THIS IS A TEST

CRC EDITION

Discussion Guide

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Acknowledgements

Did we miss something?
We will routinely update the rulebook as we receive feedback. If you have a question on the content or note something confusing, please let us know.

Contact testgame@cdc.gov.

About This is a TEST

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) designed *This is a TEST* (Training and Exercise Simulation Tool) to train emergency preparedness and response partners for various roles and responsibilities faced when responding to any incident. *TEST* is a collaborative game that bridges the gap between discussion and operational exercises. It uses narrative-based problems to foster teamwork, discuss resource management, and aid in understanding specific roles and responsibilities during an emergency.

TEST may be used as a training and exercise tool depending on the needs of the jurisdiction. *TEST* is aligned with adult learning principles and FEMA's Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) exercise design. Facilitators can modify objectives and gameplay to meet training and exercise requirements. Evaluation should align with HSEEP principles.

About This Discussion Guide

This discussion guide accompanies *This is a TEST CRC (community reception center) Edition*. Questions may be used without the game during other discussion-based exercises such as tabletops.

The purpose of these questions is to help each facilitator guide the conversations of the players at their table. Facilitators should promote questions that help answer "why" or "why not" for all decisions and facilitate group discussion by all players.

Intended Audience

Staff, volunteers, or decision makers who would be involved in setting up or operating a CRC.

Technical Assistance

For technical assistance with *This is a TEST CRC Edition*:

- Email testgame@cdc.gov.
- Reach out to your Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) program jurisdictional representative, or CDC's Division of State and Local Readiness (DSLR) project officer or health department liaison officer (HDLNO).

Contents

How to Use This Guide

This discussion guide is meant to be used by facilitators following gameplay. Facilitators should ask tables to identify injects to discuss further. Depending on the time allotted for table discussion and follow-on large group discussion and report out, the number of inject cards may vary. A good starting place is two to five injects.

While the questions provided are not exhaustive, it is meant to drive dialogue and spark conversation. Facilitators are welcome to add their own questions to this guide.

Facilitators could ask players to choose injects that
- Provided difficulty within the game.
- Had content that is not currently in jurisdiction plans.
- The group found difficult to choose the best option.

Note to Facilitators

Discussion questions are meant to guide players through potential gap identification within their plans and think through "what-ifs." For some questions, there are no "right" or "wrong" answers.

The full list of inject cards can be found in the linked document. Each inject has a number on the bottom right of each card. This number corresponds to inject specific discussion questions.
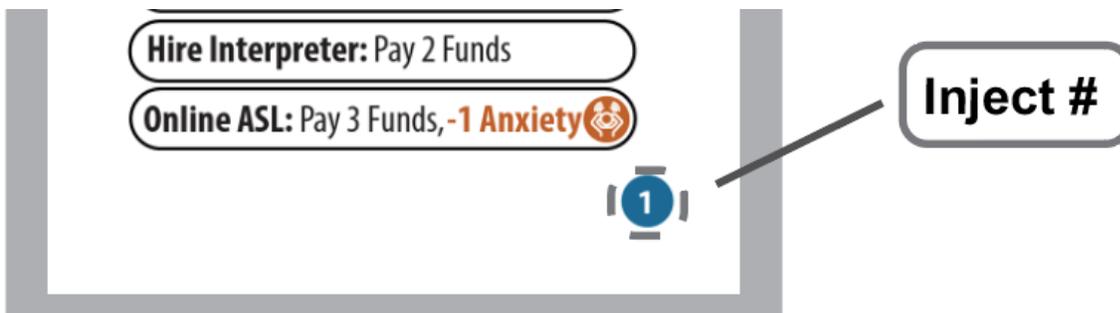
Discussion Questions by Inject Number

Injects and accompanying discussion questions are provided in the format below.

> *Example*
> **Inject Number. Inject Title**
> Narrative Text
> ✓   Discussion Questions

Major Injects

1. Interpreter Assistance

A group of meeple enters the CRC where they have limited-to-no hearing ability.
- ✓ What are your plans for assisting those who may need American Sign Language services?
- ✓ What are your plans for assisting those who may have other language needs?
- ✓ Will any interpreter do? Does it need to be a medical translator? Why or why not?

2. Stomach Bug or Acute Radiation Syndrome

Several meeples are showing up to the CRC complaining of nausea and vomiting.
- ✓ What plans and training are in place to help staff identify critical medical needs versus stomach or other common illnesses?
- ✓ What infection control measures do you have in place?

3./4. Miscommunications with Mayor/ Misleading News Coverage

(*Inject 3*) The mayor misunderstood a press briefing and pushed out messaging that meeples in some unaffected areas should go to your CRC.

(*Inject 4*) The local news outlet has directed everyone to go to your CRC, including those who were not impacted.
- ✓ How are your political leaders involved with your planning?
- ✓ Do you have three- to five-minute long briefing documents available for political leaders?
- ✓ What communications plans are currently in place to handle misinformation?
- ✓ How can you engage the media prior to this event to establish a relationship?
- ✓ What types of messages will you use to reach the unaffected population asking them to stay home?
- ✓ How will you handle those arriving from unaffected areas?

5./6. Animal Bite/Pet Act

(Inject 5) Two animals have gotten into a small fight and one staff member has been bitten in the process.

(Inject 6) Pets and their owners are showing up at your CRC and you need to determine where to put them.

- ✓ Do you have plans and procedures for ensuring the safety of staff and other pets at your CRC?
- ✓ What equipment is needed for securing animals safely at the CRC?
- ✓ Will you bring rabies vaccines to the CRC?
- ✓ What resources and procedures do you have for decontaminating and screening pets?
- ✓ How will you track pets and reunite them with their owners?
- ✓ What are your plans and procedures for handling animals that may need veterinary care?

7. Exceed Contamination Threshold

Many individuals have been showing up to the CRC and screening contaminated. You may consider raising your screening criteria after consulting with your radiation control expert to prioritize meeple with the highest levels of contamination.

- ✓ Do you have different levels of screening criteria in place that can be used for an emergency?
- ✓ Have you worked with communications staff to ensure that the public and public officials understand the reasoning behind the change?

8. Population Experiencing Homeless

Many meeples experiencing homelessness were in the affected area and are on their way to your CRC. In addition to population monitoring, they will need food and shelter.

- ✓ What are your policies and procedures for providing CRC access to populations experiencing homelessness and others who may not be able to arrive in their own vehicles?
- ✓ What are the additional considerations for shelters and registration challenges for individuals who identify as homeless in your CRC?
- ✓ What social services are located in your CRC to help individuals?

9. Parent and Child Requiring Decontamination

A father and daughter have been found contaminated and arrive at decon. How will you proceed with decontamination?

- ✓ What procedures are in place for decontamination?
- ✓ How will you process individuals where the caretaker is a different sex than the child?
- ✓ Do you have plans in place for family wash stations?

10. Mental Health Crisis

Several meeples are coming to your CRC showing signs of mental and emotional distress.

- ✓ What resources are available in your community that can assist with mental health counseling?
- ✓ Does your staff have training in psychological first aid? If not, what resources can you offer them?
- ✓ What are common signs you can train your staff on to identify those that may be having a mental health crisis?

11. Data Sharing and HIPPA

Many meeples are questioning how you will protect their information provided at registration.

- ✓ What are your current registration processes?
- ✓ How will you ensure that HIPAA is maintained?
- ✓ What methods will you employ for data retention in the long-term?
- ✓ Can you explain your data retention process to people arriving at your CRC?

12. Undocumented Meeples

Several meeples are showing up to your CRC with no documentation or identification.

- ✓ How will you register these individuals?
- ✓ What does your jurisdiction consider the bare minimum information to be collected from these individuals?
- ✓ How will you ensure that these individuals receive care and are accounted for in a way that does not risk their safety?
- ✓ How will you make sure they are contacted and arrive at the CRC without fear of any repercussions?

13. Decontamination Assistance

An individual with limited mobility requires decontamination and is unable to perform it on their own.

- ✓ What procedures are in place to assist with decontamination for those individuals who need assistance?
- ✓ Have communication materials been developed to instruct individuals on how to decontaminate?
- ✓ How will you ensure these materials are understandable and accessible?

14. Modest Clothing Requirements

Many members of the community practice religions where dressing modestly or covering their body is desired. Currently, you have only scrubs to give members showing up at the CRC who are contaminated.

- ✓ What resources are available in your community to address modest clothing requirements?
- ✓ Based on your population, what communities can you anticipate will arrive at your CRC with these additional requirements?
- ✓ What practices do you have for staff so that they have cultural competence and inclusive communication?

15. Inclement Weather

Severe weather has created a situation where it is unsafe to have meeples waiting outside.

- ✓ What plans and procedures do you have in place for inclement weather?
- ✓ Are there alternative sites you can send people, service animals, and pets? How will you get them there?
- ✓ Does your CRC facility have enough space to have all stations within the CRC? If not, what are your plans?
- ✓ Does your CRC have a storm shelter that can house large numbers of people? Is there one nearby? If so, how would you get them all to the storm shelter?

16. Blast Injury

A few meeples have arrived at the CRC with blast injuries and are contaminated.

- ✓ What protocols are in place to transfer injured people to hospitals?
- ✓ How will hospital staff receive potentially contaminated patients?
- ✓ Will EMS be available to assist? If not, what other transportation or assistance can be used?
- ✓ How will you connect people transferred to hospitals with their family members?

17. Limited Workforce

Several staff have not shown up for work either due to inability or anxiety from the radiation incident.

- ✓ Where can potential additional staffing be drawn from?
- ✓ Considering previous emergency response staffing shortages, what percent of staff will likely not be able to assist?
- ✓ How can you request additional support from state and federal programs?

Minor Injects

1. Traffic Jam

Cars are getting backed up in the parking lot to where meeple cannot leave the CRC or park to enter.

- ✓ Do you contact Incident Command and ask for buses to transport them to a different CRC?
- ✓ How could you coordinate with law enforcement to assist?
- ✓ Do you have another parking area where people could park and walk to the CRC?
- ✓ Do you have shuttles available for those who need mobility accommodations?
- ✓ Are there areas identified where roads would be blocked or people would be rerouted?

2. Contaminated and Breastfeeding

A meeple is contaminated and very concerned about what breastfeeding might do to their baby. Staff must offer counsel.

- ✓ Do you have guidance you can share about breastfeeding to contaminated individuals?
- ✓ Who will provide counseling to them?
- ✓ Are there established criteria that will result in no action due to limited contamination and therefore, it is safe to breastfeed?

3. Lost Network Connection

The internet connection has been lost. Registration will not process anyone next round unless you find a backup router or use paper forms.

- ✓ What will you use for registration?
- ✓ If using electronic data collection:
  - o Do you have back up paper forms?
  - o Are there alternative ways to establish a network connection on-site or have offline data collection?
- ✓ Is there a way to print forms on demand or will you have them available ahead of time?
- ✓ How will you store the paper versions, so they don't get misplaced? What would be the plan or protocol to enter the information into the system electronically once the connection is available?

4. Short Circuit

A circuit has tripped, resulting in several outlets unable to power Registration stations. You may choose to use power from another station.

- ✓ What are your alternative plans for powering stations at the CRC?

✓ Are there staff within your ICS structure that can assist with power or electrical issues?

5. Limited Water Supply
The water main to the facility has been damaged and there is limited water available at the Decontamination Station.
  ✓ How do your plans address loss of water?
  ✓ Do you have alternative sites identified?
  ✓ What alternative methods of decontamination can you perform at your CRC?

6. Contaminated Equipment
Resources at the Registration station have become contaminated and will not process meeples' next round unless they are screened and decontaminated.
  ✓ Do you have plans or procedures in place for how to screen and decontaminate equipment at the CRC?
  ✓ What are those plans?

7./8./9. Government Funding/Federal Aid/State Support
(Inject 7) Your CRC has received additional governmental aid.
(Inject 8) Your CRC has received additional federal aid.
(Inject 9) Your CRC has received additional state support.
  ✓ How will you use the additional funding?
  ✓ What do you anticipate the restrictions to be?
  ✓ What resources could you request through the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)?

10. Reallocation of Resources
Neighboring CRC has fewer meeple to process and send staff to assist with registration.
  ✓ What is your process to incorporate new staff?
  ✓ What Just-In-Time training do you have for the new staff?

11. Staff Lunch Break
Boxed lunches arrive for staff.
  ✓ What are your plans for lunch staff?
  ✓ Do you have storage for the boxed lunches for staff that may not be able to get them until later?

12. Temporary Assistance
Lines are decreasing at Decontamination. Registration may request assistance from

the staff at Decontamination.

- ✓ Are Decon staff trained to assist with registration?
- ✓ How would you provide Just-In-Time training for them?

13. Mutual Aid Agreement

A neighboring jurisdiction offers to provide your CRC with decontamination assistance through your mutual aid agreement.

- ✓ What mutual aid agreements do you have in place?
- ✓ What are the estimated timelines and conditions for those agreements?
- ✓ How many resources do you anticipate requiring use of your mutual aid agreements?

14. Portal Alarm Malfunction

A damaged sensor on a portal monitor causes it to malfunction.

- ✓ How often do you check your current portal monitors for damage?
- ✓ Are there back up monitors or sensors you can use in the event of sensor failure?

15. Cross Contamination

Some contaminated meeples have gotten to Registration.

- ✓ What procedures are in place for situational awareness of contaminated individuals?
- ✓ Do you have additional staff trained in screening that can act as runners to quickly identify contamination?

16. Limited Translation Assistance

A family has arrived with limited ability to speak or understand English. No one on staff can speak their natural language. They do have a small child who can speak some English.

- ✓ Do you have translation services or translated materials for your CRC?
- ✓ What languages do you offer translation at your CRC?
- ✓ Do you have a way to request a translator for your CRC?
- ✓ Would you use a regular translator or a medical translator?

17. Service Animal Contaminated

A service animal has been found contaminated. Will you continue to process the animal with its owner or separate them?

- ✓ What are your plans for service animals?
- ✓ What plans are in place when a service animal is found contaminated?

18. Cat Fight
Animals at your CRC begin to fight, causing each other anxiety and distress. Will you choose to expand the pet area and separate them or leave them alone?
- ✓ Will you separate species, or will they all be housed in one area?
- ✓ How will animals be handled? What process do you have in place for potentially aggressive or anxious pets?

19./20. Trip Over Wires/ Slip and Fall
(*Inject* 19) Staff have been tripping over wires at the Contamination Screening station. Do you tape down the wires immediately or tell staff to be more careful?
(*Inject* 20) Water has begun building up in the Decontamination station and has caused a slip hazard.
- ✓ What procedures are in place to ensure slip and trip hazards are monitored and eliminated?

21. Fight in Line
A fight has broken out in lines at your CRC. Choose a staff member to break up the fight.
- ✓ What types of security measures are in place for your CRC?

22. Impatient Meeple
Lines are getting longer, and many meeples are getting rowdy and impatient.
- ✓ What communications have been developed to calm people in line?
- ✓ Are there maximum times that you want people to spend in your CRC?
- ✓ How can you help alleviate these feelings? What can be done to speed up the process?

23-26. Request For More Information
EOC requests information from (player) about your CRC.
- ✓ What are the data streams both to and from the CRC?
- ✓ Who is likely to request information from the CRC and what type of information?
- ✓ Can your data collection system run the data needed in real time or does it need a staff member to compute the data needed? If you need a staff member, are they located at the CRC or somewhere else and do they have the time and ability to run data in real time?
- ✓ What types of information will your PIO need to provide the EOC ?

27. Child Separated from Caretaker
Several young meeples cannot find their parents.

- ✓ What plans are in place for minors who have been separated from their caretakers?
- ✓ How will children be reunited with their caretaker?

28. Request to Enter CRC Data into RadResponder
Radiation gets a request to enter CRC data into RadResponder.
- ✓ Does someone in the CRC staff have access to CBRNE/RadResponder?
- ✓ Have you entered your CRC location into CBRNE/RadResponder?
- ✓ How will you collect information to aggregate into CBRNE/RadResponder?

29. Viral Video
Teens have been posting to social media about the long lines at your CRC and talking about how unsafe it is.
- ✓ Is social media monitoring an activity currently in CRC plans?
- ✓ Will people be asked not to post to social media while at the CRC?
- ✓ How will you respond to the posts?
- ✓ Are there changes that can be made to address these concerns?

30. Mobility Assistance
Several wheelchairs are contaminated. Will you fully decontaminate the wheelchairs, get more wheelchairs, or spot wipe as best you can?
- ✓ Do you have plans and solutions in place to make the CRC accessible for those that need mobility assistance?
- ✓ Do you have alternative wheelchairs, walkers, or other adaptive equipment in the circumstance that individuals arrive with contaminated equipment?
- ✓ Have you discussed with Radiation Control what the screening criteria is for adaptive equipment?

31. Dose Assessment
Several meeples have been registering as contaminated even after they have been showered and may have internal contamination.
- ✓ Do you have plans in place for dose assessment at your CRC?
- ✓ Who will provide dose assessment?
- ✓ Are you able to collect urine for bioassay?
- ✓ What plans and procedures do you have for shipping specimens?
- ✓ What data will you collect for bio-sample collection?
- ✓ How will you share it with the relevant stakeholders?

32. Fainting in Line
Someone in line has fainted for unknown reasons.
- ✓ What first aid do you have available on site at your CRC?
- ✓ How will you triage who will go to the hospital?
- ✓ Do you have an ambulance on call to assist?

33. Low Blood Sugar
A meeple in line feels faint and has low blood sugar levels.
- ✓ What medicines are available for those who may have diabetes or other chronic medical conditions?
- ✓ What staff are available to aid those with medical needs?
- ✓ Are there snacks and drinks that could be provided?

34. Clothing Needs
Meeples that have been found contaminated require a change of clothes after they have completed decontamination.
- ✓ What resources are available to provide clothing to contaminated individuals?
- ✓ How will you track and store contaminated belongings?

35. Contaminated Electric Wheelchair
An electric wheelchair is contaminated at high levels, and you are having difficulty determining the level of contamination of the meeple.
- ✓ What methods of decontamination will you use for the wheelchair?
- ✓ If the wheelchair is unable to be decontaminated, what are the next steps?

36. Medical Radiation or Contamination
Meeples have alarmed the portal, but they may have had a nuclear medicine procedure.
- ✓ Do you have a way to triage nuclear medicine patients prior to alarming the portal monitor?
- ✓ What guidance has radiation control given on exposure readings to discern if individuals are truly contaminated?

37. Medical Countermeasure Distribution
Some meeples require medical countermeasures after dose assessment is performed. Resources are limited.
- ✓ What populations will be prioritized for medical countermeasures?
- ✓ How will this be communicated to the public?
- ✓ How will you ensure equitable distribution?

38. Seasonal Virus
Meeples arriving have flu-like symptoms including fever and cough.

✓ What procedures are in place to isolate sick individuals?

✓ Are there measures or precautions that can be implemented to limit the spread of the virus?

39. Volunteers Concerned with Radiation

Staff are concerned about their safety and have questions about the potential effects of radiation.

✓ What information do you have available to provide to CRC staff?

✓ How will you monitor staff for radiation exposure and report their dose?

40. Environmental Assessment

Mobile decon tents have been storing the contaminated water from showers. There are concerns about what to do with it.

✓ How will you communicate your plans for wastewater run off?

✓ Is there someone you can call for assistance with a recommendation?

41. Medical Triage

Hospital beds are limited and only those in most need should be sent there. Ambulances are also in high demand.

✓ What neighboring hospitals can patients be transported to?

✓ What are additional ways in which hospital capacity can be expanded?

✓ What procedures are there for the hospital to deny entry to arriving individuals?

42. Suspicious Behavior

Someone is walking around the parking lot and checking cars during CRC operations that is not a staff member.

✓ What security procedures are in place to monitor the CRC?

✓ Who and how will staff notify managers and security if there is suspicious behavior?

43. Confused Meeple

Mixed messaging has cause meeple to become confused and they have entered the CRC from the wrong direction.

✓ What types of signage and messaging do you or will you have in place at your CRC?

✓ How will individuals be directed to the CRC?

✓ What plans are in place to ensure signage is understandable and accessible to different populations?

44. Quiet Space Needed

A child with an emotional disorder has become very anxious and overstimulated. Their guardian has asked for space to calm them down.

- ✓ What types of resources do you have available to assist with mental and behavioral health?
- ✓ What spaces do you have at the CRC for individuals who need privacy?
- ✓ What other behavioral needs do you anticipate requiring additional staff and support?
- ✓ How will you assist neurodivergent individuals who arrive at your CRC?

Glossary of Terms

Abbreviations

CRC   Community Reception Center

EM   Emergency Management

FP   Fire and Police

IC   Incident Commander

HC   Hospital Coordinator

HFP   Hospital Coordinator/Fire and Police

PIO   Public Information Officer

PH   Public Health

PHI   Public Health/Public Information Officer

RAD   Radiation

VC   Volunteer Coordinator

Key Terms and Definitions

Access and functional needs (AFN) – Includes individuals who need assistance due to any condition (temporary or permanent) that limits their ability to act. To have access and functional needs does not require that the individual have any kind of diagnosis or specific evaluation. Individuals having access and functional needs may include, but are not limited to, individuals with disabilities, older adults, and populations having limited English proficiency, limited access to transportation, and/or limited access to financial resources to prepare for, respond to, and recover from the emergency. (FEMA)

Available Meeple Pool – Collection of meeple that have not been put into play and are available to be drawn to be places on the board.

Meeple – small board-game piece, usually with a stylized human form.

Phase – Break up of stages or portions of a round that signify different portions of gameplay actions.

Round – Completion of all phases. In this game, there are six phases in a round.