



FMS.18.3 All staff participate in the fire drills.

FMS.18.4 All fire drills' results and corrective actions are documented and integrated into the quality improvement program.

FMS.18.5 A full fire drill is conducted for the internal disaster plan once a year and this drill is evaluated.

Standard Intent:

Fire safety and evacuation plans outline staff duties and responsibilities in time of emergency. On-going training is required to help ensure that staff is aware of those duties and responsibilities. Fire drills serve as an opportunity for staff members to demonstrate under simulated fire conditions that they can perform those duties and responsibilities safely and efficiently. It's also a time for them to show that they are aware of defend-in-place strategies and can take advantage of the facility's fire safety features and egress facilities to protect the people in their care.

Fire drills are more than an exercise designed to evaluate staff response to a simulated emergency. They are also a test of your facility's fire safety/evacuation plans and staff training programs. Not all fire drills run as expected, therefore, staff and management need to learn from them and correct mistakes made. It's important, therefore, that there be a critique of each drill so that any problems encountered can be addressed. Perhaps the problems are due to incomplete or outdated fire safety/evacuation plans. Perhaps there's a need for additional staff training.

It is important to cover all departments and all shifts of a department. It is also important that all department's staff participate and to mix between announced and un-announced drills to test staff readiness.

Drills need to be documented.

FMS.19 The hospital supports fire prevention.

FMS.19.1 The hospital ensures procuring materials like curtains and drapes that are fire retardant.

FMS.19.2 The hospital ensures separating all dangerous materials or flammables from heat generating areas.