HICS

A free, standardized incident management system and framework, led by California EMSA, designed to help hospitals and healthcare organizations improve emergency preparedness, response, and recovery.

https://emsa.ca.gov

Overview

The Hospital Incident Command System (HICS) is a standardized, all-hazards incident management system tailored specifically for hospitals and healthcare organizations. Led and maintained by the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA), HICS is based on the principles of the Incident Command System (ICS) and is consistent with the National Incident Management System (NIMS). It is intended for use in both emergency and non-emergency situations, such as preplanned events.

The system provides a scalable command structure—the Hospital Incident Management Team (HIMT)—and a comprehensive set of downloadable tools, including a guidebook, Job Action Sheets (JASs), Incident Planning Guides (IPGs), Incident Response Guides (IRGs), and over 20 standardized forms (e.g., Incident Briefing, Organization Assignment List, Patient Tracking, Resource Accounting) to assist with incident planning and documentation. HICS is designed to support multi-agency coordination and is expanded to meet the needs of all hospitals and healthcare providers (including rehabilitation centers and urgent care centers), regardless of their size or patient care capabilities. The principal beneficiaries include hospital physicians, nurses, and administrators who have a response role during a crisis. The most current major revision is the Fifth Edition, released in May 2014.

Key Features

- Standardized Incident Command Structure
- Scalable Organizational Chart (HIMT)
- Job Action Sheets (JASs)

- Incident Action Planning (IAP) Forms
- Incident Planning Guides (IPGs)
- Incident Response Guides (IRGs)
- · Resource Accounting and Tracking
- Patient Tracking Forms

Pricing

Model: free

The HICS framework, guidebook, forms, and tools are provided free of charge by the California Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA) as a public service for hospitals and healthcare organizations worldwide. The documents are available for free download.

Target Company Size: small, medium, enterprise

Compliance & Certifications

NIMS, ICS, Joint Commission EM.01.01.01

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