

Public Health and Emergency Management



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



What we are not:

- Emergency Management is *not Emergency Services or First Responders* -- Organizations involved in law enforcement, fire service, emergency medical technicians and service or search and rescue organizations.
- Similarly, Public Health is not patient medical care or direct patient emergency medical services.



What we are:

- Emergency Management is the **coordinated and collaborative integration** of all relevant **stakeholders** into the four phases of emergency management (mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery) related to natural, technological, and intentional hazards.
- Public health is “the science and art of **promoting** health, preventing disease, and prolonging life through the **organized** efforts of **society**.”



Public Health Preparedness:

- Through the efforts of the public emergency preparedness funding, public health departments across the state are positioned to effectively respond to a range of public health threats, including infectious diseases, natural disasters, and biological, chemical, nuclear, and radiological events.



The need for collaboration:

- Government agencies can only act pursuant to the authority granted them in statutes, rules, ordinances & resolutions.
- Authority governs day-to-day work as well as emergency response work.
- As such, there are limitations to what each agency may do.



The need for collaboration:

- Ohio Revised Code does not provide for the broad declaration of a “health emergency” by state or county health departments
 - Provides for authority to quarantine
 - Authority to isolate
 - Asbestos Public Health Emergency
 - Destruction/Compensation for infected property
 - Public health state of emergency as to adulterated consumer product



The need for collaboration:

- With no specific authority to declare a public health emergency, local health and emergency management must work together on the declaration of an emergency.
- Same context as other emergencies:
 - Potential impact to Ohioans, county residents
 - Lack of necessary resources to address emergency
 - Need to expedite procurement of goods and services



The need for collaboration:

- EMA serves as the incident liaison between Public Health and the responding community through the use of the EOC.
- Local EMA/EOC has the existing channel to state and federal resources.
- Eliminate duplication of efforts.
- Ensure a strong, accurate message to the public
- Sharing/obtaining resources.
- Coordination of Mitigation strategies for the jurisdictions/counties.
- Cost recovery.



Examples of integrated response

- Perry County TCE response
- New Albany Natural Gas Depressurization
- Sebring Lead response
 - Mahoning county EMA and LHD



The road ahead

- Increase communication
 - Relationship building
 - Staying engaged - You don't know the direction the event will turn.
 - An event that is seemingly small can turn on a dime
- Joint preparedness efforts
 - Coordinated planning
 - Train and Exercise together



Questions/Answers

