



## INTRODUCTION TO HEICS AND NIMS

**A**s the world changed since September 11th, 2001 so have hospital's responsibilities to their employees and patients. While the threat of another terrorist attack is still an ever-present danger, hospital administrators long before September 11th have experienced significant events that have challenged their facilities ability to care for patients. This course is designed to enhance the personal knowledge of all levels of leadership in a hospital. This in turn will improve the facilities overall ability to respond to any untoward event. This course will help hospital administrators, nursing supervisors or anyone in a leadership role within a hospital.

Past events have shown that hospitals that have undergone and implemented HEICS and NIMS have managed their incidents more efficiently. This is truly an all hazards approach to managing any incident a hospital may encounter. Weather emergencies, utility failures, mass causality incidents and WMD/CBRNE incidents can all be managed utilizing HEICS and NIMS. This course will review current requirements of the Joint Commission and other regulatory agencies as they pertain to emergency management and disaster preparedness. Hospitals are now considered first responders, as they may be the first to detect an incident in the community. Hospitals have always been the front line in protecting their communities, now more than ever they must be prepared to handle the increased threat the future holds. Upon completion of HEICS and NIMS training, the participants leave prepared to properly manage any incident that may occur on their "watch".

### *Course objectives:*

At the conclusion of the program, participants will be able to:

- Describe the Hospital Emergency Incident Command System
- Explain the duties of the Command and General staff
- Discuss HEICS and its oriented chain of command process.
- Describe commonality of its mission and language.
- Prioritize duties within position titles and descriptions.
- Be familiar with HEICS Job Action Sheets.
- Improve lines of reporting and promote documentation of an incident. Demonstrate HEICS is a flexible program that can meet the particular needs of a specific crisis.
- Explain the importance of an Incident Action Plan and the role of Job Action Sheets to assure that the needs of patients, including pediatric and vulnerable populations, are met.
- Describe the appropriate scenarios to activate HEICS and how to determine the HEICS Level of Activation
- Describe the initial process for establishing command and steps to recognize an incident has occurred
- Describe the importance of a unified command post during a multi-agency disaster to assure a coordinated multiple disciplinary response
- Review the classic steps of decision making
- Describe the difference between non-critical and critical decision making
- Explain the resources needed for a functional Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
- Review the structural layout for an EOC
- Discuss the importance of establishing a media room and what information should or should not be shared with the media
- Discuss the importance of "after action reporting" and performance evaluation
- Describe the key concepts and principles underlying NIMS.
- Identify the benefits of using ICS as the national incident management model.
- Describe the benefits of using a Joint Information System (JIS) for public information.
- Identify the ways in which NIMS affects preparedness.
- Describe how NIMS affects how resources are managed.
- Explain how NIMS influences technology and technology systems.