

FMS.17.3 There are evacuation maps posted hospital wide indicating locations of:

- FMS.17.3.1 You are here.
  - FMS.17.3.2 Fire extinguishers.
  - FMS.17.3.3 Fire hose reel/cabinets.
  - FMS.17.3.4 Fire blankets.
  - FMS.17.3.5 Escape routes.
  - FMS.17.3.6 Assembly points.
  - FMS.17.3.7 Fire exits.
  - FMS.17.3.8 Call points break glass/pull station.
  - FMS.17.3.9 Medical gas isolation valves.
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**Standard Intent:**

Hospitals need to assess the type of internal disasters it is more likely subjected to and determine the type of actions needed to be taken in order to ensure patient and staff safety and continue the medical services provided.

Such disasters might include: fire emergencies, emergencies of hazardous materials spills, and any other emergencies that require evacuation of patients and/or staff.

There must be a clear internal disaster plan with roles and responsibilities for leaders and staff to refer to when needed.

As unique actions need to be considered for certain departments (such as Operating Rooms and Intensive Care Units) due to nature of it occupancy, a department-specific internal disaster plan needs to be created.

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**FMS.18 The hospital has a system for scheduling and conducting fire drills regularly.**

FMS.18.1 Fire drills are scheduled and conducted regularly in all departments.

FMS.18.2 Fire drills are conducted during different shifts to test:

- FMS.18.2.1 Using Rescue, Alarm, Confine, Extinguish/Evacuate (RACE) procedure.
  - FMS.18.2.2 Using Pull, Aim, Squeeze, Sweep (PASS) procedure.
  - FMS.18.2.3 The ability to contain the fire when it starts.
  - FMS.18.2.4 Staff performance in the event of fire.
  - FMS.18.2.5 Evacuation procedures.
  - FMS.18.2.6 Whether the oxygen and electricity supplies were shut off at the right time.
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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.

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**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.

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**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.