



## Disaster Management Overview

In the event of a disaster, natural or caused by hostile acts, the San Diego Blood Bank (SDBB) is prepared to implement its disaster management plan. Once the event has been deemed or qualified as a “disaster” by management, the plan will be activated.

1. Initially, SDBB senior management will determine the scope of the event in terms of location and the impact on SDBB, whether this event is regional, state or on a national basis, and severity of event.
2. Operations at the San Diego Blood Bank will be structured to provide blood components in the most expeditious manner.
3. All SDBB sites will be evaluated regarding their ability to operate.
4. After initial assessment of blood component availability, San Diego Blood Bank may increase recruiting efforts to meet potential increased demand.
5. SDBB will comply with FDA guidelines for the urgent collection, shipment and use of blood and blood components as outlined in the *“FDA Policy Statement on Urgent Collection, Shipment and Use of Whole Blood and Blood Components Intended for Transfusion”*.
6. Communication is essential between the San Diego Blood Bank and area Hospitals. Multiple methods of communication may be utilized during a disaster, such as; land line telephones, cellular telephones, internet, email, Amateur Radio network, EMS.
7. Transportation availability will be assessed to determine if SDBB delivery teams, courier services or emergency services will be utilized. If SDBB delivery teams will be utilized additional staff will be scheduled.
8. When the level of response and transportation have been determined using the most appropriate form of communication, the San Diego Blood Bank will provide blood components as necessary for hospitals.
9. Hospitals may be requested to hold increased inventory if regular deliveries could be interrupted.
10. SDBB is the designated Area Emergency Operations Center (AEOC) for Southern California.

The San Diego Blood Bank works closely with the California Blood Bank Society (CBBS) to coordinate the activities of all California Regional Blood Centers. In the event of a disaster SDBB will also work with AABB, America’s Blood Centers (ABC) and Blood Centers of America (BCA) to provide blood as necessary during the disaster as outlined in the AABB publication *“Disaster Operations Handbook: Coordinating the Nation’s Blood Supply During Disasters and Biological Events”*.



In the event of a disaster AEOC centers will share disaster information and coordinate blood resources with the Inter-Agency Task Force (AABB National Blood Exchange, American Red Cross, etc.) liaisons. As the Southern California AEOC the SDBB will be responsible for communicating the blood resource situation in Southern California. In the event that the main SDBB facility is severely impacted by the disaster one of the other two AEOC blood centers will take over Southern California coordination.

If SDBB cannot collect and/or transport blood to hospitals the Inter-Agency Task Force (AABB, ABC, BCA, etc.) will ensure that blood is delivered to SDBB or the nearest operating blood center or to the hospitals. It is possible, depending on location of the hospital, that local law enforcement will transport and deliver or escort the transport of blood and blood components.

The initial line of communication to the San Diego Blood Bank is:

Hospital Services                                                  Voice: (619) 400-8252  
(24 hour phone numbers)                                              FAX: (619) 725-3017

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