



**CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH FACILITIES
DISASTER PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM**

Nursing Home Incident Command (NHICS): Major Earthquake Scenario

It is October 8th, at 9am. Your facility is licensed for 99 beds and is at 90% occupancy. You serve a case mix of 75% average long-stay residents with chronic conditions including many with dementia and an average of 25% short stay residents which vary in acuity. Right now, a total of 22 short stay residents and 67 long stay residents. This is a high Medi-Care census for you, so you are staffed well at 3.8 HPPD.

Today 31 residents of your total population are ambulatory, 22 are alert but non-ambulatory, 20 are O2 dependent, 10 are on IVs, 3 are on enteral feedings, 2 are in C-Diff isolation, and 1 is on hospice. Most of your residents are considered to be fall risks, and there are 3 residents with dementia who have a history of elopement.

At 9:05, your facility is hit by a 6.9 magnitude earthquake. Electric is immediately knocked out, and the emergency sprinkler system comes on. Your maintenance director informs you that he has turned off the gas line immediately, and it does not appear to be damaged at this time. Your residents are terrified, as well as your staff – televisions, ceiling panels, and debris have fallen down, catching everyone by complete surprise.

Your maintenance director begins assessing the damage to the building while you check on potential injuries to staff and residents. Miraculously, no one was seriously injured. Without power, it is very apparent your staff and residents must evacuate as soon as possible.

1. Delegation of Authority:

- a. Which staff are authorized in writing to act in the absence of the person legally responsible for operations in the facility?
- b. Which staff are authorized to activate the emergency communications platform?
- c. At what point do you delegate authority for placing residents to the county?

2. Communications:

- a. Which response agencies will you notify? How will you notify them?
- b. What provisions for communications with families of residents, staff, and the ombudsman will you use?
- c. How will you continue to communicate with agencies, families, staff, and licensing if you must continue operations at an alternate location?



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Make **an action plan** that lists all of the activities/actions that need to occur now in order to evacuate. Use the preceding discussion, the EOP and any other evacuation planning materials available to complete the list.

The list should include delegated tasks – it should encompass all activities needed to evacuate the facility.

See NHICS Quick Start Incident Action Plan hand-out.

Instructions for Planning Incident Objectives	
Objectives	Enter each objective separately. Adjust objectives for each operational period as needed.
Strategies/Tactics	For each objective, document the strategy/tactic to accomplish that objective.
Resources Required	For each strategy/tactic, document the resources required to accomplish that objective.
Assigned to	For each strategy/tactic, document the Section or Branch assigned to that objective.