Is Maryland Prepared?

Assessing Domestic Preparedness in the Maryland Public Health System

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OVERVIEW

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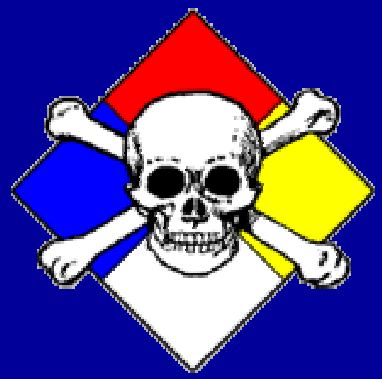
Discussion

Conclusions



WHAT IS PREPAREDNESS?

Domestic Preparedness is

The organized process of planning, equipping and training of a state, local jurisdiction, or other agency in order to prevent, respond to, or recover from acts of terrorism.

(Adapted from US Department of Homeland Security, Office for Domestic Preparedness)

ORGANIZATION of DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS

- Oct 2001 - Dept of Homeland Security
- Dec 2001 - DHMH Office of Public Health Preparedness and Response

ORGANIZATION of DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS

- Dec 2004 - National Response Plan
- 2006 – National Incident Management System (NIMS) required by Department of Homeland Security

Homeland Security

WHY DEVELOP PREPAREDNESS EVALUATION TOOLS?

- Many studies describe preparedness tools
- Prior studies don't focus on
  - Public Health Preparedness Measures; *and*
  - Elements outlined as important to CDC, DHS, IOM, FEMA; *and*
  - Statewide preparedness by measuring individual counties; *and*
  - An "all hazards" approach rather than bioterrorism only

METHODS

- Development of tools to assess preparedness
- Two tools developed
  - Public Health Preparedness Plan Evaluation Tool
  - Local Health Department Preparedness Site Survey Tool
- Based on input, process, output methodology of IOM

METHODS

- Tools based on CDC, DHS Office of Domestic Preparedness, FEMA and Institute of Medicine's MMRS guidelines
- Use an "all hazards" approach as Maryland progresses to this new methodology

PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS PLAN EVALUATION TOOL

- Consists of 52 elements (inputs/processes)
- Composed of Essential Incident Command System functions
- Evaluates inter-agency planning
- Based on FEMA, IOM, and CDC recommended elements for preparedness

PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS PLAN EVALUATION TOOL

- Will be pre-tested against Office of Domestic Preparedness “model” plans
- Pilot Study will include regional plans
- Five member panel will evaluate each plan
- Inter-evaluator variability to be assessed

PLAN EVALUATION TOOL ELEMENTS

- Command
- Operations
- Planning Process
- Logistics
- Manpower/Personnel
- Finance

Public Health Preparedness Plan Evaluation Tool

COMMAND

C3) Does the plan specify a public heath representative to be present in a joint intelligence center if one is established in a large-scale incident, or area incident?

Public Health Preparedness Plan Evaluation Tool

COMMAND

1) Acknowledges need for this function

2) Specifies specific personnel or job functions to be assigned to this position if needed

3) Has some plans with other agencies involved in an incident to have an official position in the joint intelligence center

4) Has an organized set of parameters under which the JIC will likely be activated with roles and responsibilities clearly defined

Public Health Preparedness Plan Evaluation Tool

C5) Does the plan include a public health position in the planning division of the incident command system in order to develop real-time incident action plans (IAP)?

Public Health Preparedness Plan Evaluation Tool

1) Identifies need for member in this division and identifies a specific assignment of personnel to this division on the command staff

2) Includes agreements with the public safety agencies to have a position in the planning division of the command staff

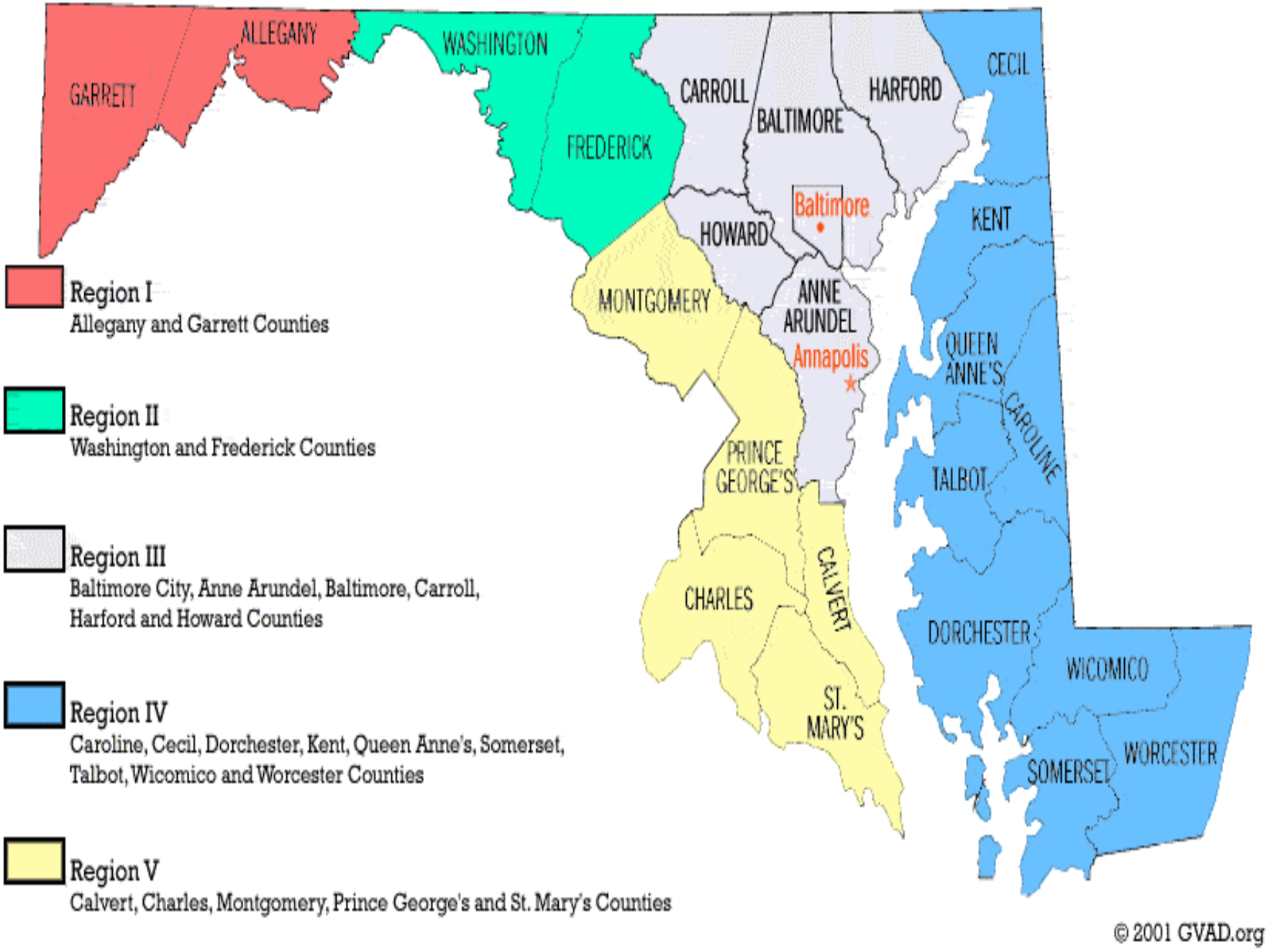
3) Includes roles and responsibilities for position on the command staff

4) All of the above plus it requires periodic testing of position within the incident command system through exercises or real world responses and includes pre-designed plans to be used as templates for ongoing planning during an incident

Public Health Preparedness Plan Evaluation Tool

PLANNING PROCESS

P2) Does the plan identify the agencies and officials who coordinated on the planning process?


GARRETT
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CECIL
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QUEEN ANNE'S
CAROLINE
PRINCE GEORGE'S
TALBOT
CALVERT
CHARLES
DORCHESTER
WICOMICO
ST. MARY'S
SOMERSET
WORCESTER
Region I
Allegany and Garrett Counties
Region II
Washington and Frederick Counties
Region III
Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford and Howard Counties
Region IV
Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester Counties
Region V
Calvert, Charles, Montgomery, Prince George's and St. Mary's Counties
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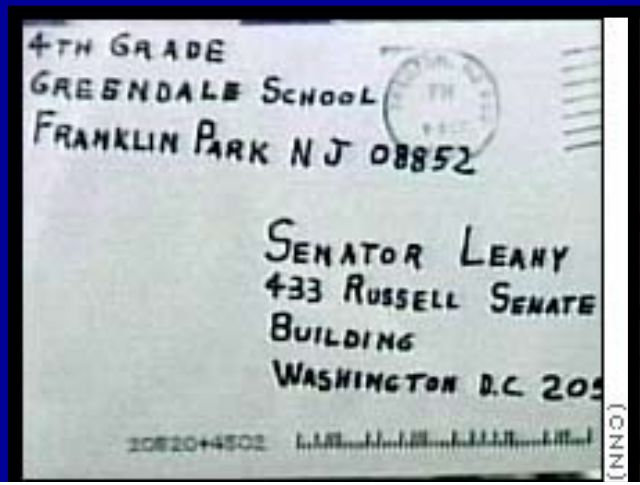
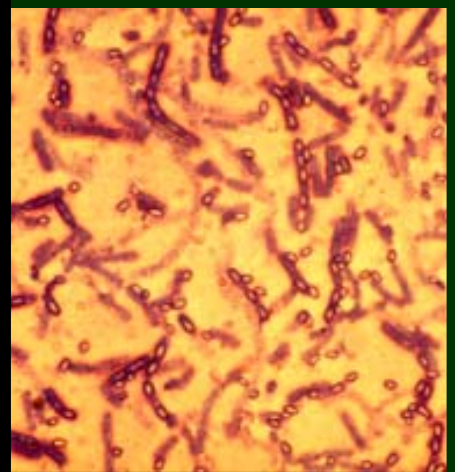
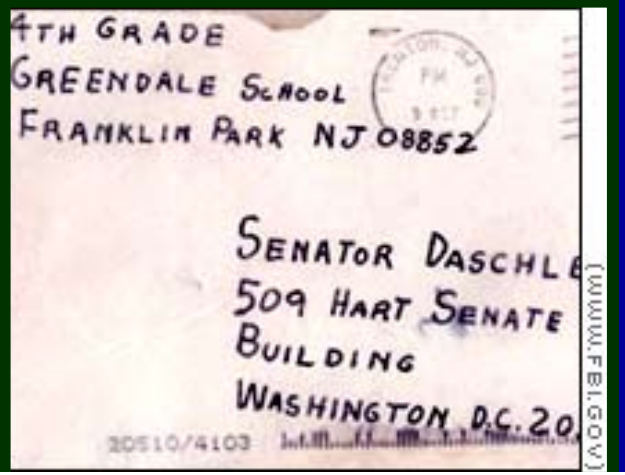
LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT PREPAREDNESS SITE SURVEY TOOL

- Consists of 64 elements (processes/outputs)
- Based on DHS Chemical Biological Radiological Nuclear Explosive (CBRNE) “task capabilities by discipline” list
  - Certain MDHMH tasks added
  - Most planning elements assessed under plan evaluation tool



(CNN)





(WWW.FBI.GOV)

LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT PREPAREDNESS SITE SURVEY TOOL

- Designed to be delivered in one-day site visit
  - Not comprehensive, depends on other tools
- To be pre-tested at 3 sites prior to full-scale use
- Utilizes a 3 point scale scoring system for each element
- Composite preparedness score for each site

SITE SURVEY TOOL ELEMENTS

- Management Oversight/Coordination
- Staffing
- Personal Protective Equipment
- Quarantine/Isolation
- Decontamination

SITE SURVEY TOOL ELEMENTS

- Healthcare Management
- Strategic Stockpile Management
- Weapons of Mass Destruction Response Systems
- Workforce Protection
- Surveillance/Forensic Epidemiology
- Public Health Communication

SITE SURVEY TOOL

Management Oversight/Coordination

1) Is there evidence that the local public health agency has an integrated response system with other jurisdictional agencies, including elements of the incident command/unified command structures?

SITE SURVEY TOOL

10) Have public health responders been trained on the roles and responsibilities of partner agencies (public safety, healthcare, government, etc.) by documentation?

SITE SURVEY TOOL

4) What percentage of personnel are trained in the Incident Command System?

SITE SURVEY TOOL

Staffing
14) What percentage of staff have received the DHMH Public Health Response Team training in 2005?
Comments: (PLEASE INCLUDE THE ACTUAL NUMBER OF STAFF TRAINED BELOW)

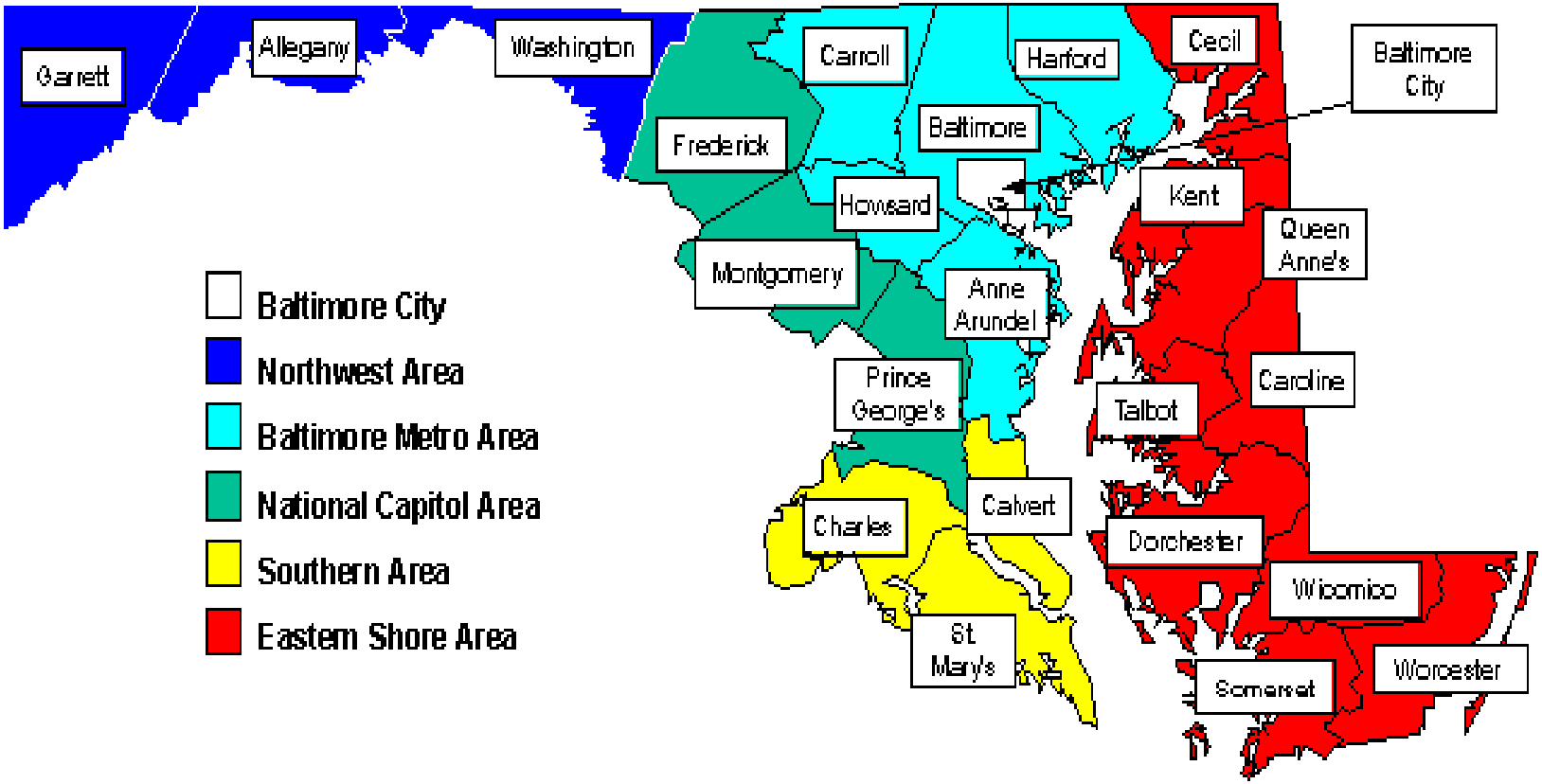
SITE SURVEY TOOL

Decontamination
29) Does the agency have personnel trained to monitor the decontamination efforts of exposed victims and workers to chemical, biologic, and radiological agents?

SITE SURVEY TOOL

8) Has a quarantine/isolation procedure been exercised within the past year?

Maryland Local Health Departments



RESULTS

- Plan evaluation
  - train evaluators
  - pre-test planned
  - evaluate regional plans for qualitative assessment
  - perform inter-rater variation analysis
  - evaluate local plans

RESULTS

- Survey Site Visit Tool
  - train evaluators
  - pre-test tool at three local health departments
  - actual site visits planned
    - teams of 2 raters (inter-rater variation analysis)
  - tool will provide overall preparedness score

DISCUSSION

CDC, FEMA, and DHS

All require measurement of preparedness at state and local levels to receive grant monies

DISCUSSION

Maryland DHMH to use three-pronged approach to fulfill requirement

- *PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS PLAN EVALUATION TOOL*
- *LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT PREPAREDNESS SITE SURVEY TOOL*
- CDC's *LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE CAPACITY INVENTORY*

DISCUSSION

PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS PLAN EVALUATION TOOL

- Strengths include:
  - multi-agency approach
  - pre-testing methodology
  - Institute of Medicine widely accepted basis
  - Scaled scoring system

DISCUSSION

PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS PLAN EVALUATION TOOL

- Weaknesses include:
  - current ability to evaluate only regional plan
  - evaluator training requirements (In ICS)
  - reliance on other tools

DISCUSSION

LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT PREPAREDNESS SITE SURVEY TOOL

- Strengths include:
  - multi-agency approach
  - pre-testing methodology
  - ODP basis for capabilities
  - quantitative preparedness score

DISCUSSION

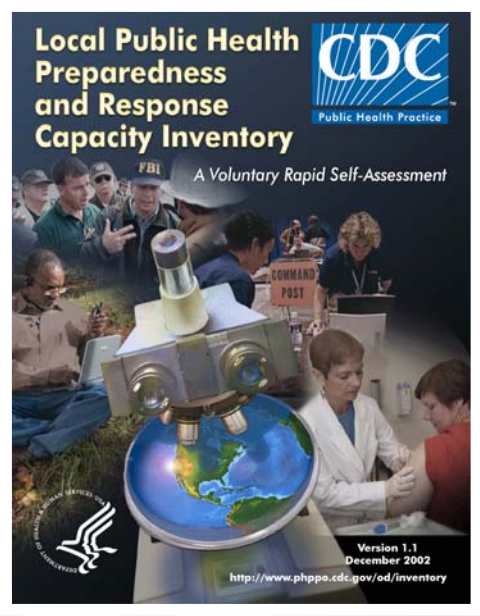
LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT PREPAREDNESS SITE SURVEY TOOL

- Weaknesses include:
  - some qualitative nature of scoring
  - reliance on other tools

DISCUSSION

CDC's *LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE CAPACITY INVENTORY*

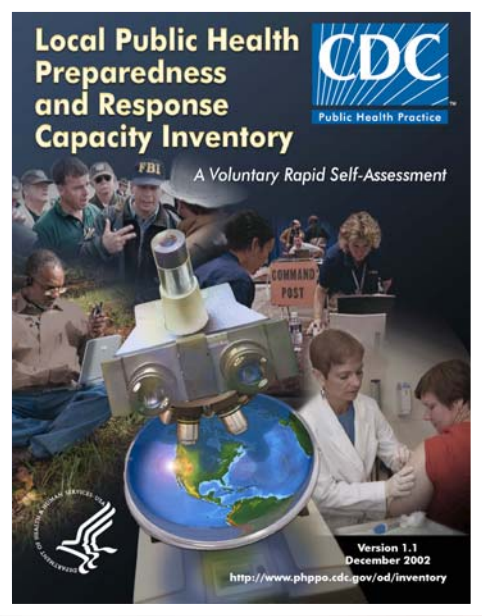
- Strengths:
  - Widely utilized to evaluate personnel and preparedness activities at local health department
  - Potentially important feedback tool

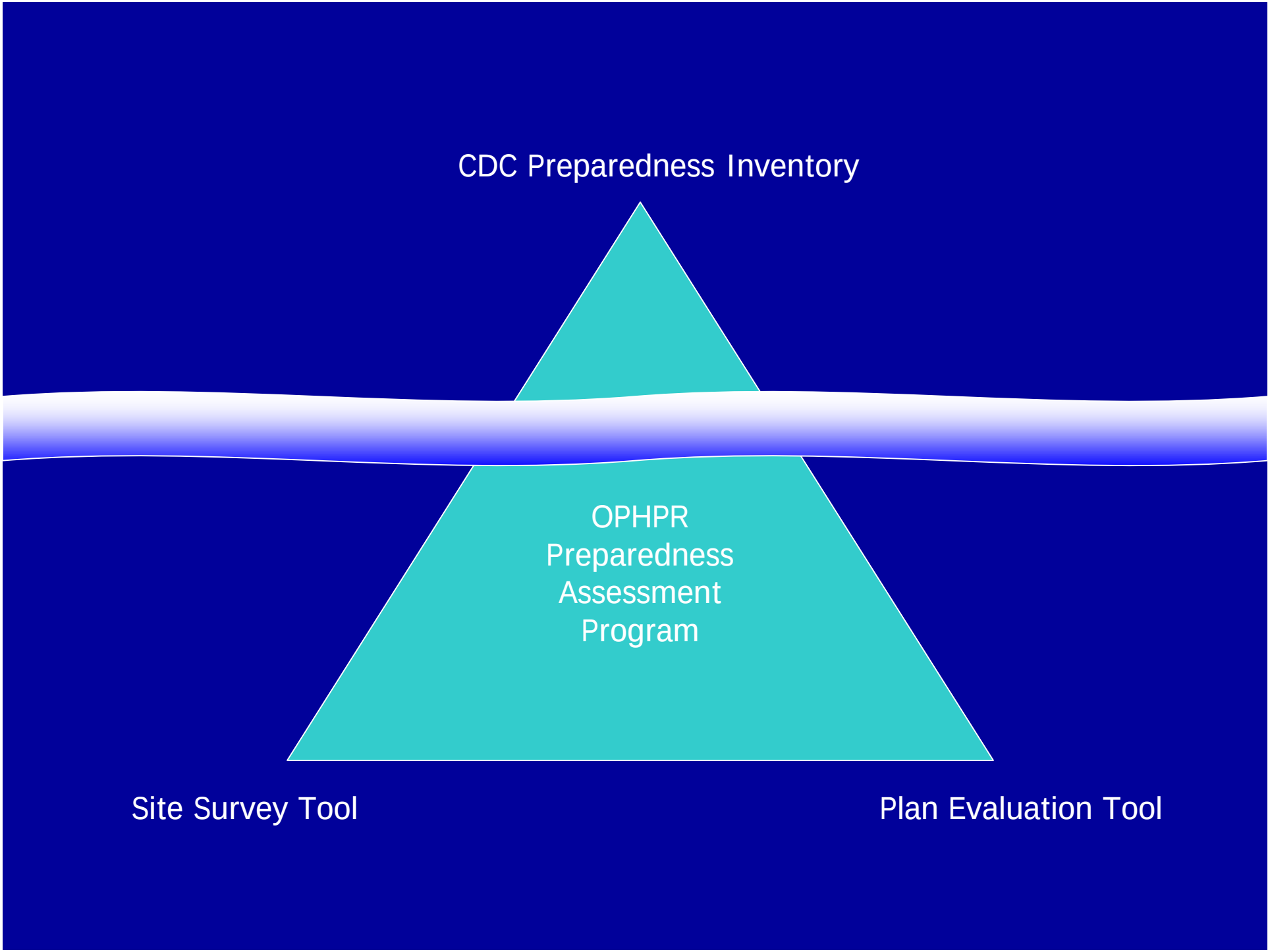


DISCUSSION

CDC's *LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE CAPACITY INVENTORY*

- Weaknesses:
  - Self-assessment only
  - No independent scoring system




CDC Preparedness Inventory
OPHPR
Preparedness
Assessment
Program
Site Survey Tool
Plan Evaluation Tool

CONCLUSIONS

- The National Response Plan, CDC, and DHS require public health preparedness
  - Public Health is traditionally “outside” other response agencies
  - It plays an increasingly important role
- Future funds will depend on measurable inputs, processes, and outputs
- MDHMH will stay at forefront through continuing research and planning activities

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