CDC Emergency Response Activation Levels

Level 1

The highest level of response reserved for critical emergencies. CDC assigns the largest number of staff possible to work 24/7 on the response. To date, there have been three Level 1 responses: Ebola outbreak (2014), H1N1 influenza outbreak (2009) and Hurricane Katrina (2005).

Level 2

The CDC experts in the particular disease lead the response with a large number of other staff from the program area. A large number of staff from CDC's Emergency Operations Center may assist with the response.

Level 3

The CDC experts in the particular disease lead the response with some of their own staff. Some staff from CDC's Emergency Operations Center may assist in the response. CDC decides when a different level of response is needed.

CDC Emergency Response

When public health emergencies occur, CDC's Emergency Operations Center (EOC) manages the response. The EOC has three levels of response.

