CENTER FOR PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE (CBC)

The mission of the Center for Preparedness and Response (CPR) is to safeguard health and save lives by providing a platform for public health preparedness and emergency response.

To carry out its mission, CPR: (1) fosters collaborations, partnerships, integration, and resource leveraging to increase the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) health impact and achieve population health goals; (2) provides strategic direction to support CDC’s public health preparedness and response efforts; (3) manages CDC-wide preparedness and emergency response programs; (4) maintains CDC’s platforms for emergency response operations—including the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Cooperative Agreement Program and the Select Agent and Toxins regulatory program; (5) communicates the mission, functions and activities of public health preparedness and emergency response to internal and external stakeholders; (6) delivers critical medical assets to the site of a national emergency; (7) provides program support, technical assistance, guidance and fiscal oversight to state, local, tribal and territorial public health department grantees; (8) provides CDC's core incident management structure to coordinate and execute preparedness and response activities; (9) regulates the possession, use and transfer of select agents and toxins and the importation of etiological agents, hosts, and vectors of human disease to protect public health in the United States; and (10) provides the centralized management and coordination of national scenario capabilities planning and exercising of these plans for CDC. (Approved 8/17/2018; Effective 9/25/2018)

Office of the Director (CBC)

(1) Manages, directs, and coordinates the activities of the office; (2) coordinates the development and implementation of the CPR strategy in support of CDC’s preparedness and response goals and priorities; (3) develops CDC policy and legislative strategy, as related to public health preparedness and emergency response; (4) serves as spokesperson for CDC policies and strategies regarding public health preparedness and response; (5) establishes, implements and communicates a comprehensive and integrated framework of preparedness and response performance goals and associated outcome, output, and process measures; (6) identifies needs and resources for new initiatives and assigns responsibilities for their development; (7) assures CDC preparedness and response plans align with National and Federal preparedness and response policy, doctrine, and plans; (8) develops performance profiles to monitor, report, and improve public health preparedness and response; (9) coordinates and implements CDC’s preparedness and response learning strategy in support of CPR goals and priorities; (10) develops, implements, and evaluates workforce development programs for internal CDC responders and external audiences with public health preparedness and response responsibilities; (11) establishes and implements a communications strategy in support of CPR overarching goals and priorities; (12) develops budget formulation documents for CPR to support CDC’s Public Health Preparedness and Response budget; (13) evaluates programmatic performance of all funded PHPR activities; (14) provides the CPR OD and Divisions with centralized business and program services; (15) plans, coordinates, and manages all aspects of program business services including human and fiscal resources, procurement, cooperative agreements, space and all
administrative services; (16) devises information technology practices and procedures, and provides direction, planning and evaluation for information technology systems and services, information security, and information resources for CPR; (17) provides scientific oversight, advice, guidance and leadership for the development of CPR science and public health; (18) coordinates the development of a research agenda for emergency preparedness and response priorities; (19) coordinates and manages the activities of the Board of Scientific Counselors for CPR; (20) provides consultation, support and service to CPR divisions for planning, evaluation, policy, education and training, business and fiscal management, information resource, and workforce planning services; and (21) oversees quality assurance and quality control of stockpile assets. (Approved 8/17/2018; Effective 9/25/2018)

Division of State and Local Readiness (CBCB)

The Division of State and Local Readiness (DSLR): (1) Provides program support, technical assistance, guidance, technical integration, and capacity building of preparedness planning across public health, healthcare, and emergency management sectors; and (2) provides fiscal oversight to state, local, tribal, and territorial public health department Cooperative Agreement recipients for the development, monitoring, and evaluation of public health capabilities, plans, infrastructure, and systems to prepare for and respond to terrorism, outbreaks of disease, natural disasters, and other public health emergencies. (Approved 4/10/2020)

Office of the Director (CBCB1)

(1) Provides national leadership and guidance that supports and advances the work of state, local, tribal, and territorial public health emergency preparedness programs; (2) coordinates the development of guidelines and standards for programmatic materials within the division to provide technical assistance and program planning at the state, local, tribal, and territorial level; (3) represents and communicates the interests and needs of the state, local, tribal, and territorial jurisdictions on state and local preparedness and response issues; (4) develops and ensures effective partnerships with national stakeholders and preparedness and response partners; (5) provides oversight and management of division contracts, recipient awards and fiscal accountability; and (6) manages the IT strategy and infrastructure to support recipient programmatic and fiscal activities. (Approved 4/10/2020)

Program Implementation Branch (CBCBB)

(1) Provides consultation, technical assistance, and training to state, territorial, tribal, and local health departments in management and operation of activities to support public health emergency preparedness programs and recovery, including the infrastructure and systems necessary to manage and use deployed medical countermeasure assets; (2) facilitates partnerships between public health preparedness programs at federal, state, and local levels to ensure their consistency, sharing of promising practices, and integration; (3) collaborates with and supports other divisions in CPR and other national centers across CDC to ensure high quality technical assistance is available to the grantees on preparedness capabilities; (4) monitors programmatic activities of cooperative agreements of state, local,
tribal, and territorial organizations to assure program objectives and key performance indicators are achieved, including reviews of Cities Readiness Initiative response plans; (5) provides assistance to state and local governments and public health agencies to prepare for effective responses to large scale public health events; (6) evaluates and identifies gaps in jurisdictional operational readiness and facilitates plans and develops tools to address identified gaps; (7) maintains an information sharing platform to post resources and facilitate the sharing of best practices across CDC and jurisdictions; (8) improves the delivery of technical assistance to the public health entities; (9) serves as an agent of information to improve recipient access to healthcare preparedness tools and expertise and (10) collaborates with the Department during exercises or upon a federal deployment of assets. (Approved 4/10/2020)

Evaluation and Analysis Branch (CBCBC)

(1) Assesses the effectiveness of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) Cooperative Agreement via performance measurement and evaluation; (2) develops and coordinates a strategy to measure and report on jurisdictional operational readiness; (3) provides analytic support and evaluation expertise to DSLR and CPR; and (4) fosters innovation and efficiency in evaluation and research through collaboration with healthcare and health security partners. (Approved 4/10/2020)

Field Assignee Services Branch (CBCBD)

(1) Works with recipients to advance state and local preparedness efforts through placement of CDC field staff within state and local public health agencies; (2) provides scientific participation in development and implementation of field-based science initiatives and strategies; (3) provides situational awareness to CDC leadership when activated for public health responses; (4) provides consultation and technical assistance to state, territorial, tribal and local health departments in developing, implementing, and evaluating CPR activities and performance in support of CDC recommendations and those of their host site; (5) provides direct support for public health preparedness and epidemiologic capacity at the state, territorial, tribal, and local levels; (6) contributes as leaders in preparedness and epidemiology for a myriad of public health issues; (7) participates in the development of national preparedness and response policies and guidelines for public health emergencies and encourages and facilitates the transfer of guidelines into clinical and public health practice; (8) analyzes data to assess progress toward achieving program objectives and provides input for program management and evaluation reports for publications; (9) serves as liaison or focal point to assist state, territorial, tribal, and local partners in linking with proper resources, contacts, and obtaining technical assistance; (10) provides technical supervision and support for the CDC field staff and trainees as appropriate; (11) provides input into the development of branch and division policy, priorities, and operational procedures; (12) serves as an agent of information or technology transfer to ensure that effective methodology in one program is known and made available to other state and local programs; (13) analyzes technical and epidemiologic information to present at national and international scientific meetings and publishes programmatic, surveillance, epidemiologic information in collaboration
with host agencies; and (14) develops and implements a comprehensive training and field placement program for entry-level public health preparedness and response professionals. (Approved 4/10/2020)

**Division of Select Agents and Toxins (CBCC)**

The Division of Select Agents and Toxins (DSAT): (1) conducts registration of entities with the United States (academic, military, commercial, private, Federal and non-Federal government) that use, possess and transfer select agents and toxins; (2) establishes and maintains a national database of all entities that possess select agents; (3) inspects entities to ensure that bio-safety and bio-security regulations and national standards are met; (4) approves all select agent or toxin transfers; (5) receives and investigates reports of theft, loss, or release of a select agent or toxin; (6) partners with other government agencies, public health organizations, and registered entities to ensure compliance with the Select Agent Regulations; (7) issues permits for the importation of etiologic agents and hosts or vectors of human disease; and (8) provides guidelines and training to regulated community on requirements. (Approved 8/17/2018; Effective 9/25/2018)

**Office of the Director (CBCC1)**

(1) Manages operations; (2) provides scientific leadership and consultation; (3) coordinates and supports the CDC Intra-governmental Select Agent and Toxin Technical Advisory Committee and the development and implementation of training programs for select agent inspectors; (4) provides oversight over the execution of regulatory rulemaking activities associated with the DSAT Select Agent Import Permit Programs; (5) provides leadership and guidance in the area of biosafety; (6) manages and responds to reports of potential theft, loss, or release of select agents; (7) coordinates special inspections and other oversight or incidence response activities involving highly complex entities, including facilities that house BSL-4 laboratories; and (8) provides input to divisional training programs and outreach activities for the regulated community. (Approved 8/17/2018; Effective 9/25/2018)

**Operations Branch (CBCCB)**

(1) Conducts on-site inspections of entities that use, possess and transfer select agents and toxins; (2) schedules and coordinates on-site inspections; (3) reviews entity applications, amendments and other entity documentation; (4) prepares reports of on-site inspections and conducts follow-up on noted deficiencies; (5) maintains entity files to ensure that the Program has the most current and accurate information; (6) communicates with entities Responsible Officials on any issues related to applications, amendments, inspections, and other entity documentation; (7) coordinates all activities related to operations with the records management group; (8) serves as a liaison for the USDA, APHIS Select Agent Program; and (9) performs inspections of foreign select agent laboratories in accordance with National Institutes of Health/National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases agreements. (Approved 8/17/2018; Effective 9/25/2018)

**Program Management and Operations Branch (CBCCC)**

(1) Provides oversight and leadership over all business activities for the Division; (2) manages all
space and facilities issues for DSAT; (3) develops DSAT budget planning and formulation; (4) provides leadership for DSAT management team and oversight on budget execution activities; (5) coordinates strategic planning/operations; (6) provides oversight on all contract and grant formulation, award, and administration; (7) manages division IT development, operations, and compliance; (8) manages all negotiation and/or oversight of Inter- and Intra-Agency Agreements, Memorandums of Agreements, and Service Level Agreement between the division and various entities/organizations; (9) provides property management oversight, assignment, administration, and accountability; and (10) interacts with the appropriate CDC and CPR business and operations offices.  (Approved 8/17/2018; Effective 9/25/2018)

Program Services Branch (CBCCD)

(1) Processes requests for transfer of select agents and toxins; (2) processes permit applications to import etiological agents, hosts, and vectors of human disease (not limited to select agents) into the United States from international sources; (3) evaluates entities’ security plans and practices and submits reports to entities’ file managers; (4) manages the security risk assessment (SRA) process to ensure that no restricted persons have access to select agents and toxins; (5) provides consultation on DSAT security policies and practices; (6) processes reports of select agents or toxins identified through diagnosis, verification, or proficiency testing; (7) reviews non-compliance issues, assists with evidence gathering, makes recommendations concerning non-compliance issues, drafts compliance letters and tracks non-compliance issues; (8) assists in the writing and tracking of Federal Register notices and other legal documents for the Division; (9) serves as liaison for DSAT for the HHS Office of Inspector General and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI); (10) processes requests for exemptions for investigational products that are, bear, or contain select agents or toxins, or to provide a response to a public health emergency; (11) works with the FBI and the DSAT ADB on criminal investigations of the theft or loss of select agents or toxins; (12) coordinates all emergency notification functions; and (13) manages the Program’s sharing of select agent information with the states.  (Approved 8/17/2018; Effective 9/25/2018)

Division of Emergency Operations (CBCD)

The Division of Emergency Operations (DEO) utilizing the Incident Command System (ICS) structure: (1) staffs and utilizes the EOC to assist Centers and Offices to manage the utilization of resources to support public health routine and emergency situations, domestically and internationally; (2) serves as the primary point of contact under the Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD-5) Emergency Support Function #8 (Public Health and Medical Services); (3) maintains and operates the CDC National-level EOC which serves as the focal point for collaboration and information sharing throughout CDC, 24/7/365; (4) coordinates with all CDC’s Centers/Institute/Offices with planning, training, exercising, reporting and coordinating logistical support during pre-response activities and during responses; and (5) apprises CDC leadership and outside agencies of CDC response activities and subject-matter expert situational reports.  (Approved 8/17/2018; Effective 9/25/2018)

Office of the Director (CBCD1)

(1) Manages the day-to-day operations of the division and provides leadership, resource prioritization, and guidance during public health responses; (2) coordinates the daily
management of resources for the division including budget, personnel, and acquisitions in coordination with CPR Office of Management Services; (3) coordinates technology improvements and information support requirements for the division and EOC; (4) provides strategic planning to develop performance management goals, objectives, and measurements for the division; (5) manages DEO’s scientific activities within the division and across CDC; (6) improves the timeliness and accuracy of public health information gathering, analysis, and sharing through knowledge management and situational awareness in an effort to maximize the speed and accuracy of decision making; and (7) provides a 24/7/365 situational awareness capability to maximize accurate information flow. (Approved 8/17/2018; Effective 9/25/2018)

Emergency and Risk Communications Branch (CBCDB)

(1) Identifies and implements strategies for translation and delivery of CDC’s emergency risk communication messages and information to key targeted audiences for maximum health impact; (2) coordinates and integrates cross-agency communication activities to fulfill emergency risk communication strategies to respond to public health emergencies; (3) provides leadership and core staffing for the Joint Information Center in CDC’s EOC during public health emergencies; (4) serves as CDC’s primary communication liaison during public health emergencies to other responding agencies to ensure communication coordination with local, state, federal, and international partners; (5) monitors, evaluates, and refines risk and emergency communication messages and channels messages based on feedback, communication research, and best practices; (6) evaluates the reach and effectiveness of CDC’s risk and emergency communication messages and products; (7) ensures that the content of CDC’s emergency risk communication messages are accessible (available, understandable, actionable) and disseminated to the public and target audiences; (8) develops and manages selected channels to deliver national emergency and terrorism-related messages; (9) coordinates the distribution of emergency risk communication messages and information through additional non-CDC channels and engagement mechanisms including news media, social media networks, and partner outreach; (10) provides an integrated marketing perspective to risk emergency communication; (11) employs a systematic process for assessing public awareness, knowledge, attitudes, reactions, and behaviors related to urgent health threats, CDC’s emergency risk communication messages, and CDC programs; (12) uses the results of assessment process as input into agency decision making and communication planning; (13) provides technical assistance in emergency risk communication and operations to internal and external partners and supports emergency risk communication capacity building; and (14) sponsors/initiates original research related to emergency risk communication messages on customer, stakeholder, and partner needs, interests, and reactions. (Approved 8/17/2018; Effective 9/25/2018)

Logistics Support Branch (CBCDC)

(1) Ensures policies, plans and procedures are in place to provide logistical, administrative, and crisis movement support to CDC deployed personnel and response assets, including communications; (2) provides deployment support for CDC personnel to provide on-site logistical and administrative support to CDC response assets, including communications; (3) coordinates with external logistical and transportation offices during emergencies; (4) advises the DEO Director regarding logistics and transportation activities and provides logistics and transportation planning support for operations plan development and during emergency
responses; (5) manages property accountability; procures, maintains, manages, tracks, and coordinates movement of supplies, services, and equipment for CDC including specimens and hazardous cargo shipments in response to emergency deployment operations; (6) coordinates with the CDC Office of Health and Safety (OHS) and other CDC entities for all CDC medical evacuation missions involving the movement of suspected infectious and contagious patients; (7) coordinates off-site communications and reach-back capabilities, to include real time exchange of information for deployed personnel and teams; and (8) manages the operation and employment of the CDC aircraft.  (Approved 8/17/2018; Effective 9/25/2018)

Operations Branch (CBCDD)

(1) Maintains a 24/7/365 capability to respond to emergencies and coordinate emergency management processes and protocols across CDC; (2) monitors national and international public health emergencies and maintains a common operating picture for CDC leadership and HHS/ASPR; (3) serves as the central point of contact between CDC and public health agencies nationally and internationally for emergency management and response; (4) supports the myriad of sophisticated audiovisual, administrative, and communication functions, including equipment, necessary to maintain a state-of-the-art national emergency operations center; (5) identifies the requirements to fully staff all of the functional roles of the IMS to meet a 24/7/365, all hazard, public health emergency, including identifying personnel across CDC to staff operations functional roles; (6) conducts coordination, planning, and training necessary to implement Continuity of Operations (COOP); (7) coordinates movement/deployment of resourced requirements with logistics; (8) ensures the agency deployment coordination plan represents a comprehensive strategy to identify, recruit, prepare, and maintain a workforce capable of responding rapidly and efficiently to all events requiring CDC public health response leadership, guidance, or support; (9) maintains and coordinates deployment activities supporting deployer health and safety requirements; and (10) monitors, tracks, and assists HHS/Office of Force Readiness and Deployment deployments which utilize Commissioned Corps officers stationed at CDC.  (Approved 8/17/2018; Effective 9/25/2018)

Plans, Training, Exercise and Evaluation Branch (CBCDE)

(1) Develops CDC emergency operations plans, event-specific incident annexes, and national special security event plans, and collaborates across CDC to facilitate development of internal standard operating procedures to support these plans; (2) acts as planning liaison to other organizations and reviews, analyzes and provides comments on federal and national plans or inquiries; (3) provides policy oversight and coordinates the incorporation of national policy into CDC operations plans; (4) represents the agency regarding operational planning and facilitates or participates in planning-focused work groups; (5) manages the CDC exercise and incident response evaluation program; (6) coordinates training and exercise programs and provides feedback and recommendations for After Action Reports for activities conducted at the CDC level; (7) collaborates with SMEs across CDC and external partners to facilitate evaluation of training, planning, and exercises to improve public health preparedness; (8) develops and coordinates Corrective Action Plans and tracks Improvement Plans; (9) coordinates Improvement Plans with CDC SMEs; (10) designs and delivers up-to-date CDC and preparation for exercises emergency response training to prepare staff for emergency situations; (11) tracks CDC responder and staff certifications; (12) ensures that Division training programs support Agency goals; (13) manages exercises to test the readiness of the CDC IMS and ensures it
supports the National Planning Scenarios; (14) coordinates and manages CDC’s participation in pertinent external all-hazards exercises; (15) serves as the Chairperson of the CDC's Exercise Steering Committee and manages the CDC’s internal exercise program in collaboration with subject matter experts across CDC; and (16) facilitates the involvement of states and other response partners in CDC exercises. (Approved 8/17/2018; Effective 9/25/2018)