



DRILLS, EXERCISES, TRAININGS

HISTORY: 2005 OPERATION CHIMERA

The Los Angeles County Operational Area (LACOA) and its partners conducted a major terrorism preparedness and response exercise held at the Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena located in Exposition Park on November 17, 2005.

The exercise scenario called for the activation of a Point of Dispensing (POD) site to dispense antibiotics in response to an aerosolized release of anthrax (simulated). The exercise scenario was not based on any credible threat.

“The goal of this exercise is to test Los Angeles County’s response to this challenging scenario and provide an opportunity for County and City agencies and our local jurisdiction partners to see how they would respond if faced with biological terrorism attack or with a pandemic flu outbreak,” said Dr. Jonathan E. Fielding, Los Angeles County Department Public Health Officer.

The exercise began at 9:30 a.m. when the POD admitted and processed 500 community volunteers from neighborhood Community Emergency Response Teams, local high schools, colleges and universities. The volunteers wore radio frequency identification tags. The identification tags allowed exercise management to track the number of clients served on an hourly basis. Information learned from the exercise has been applied to evaluate on-going planning efforts.

The Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, Office of Emergency Management, and Department of Mental Health as well the City of Los Angeles Emergency Preparedness, Police, Fire, Transportation, and General Services role-played their response to the simulated bioterrorism attack. Many other departments and agencies were used in the exercise development and supported the exercise throughout the day.

The 2005 Program, Operation Chimera was comprised of a series tabletop and functional exercises, including the full-scale exercise held at the Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena.

(History of Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena: It opened its doors in 1959, hosting boxing title matches, at the time was home to the National Basketball Association Los Angeles Lakers (1960-1967), National Hockey League Los Angeles Kings (1967) and University of Southern California Basketball Team).

Below is a list of participants:

- U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention
- Los Angeles County Office of Emergency Management (OEM)
- Los Angeles County Department of Health Services
- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
- Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
- City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department
- Los Angeles Memorial Sports Arena at Exposition Park
- Exposition Park Police
- Asentrix Systems
- Intermec Technologies
- VSee Lab
- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)
- Pasadena Blair High School
- City of Los Angeles Department of Disability
- University of Southern California Schools of Dentistry and Pharmacy
- Los Angeles Unified School District
- Volunteer Center of Los Angeles
- Assistance League of Southern California
- Grant High School
- King Drew Magnet High School
- Junior Blind of America
- Filipino American Service, Group, Inc.
- Abraham Friedman Center
- El Centro del Pueblo
- Los Angeles Mayor's Crisis Response Team (CRT)

2005 OPERATION CHIMERA PHOTOGRAPHS







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