

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE MISSISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THE
MHA HEALTH, RESEARCH & EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION AND
THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CENTER**

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to establish the responsibilities of and the relationships between the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH), the MHA Health, Research & Educational Foundation (MHA-F) and the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) regarding the Mississippi State Medical Response System (SMRS) and participation as a State Medical Assistance Team, (*hereinafter referred to as "SMAT"*) member. Whereas UMMC currently hosts two SMAT mobile hospitals and supporting systems and equipment and desires to maintain the maximum efficiency and availability of this invaluable State resource, Participating Hospital/Agency Staff will help to establish a Mobile Field hospital facility with the capability to act as alternate care site, mass immunization/drug distribution center, a facility for isolation and/or quarantine site, supplement the capabilities of a hospital whose capacity has been compromised and/or provide a special medical care facility if events dictate. Additionally, UMMC will be the primary agency to assist in providing SMAT program development, mission coordination, logistical support coordination, training and staffing for the SMAT program and will assist the MSDH and MHA-F in facilitating other Hospitals/Agencies participation in the SMRS/SMAT program.

II. PARTIES

The parties to this MOU are the MSDH, MHAF and UMMC

III. RESPONSIBILITIES OF UMMC.

- A. Coordinate and ensure staffing of designated positions within the SMAT Mobile Field Hospital program, which shall meet at a minimum quarterly or more often if indicated and as necessary to meet the stated objectives of the program.
- B. Assist the MHA-F in preparing and executing a Memorandum of Understanding with each participating Hospital/Agency or acquire and maintain a copy of the Mississippi State Medical Response System MOU.
- C. Coordinate and provide required training for the participating Hospital/Agency members.

- D. Coordinate regional and state-wide exercises for the SMAT involving the participating Hospital/Agency members.
- E. Activate and deploy the SMAT team for out-of-jurisdictional area as part of the Statewide Mutual Aid Compact or Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) pursuant to the Mississippi Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan.
- F. Complete, provide and maintain required forms and duty schedules for regional participating Hospital/Agency designated SMAT team personnel, any received SMAT patient equipment, pharmaceuticals, personal protective equipment (PPE), and training for use by SMAT members.
- G. Provide additional SMAT personnel and equipment support as funds become available and if state-of-the-art research and development standards indicate the need.
- H. Provide technical assistance to the participating Hospital/Agency regarding activation and deployment of staff and equipment to support SMAT operations.
- I. Coordinate with the Federal (FEMA) and State Emergency Management (MEMA) Agencies and provide guidance on receiving any applicable reimbursements for participating members that provide staffing, equipment or supplies within existing guidelines and policies of FEMA/MEMA.
- J. Serve as the point of contact to acquire and distribute any funds or reimbursements for any medical response activities that involve any SMAT program deployment or mission assignments.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

- A. Agree to support the SMAT program with grants and other monies as available.
- B. Agree to maintain the VIPR program and provide names of interested persons for use in the SMAT program.

V. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MHA HEALTH, RESEARCH & EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Agree to maintain a roster of participating Hospital/Agency team members that are signatory to the State Medical Response System and that meet suggested requirements contained in the SMRS plan.

VI. TERM AND TERMINATION

The term of this MOU is three (3) years commencing on September 1, 2011 with the provision that any of the parties may terminate its participation at any time by providing written notice to all other parties at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of such termination

VII. REVIEW AND AMENDMENT

The MOU will be reviewed annually and may be amended by the written consent of the authorized representatives of the parties.

VIII. ENTIRE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

This MOU represents the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes all prior oral and written statements or agreements. This MOU may be amended only by written amendments duly executed by Mississippi State Department of Health, the MHA Health, Research & Educational Foundation and the University of Mississippi Medical Center.

IX. EFFECTIVE DATE

This MOU becomes effective upon execution of the signatures of all parties to the agreement. The date of execution shall be the date of the last signature.

X. COMMUNICATIONS

To provide consistent and effective communications between MSDH, MHA-F and UMMC, each party shall appoint a Principal Representative(s) to serve as its central point of contact responsible for coordinating and implementing this MOU. The MSDH contact shall be the Director of the Mississippi Department of Health-Office of Health Protection, or his designee. The MHA-F contact shall be the Director of Hospital Preparedness and the UMMC contact shall be the SMAT Coordinator.

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XI. SIGNATURE WARRANTY

Each individual signing below warrants that he or she is duly authorized by the party to sign this MOU and to bind the party to the terms and conditions of this MOU.

This agreement is hereby agreed to by all signatory parties on this the day _____, 20__ at _____(city) _____(county), Mississippi and in testimony thereof we do hereby set our hands and cause to be affixed our signatures.

For University of Mississippi Medical Center

James Keeton, MD
Associate Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs

Date

For Mississippi State Department of Health

Mary Currier, MD, MPH
State Health Officer, Mississippi State Department of Health

Date

For MHA Health, Research & Educational Foundation

Marcella L. McKay, Ph.D
Chief Executive Officer/President, MHA Health, Research & Educational Foundation

Date