



## *The First Ten Plays*

### ESTABLISHING A HOSPITAL COMMAND CENTER\*

- **Location. Location. Location. No basements. Core of facility. Plenty of hallway access and stairwells.**
- **Establish that the facility will be able to operate during various impacts from earthquake, flood, hazardous materials release, utility outage, etc. There can never be enough electrical outlets or internet ethernet connections.**
- **Communications are everything. If the room is a dead zone it is useless unless it can be wired to outside sources such as the internal communications system, an external antennae for radio (UHF, VHF, and HAM), and has Internet access. Cellular phones a bonus but usually a problem, as are walkie-talkies.**
- **Think security from the start.**
- **Space: the final frontier. Don't use a closet. Even in operations lasting a day, tight, cramped quarters reduce productivity and control. The standard of 40 sq feet of facility space per person occupying is a good rule of thumb.**
- **The HVAC system needs to be able to support the room at full capacity.**
- **Sound reduction has to be key, as is lighting to ensure effectiveness.**
- **Organize the chairs and tables so that those who usually collaborate most are close to each other. This also helps reduce noise levels.**
- **Color coding work areas and functions is helpful, along with vests or hats for identification of sections or command.**
- **Establish storage space and set up for permanent status boards if possible. Do not overburden the facility with television screens.**

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*\* These are not listed in order of importance but as a group of materials that will increase the possibility of positive outcomes.*