



U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps



FACT SHEET

Capital Area Provider Teams

Capital Area Provider Teams Can Provide Resources

The U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) Capital Area Provider (CAP) teams provide medical and public health resources and assistance in the National Capital Region (NCR) during special events and other supported activities. They were created with a primary mission to augment the Office of the Attending Physician (OAP) medical staff supplying care during events at the United States Capitol. Unlike other Commissioned Corps response teams, CAP teams will only deploy in support of planned events at the United States Capitol and in the NCR i.e.: Inaugurations, State of the Union Addresses, Congressional Balls, State Funeral, etc. There are currently five CAP teams, each of which is a workforce comprising 5 trained USPHS Commissioned Corps officer responders. Each CAP team is nevertheless scalable, and can provide only those resources needed or requested for a supported event. CAP teams are also responsive; as a Tier II asset the CAP teams can deploy within 36 hours of activation. Each CAP team is on-call one out of every 5 months and typically deploys only during the on-call month. Deployments typically do not exceed 3 days. Each CAP team member is expected to participate in up to 2 weeks of response team training per year, including joint training provided for OAP medical staff and other appropriate contingency planning and training.

Each CAP team is capable of providing medical care and responding to the many public health emergencies and urgent health needs that could arise during supported events and mass gatherings at the United States Capitol. If the response needs exceed the capacity of the on-call CAP team, the team can be augmented with appropriate officers from Tier 3.

The primary areas of CAP team activities and reporting include

- 1. first responder and primary care,**
- 2. basic and advanced life support,**
- 3. pre-hospital triage and treatment,**
- 4. point of distribution operation (mass prophylaxis and vaccination),**
- 5. medical surge,**
- 6. on-site incident management, and;**
- 7. worker health and safety**

If a public health or medical emergency occurs during an event at the United States Capitol or NCR, CAP teams can provide temporary medical care and essential services to preserve the lives and the health of affected individuals. All CAP team members are clinically current, as defined in their deployment role.

Authority to Activate a CAP Team

The Secretary and Assistant Secretary for Health have the authority to activate a CAP team, who do so in response to requests made through the Surgeon General.

For more information, contact:

Office of Force Readiness and Deployment
Office of the Surgeon General
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 18C-26
Rockville, MD 20857
Main Phone Number: 301.443.3859
Fax: 301.443.1525
General Questions for OFRD: ofrd@hhs.gov