

**DEFENSE INSTITUTE FOR
MEDICAL OPERATIONS (DIMO)**



**“Medical Support for Humanitarian Assistance and
Disaster Response (HADR)”
MASL D309080**

Background: Designed to complement the comprehensive DIMO “Disaster Planning” course, “Medical Support For Humanitarian Assistance And Disaster Response” is designed to address medical consequence management and emergency medical intervention in the setting of disaster occurring either in a sponsoring host nation or as part of a humanitarian assistance initiative, alone or as part of a regional initiative, on behalf of a stricken neighbor state.

Program Scope: The course begins with pre-event disaster planning, with tailored exercises in regional hazard analysis and assessment of current national /regional medical support capability. Comprehensively studying the continuum of medical planning and response from before, during and following an event, the constellation of clusters necessary for preparing for and medically responding to disaster are discussed. Following the context-building foundation, direction then focuses on disaster epidemiology, with training on the initial rapid assessment and the implementation of international SPHERE standards for program management of disaster response. Subsequent training drills down to review disaster medicine topics ranging from trauma to infection, traumatic stress and animal health considerations in a disaster setting. Adapting the latest generation of practical “lessons learned” from contemporary wartime trauma care, many of the latest advances in battlefield-driven patient flow and surgical strategies are taught by the experienced medical/surgical faculty. Further command-level course work covers stabilization and reconstruction post-disaster and reflects on topics needed for effective civil-military and multinational interoperability. A real-time EMERGO enhanced multi-role tabletop disaster exercise then allows participants to integrate course material and practice lessons learned. The final capstone exercise uses a tabletop simulation of the actual national/regional response plan and is aimed toward gap analysis and development of a corrective action plan. If the country/region provides an existing plan for this program, the tabletop aims to exercise it and assess feasibility. In the absence of an existing medical response plan, the exercise is designed to facilitate the initial plan development using the derived corrective action plan.

Course Objectives: This medically-oriented course looks to provide a spectrum of understanding and integration between strategy, doctrine, coalition building and resource management down to individual disaster-unique medical considerations and the protection of vulnerable populations. Effective integration, working relationships and interoperability for health assets between military and civilian governmental /nongovernmental organizations is discussed and exercised at all stages from planning through mission performance.

Course Duration: 5 days; **Class Size:** 50 students maximum

How Offered: Conducted as Mobile Education Team (MET)

Intended International Audience: Medical administrators/planners, physicians, nurses, pharmacists, logisticians and clinical laboratory professionals involved with humanitarian assistance/ disaster response program planning and implementation, aimed either within a host nation or as a deployable asset. The course will also be valuable for nonmedical military line officers commanding, transporting, or logistically supporting military assets in support of medical response to disaster.

Points of Contact: Respective Country Program Manager at AFSAT and DIMO Training Program Manager, Claudette Hudson, alicia.hudson.1.ctr@us.af.mil.