

GA DPH & Radiation Response

Ricky Schutter / January 2026

DPH Key Response Actions

- Command and Control
 - DPH Emergency Operations Center (EOC) will activate in coordination with GEMA/HS.
 - The Incident Command System (ICS) will be used for coordination.
- Public Health Surveillance
 - DPH Epidemiology will track radiation exposure cases and assess the need for a long-term health effect registry
- Radiation Detection & Population Monitoring
 - Via support/establishment of Community Reception Centers (CRC)
 - Each health district issued a standard kit of 23 handheld monitors and 2 portal monitor detection devices
 - Detection equipment may be used by DPH personnel or deployed to partner agencies

DPH Key Response Actions

- Decontamination
 - Technical decontamination occurs at hospitals or designated field sites
 - Gross decontamination may occur at the CRC when patient is determined to be contaminated (>300cpm)
- Medical Evacuation & Sheltering
 - Coordinate with appropriate partners to transport patients with severe radiation injuries to RITN hospitals or a Radiation Emergency Treatment Center (RETC)
 - Both medical and general shelter plans will need to include radiological contamination considerations
 - Shelters may be co-located with CRCs

DPH Key Response Actions

- Medical Management
 - Radiological contamination on patients should **NEVER** delay or prevent treatment for severe injuries
 - Patients with internal contamination, or contamination over 300cpm, should be directed to seek appropriate medical care
 - Potassium iodide (KI) or Prussian Blue may be utilized for specific incidents
 - KI distributed by DPH/DNR is only for emergency responders
 - KI will only be given for incidents involving radioactive iodine

DPH Public Messaging

- Fear is amplified by limited knowledge of radiological hazards
- Messaging should include guidance on protective actions and health-related information for affected populations

WHERE TO GO IN A RADIATION EMERGENCY

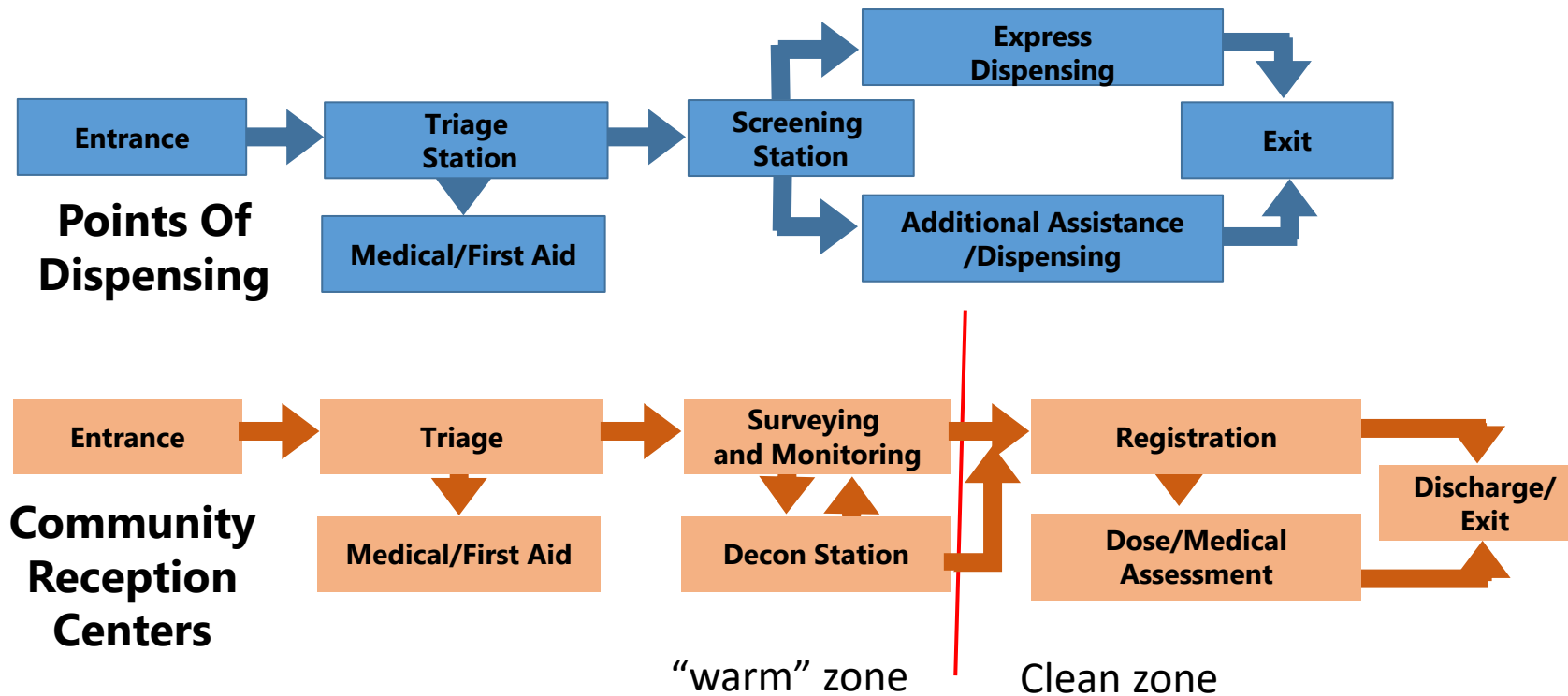
If a radiation emergency happens in your area, you should get inside immediately. No matter where you are, the safest action to take is to: **GET INSIDE. STAY INSIDE. STAY TUNED.**

- Close and lock all windows and doors.
- Go to the basement or the middle of the building. Radioactive material settles on the outside of buildings; so the best thing to do is stay as far away from the walls and roof of the building as you can.
- If possible, turn off fans, air conditioners, and forced-air heating units that bring air in from the outside. Close fireplace dampers.
- Bring pets inside.
- Stay tuned for updated instructions from emergency response officials.

Adapted from Ventura County Public Health, Ventura County, CA

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
<http://emergency.cdc.gov/radiation>

CRC – Concept of Operations



CRC Site Selection

- Sufficient room for spacing between all stations
 - Intake/triage, monitoring, decon, registration
 - ESPECIALLY important for stations before monitoring & decon
- MUST be indoors or otherwise protected from the weather
 - Unlike PODs, CRC is reliant on electronic equipment
- Locations with locker rooms/showers can help alleviate some equipment needs
- Consider co-location with shelters

CRC Equipment - Handheld Devices



Radeye B20-ER

- αβγ Surface Contamination
- Range (contam): 0-500kcps
- Range (dose rate): 0-100mSv/h (0-10 rem/h)



Ludlum 26-1

- αβγ Surface contamination
- Ranges: 0 cps - 19.9 kcps
 - 0 cpm – 999 kcpm
 - 0 – 500 mR/h



Radeye G

- Gamma Safety surveys
- Range: 50uR/h – 10R/h
- GM tube for gamma/X-ray dose rate

CRC Equipment - TPM-903 Portal Monitor

- BC408 Scintillators run length of posts (72in)
- Sensitivity $< 1\mu\text{Ci}$
- Capable of detecting shielded sources
- Walk-through time of 2 seconds
- Equipped with occupancy sensor and LCD display for readout



Thank you!

For more information, please contact:

Ricky Schutter

CBRNE Planning & Operations Coordinator

Georgia Department of Public Health

Email: Ricky.Schutter@dph.ga.gov