

Coming Together in Response and Recovery:

The Integrated Firestorm Responses of Two Health Care Systems

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Disclosure Slide

The speakers for this session have no actual or potential conflicts of interest in relation to this presentation.



Session Objectives

- Discuss the operational impacts of the October 2017 wildfires that caused Kaiser Permanente and Sutter Health to evacuate hospitals.
- Describe the recovery efforts taken by both health systems to restore hospital services to the community.
- Share lessons learned across all levels, and highlight opportunities for improved performance.
- Identify wildfire planning activities to increase hospital readiness.



Session Structure

Overview of our Two Healthcare Systems

What We Did and What We Learned About:

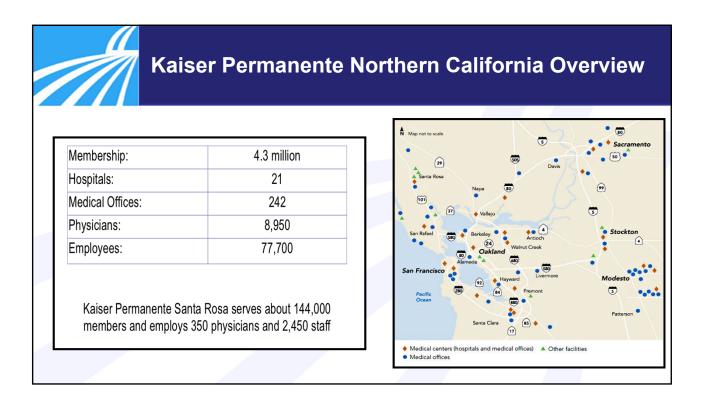
- Communication and Coordination
- Clean-up and Re-supply
- Safety and Security Smoke Mitigation
- Staffing Considerations
- Continuity of Patient Care
- Finance and Administration





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DEVASTATION



- Medical Center and most associated care centers forced to close
- Over 200 Kaiser staff and physicians lost their homes
- Over 140,000 patients served by KP Santa Rosa Medical Center

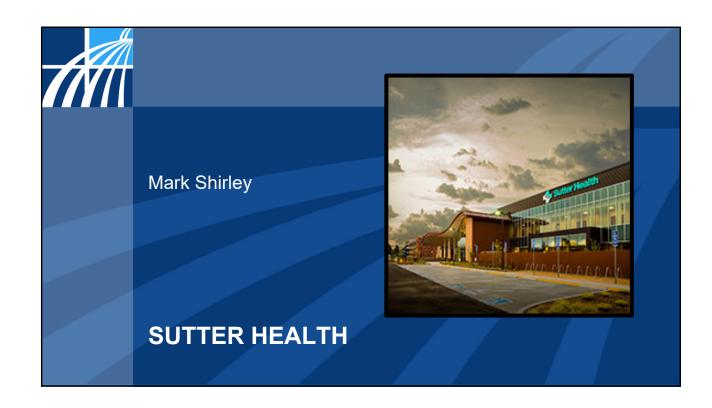




Hospital Reopens 17 days later – KP SRO

- Hospital de-stocked, extensively cleaned, restocked, surveyed by California Department of Public Health
- Utilized multiple regional resources to assist







Sutter Health Overview

Sutter Health primarily serves Northern California

- 24 Hospitals (4311 licensed beds)
- 200+ Physician Offices and Clinics
- 35 Ambulatory Surgery Centers
- 53,000 Employees
- 5,500 Physicians





Immediate Operational Impacts Sutter Health



- 23 care centers forced to close
- 2,800 employees and physicians in fire zone
- 150,000 patients in the fire zone



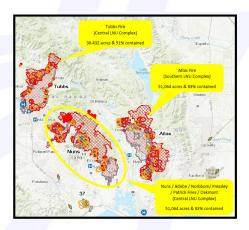




Communications – Kaiser Permanente

STRATEGIES:

- Public Affairs essential
- Social Media important tool
- Set up regular managers calls
- Sent daily staff/provider communications and member-facing communications in multiple modalities
- Established Hospital Command Center and Human Resources Command Center Hotlines





Coordination: KP NCAL Regional Command Center

- RCC staffed physically 24/7 for 8 days
- PlaniTrac info tracking system utilized for all Medical Center requests
- Regional Human Resources Command Center activated
- Regional IC's to SRO to assist locally with repopulation
- "Tiger Teams" of regional subject matter experts utilized



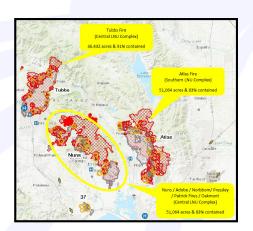
Communications – Sutter Health

What We Did:

- Leverage relationships with our healthcare partners for intelligence and planning
- Effectively used technology

What We Learned:

- Communications between providers and agencies was lacking
- Employee and MD contact information was often inaccurate
- Crisis communication workflows are needed





Coordination: Sutter Health

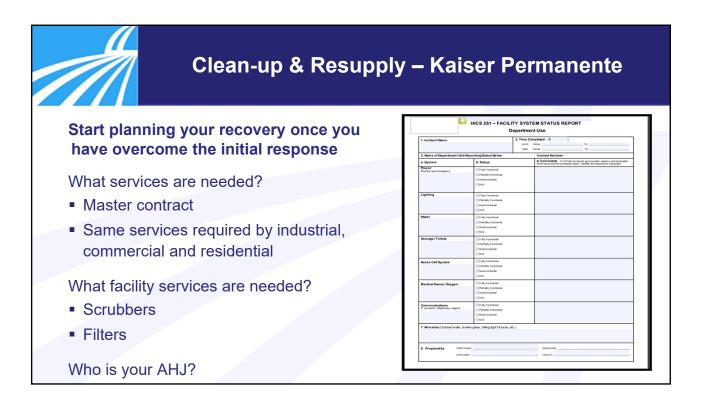
What We Did:

Activated Sutter Health Emergency Management System (SHEMS):

- Intelligence
- Logistics
- Guidance
- Public information coordination

SHEMS consists of system level department leaders







Clean-up and Resupply – Kaiser Permanente

Take time to understand materials/supplies ordering process and workflows

- Lead time?
- Essential for patient care?

Maintain tidy shared drives / standardize info & lists when possible

 Crash cart and room stocking lists, special ordering info, patient handouts, etc.

Manage par and levels as stringently as possible



Clean-up & Resupply - Sutter Health





What We Did

- Restoration contractor was on-site day 1
- Pulled support staff from other affiliates
- Leveraged vendor relationships



Clean-up & Resupply - Sutter Health

What We Did:

- Natural gas quick connect
- Kinetic evaluation of pharmaceuticals
- Pull supplies from other sites
- Access supplies "stuck" at UPS & FedEx sites

What We Learned:

- We need to inventory utility equipment at leased sites
- Virtually everything needed to be cleaned or replaced









Safety and Security – Kaiser Permanente

- Access to campus restricted
 - Entry to parking lot
 - Entry to hospital
- Sign in required / log of onsite personnel maintained
- Employee Health and Employee Assistance Program activated to monitor HCC personnel and onsite staff
- Smoke mitigation ongoing issue



Smoke Mitigation – Kaiser Permanente

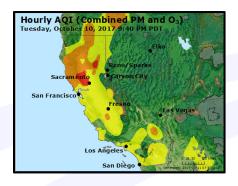




- Portable air scrubbers (300 each) and N-95 masks (345,000 each) were the greatest need
- Replaced all air filters with new charcoal filters



Smoke Mitigation – Sutter Health



What We Did:

- Standardize our approach to smoke mitigation
- Rapidly acquire air scrubbers and filtration media
- Allow the public to take refuge at hospitals

What We Learned:

Appropriate use of N95s was an issue







Staffing Considerations – Kaiser Permanente

- Travel difficult, including into medical center
- Ongoing fire event with large-scale, rolling evacuations
- Many staff & providers affected
- Additional staffing needed in
- SRF and other KPs
 - RCC coordinated

- Emergency credentialing, privileging, and KP HealthConnect access required
- Medical staffing needed for evacuation centers & pharmacies
- Staffing and on-call grid required for repopulation approval



Staffing Considerations – Sutter Health

What we Did:

- Staff support through EAP was critical and was appreciated
- Secured hotel rooms for staff and contractors

What We Learned:

- Confirming staff well being was difficult
- Pre-identifying staff willing to work at alternate sites would have been helpful
- EHR profiles of staff willing to work at an alternate site needed to be reconfigured







Continuity of Patient Care – Kaiser Permanente

- Medical teams, supplies, and meds sent to local evacuation centers for 2+ weeks, 24/7
- KP Physicians worked at non-KP area pharmacies to assist w/refills
 Additional pharmacy dispensing locations set up
- Rohnert Park campus: care model changed to 12 hour Urgent Care / Pharmacy October 10th to October 16th
- Mercury Way campus: provided walk-in mental health care with extended hours



Continuity of Patient Care – Kaiser Permanente

- L&D: established advice line, slept on site near HCC in order to staff
- Surgery: triaged scheduled surgeries including oncologic
- Oncology: moved operations to SRF
- All other outpatient services triaged appointments
- SRO on site clinics reopened October 16th, once removed from evacuation zone



Continuity of Patient Care – Kaiser Permanente

- Virtual appointments increased to 35% of all patient appointments
- Kaiser Permanente staff relocated 148 skilled nursing facility patients to safer locations
- Members tracked for displacement or other acute needs
 - Home Health, Patient Care Coordinators, other service lines



Continuity of Patient Care – Sutter Health

What We Did:

- Video visit technology
- Partnership with Lyft for staff and patient transport
- Uniform electronic health record
- Continuity of care for home health and hospice patients

What We Learned:

- Real-time bed availability across the enterprise
- Improved communal capacity for infants and children







Finance and Administration Sutter Health



What We Did:

- Pre-approve vendors
- Embed insurance team with Supply Chain & Facilities
- Capture employee activity associated with their time

What We Learned:

What's NOT Covered by FEMA

- Business interruption
- Salaried employee's time
- Testing / air monitoring

What's Covered by FEMA

- Evacuation
- Replacement of compromised meds and supplies
- Smoke remediation



Finance and Administration Kaiser Permanente

- Kaiser Permanente-owned construction company facilitated all contractor recovery efforts
- Automated emergency management tracking system recently implemented
- Orders and notes date & time stamped by employee identification number
- CDPH was the AHJ as we prepared to re-open hospital
- Local Fire/OSHPD for Fire/Life Safety sign-off



In The End....

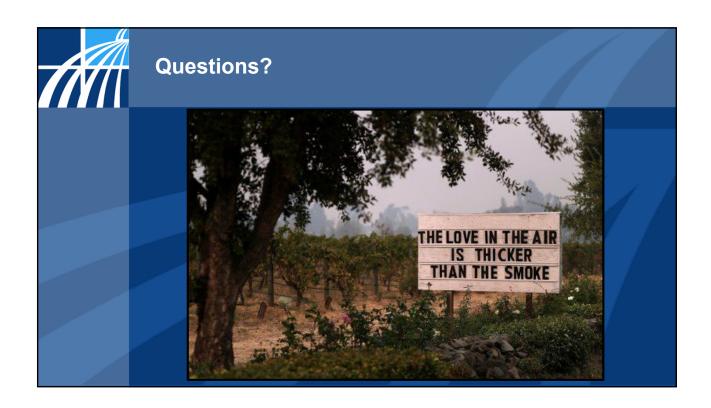
Over 300 Santa Rosa Kaiser and Sutter Health employees and physicians lost their homes

Tubbs Fire tallies:

- Over 36,000 acres burned
- More than 6,800 structures destroyed, including 2,800 in Santa Rosa
- 22 people died

North Bay Fires / Wine Country Fires tallies:

- Over 160,000 acres burned
- More than 8,400 structures destroyed
- 42 people died





Thank You!!!

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