing
 - Specific scenario's will focus on hospital and Health Care Coalition roles
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Summary

We can't:

- ❑ Plan for every scenario
- ❑ Stockpile every needed resource
- ❑ Control all the variables

We can:

- ❑ Build relationships that foster trust
 - ❑ Establish systems and processes that facilitate information and resource sharing in an efficient and redundant way
 - ❑ Educate the public and each other about what can happen and what we can do about it
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More Information...

Healthcare Coalition Website

<http://www.metrokc.gov/health/hccoalition/index.htm>

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Thank You