# Appendix A.5.2 Hazard Vulnerability Assessment

The Central MN Coalition has identified the following hazards as the top concerns after undertaking a review to determine if they are still prominent concerns or if there is a change in status. Each Spring at a coalition meeting the advisory committee and coalitions members review the previous HVA and look at current concerns. They also look at any trends that have occurred and assess if a change in any status is warranted. Prior to the meeting members are surveyed to determine overarching threats / issues. The coalition members represent various domains and entities from around the region and each bring their own perspectives and history regarding these threats and concerns. Once determinations are made, these findings are considered when looking at how the region proceeds in assisting, advising and or taking action on any mitigation / response strategies. Reviewed and updated on: 1/17/2024

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| **West Central Regional Healthcare Vulnerability** |
| Infectious Disease - Epidemic/Pandemic Information Systems/Technology Failure/Outage Interruption/Loss of Contracted Services (Vendors and Suppliers) Severe Weather - Summer and Winter Supply Chain Interruptions/Shortages Transportation Failures/Shortages Utility Failures Workforce Shortages Workplace Violence |
| **West Central Regional Threats to Healthcare Delivery** |
| **Impact** | **Coalition Mitigation and Response Activities for Consideration Based on Needs of Event** |
| **Infectious Disease - Epidemic/Pandemic** | An infectious disease outbreak that is epidemic or pandemic in nature, will have a direct impact on the health care delivery system in the geographic area experiencing the outbreak. Each community is at risk for similar types of infectious disease outbreaks, but the severity could vary based on vaccination rates, community mitigation actions and community-based severity vulnerability index ratings. |
| **Mitigation/Response Strategies** | Situation Awareness Information Sharing/CoordinationHospital/LTC Bed Availability Information Gathering/AwarenessScarce Resource Coordination/Allocation/DistributionJust in Time Training/EducationCoordinate Unified ResponseImplementation of and/or sharing information and supporting utilization of Crisis Standards of Care Strategies when necessaryDevelop process/identify the roles of the advisory committee and engage the advisory committee in the coalition activities |
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| **Information Systems/Technology Failure/Outage** | All health care facilities are at risk for an information systems/technology failure/outage for various reason which may include; cyber security attacks, lack of system upgrades, power loss, aging systems, etc. The impact of an information systems/technology failure/outage could be a minor inconvenience or a major disruption to health care delivery. |
| **Mitigation/Response Strategies** | Situation Awareness (MNTrac Alert or advisory)Information Sharing/CoordinationTechnical Support/Resources |
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| **Decrease/Interruption/Loss of Contracted Services/Supply Chain (Vendors and Suppliers)** | At times, a vendor or contracted service has to put a health care facility on allocation due to high demand of product/service or discontinue a product/service. These situations should be closely monitored, upon notification to the health care facility, of decrease/interruption of product/service to prevent the situation developing into a crisis. |
| **Mitigation/Response Strategies** | Situation Awareness Information Sharing/CoordinationScarce Resource Coordination/Allocation/DistributionImplementation of Crisis Standards of Care Strategies Advocate for local healthcare needs at the State and Federal level |
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| **Severe Weather - Summer and Winter** | All weather events contain potential for similar impacts. Examples include transportation being impacted, staff being personally impacted, a medical surge being possible due to higher numbers of injured people, or infrastructure being impacted by rising water or falling trees. The exact time and severity of an impact is difficult, if not impossible, to predict. Individual facilities may be able to better identify potential impact from specific weather events. Assessing these events together focuses on the coordination to provide healthcare rather than the specific impact a specific weather event may or may not generate.  |
| **Mitigation/Response Strategies** | Situation Awareness Information Sharing/CoordinationHospital/LTC Bed Availability Information Gathering/AwarenessPreparations for Evacuation for Health Care Facilities Experiencing Direct ImpactCoordination of Transportation - Activation of the MAC to work with other regional partners |
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| **Transportation Disruption** | Transportation is heavily relied on for health care delivery in many ways. A disruption to transportation will impact supply/equipment/pharmaceutical delivery or patient transport. A disruption to public transportation could impact the workforce and the ability for patients/residents to access health care.  |
| **Mitigation/Response Strategies** | Situation Awareness Information Sharing/CoordinationWork with EMS Resources and Emergency ManagersCoordination of Transportation - Activation of the MAC to work with other regional partners |
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| **Utility Failures** | Utility failures include power outages, drinking water supply disruptions, sewage system failures, etc. Utility failures can cause a variety of disruptions such as minor inconveniences to health care delivery to significant damage requiring evacuation.  |
| **Mitigation/Response Strategies** | Situation Awareness Information Sharing/CoordinationHospital/LTC Bed Availability Information Gathering/AwarenessSupport Evacuation and/or shelter in place decisions for Health Care Facilities experiencing issuesResource Coordination |
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| **Workforce Shortages** | Health care has experienced workforce shortages for many years, and the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted how vulnerable and sparce our health care workforce is.  |
| **Mitigation/Response Strategies** | Situation Awareness Information Sharing/CoordinationHospital/LTC Bed Availability Information Gathering/AwarenessScarce Resource Coordination/Allocation/DistributionCoordinate Unified Response with MN Department of HealthImplementation of and/or sharing information and supporting utilization of Crisis Standards of Care Strategies when necessary |
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| **Workplace Violence resulting in Mass Casualty Event** | Healthcare facilities continue to see a rise in verbal and physically violent situations. The severity of these events varies, but there seems to be an increase in severity as well. Even though many of these events are isolated, they could progress to a mass casualty event.  |
| **Mitigation/Response Strategies** | Situation Awareness Information Sharing/CoordinationHospital/LTC Bed Availability Information Gathering/AwarenessCoordination with EMS and Emergency Management Resources as requested |

# Record of Changes

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| Date of Revision | Change Made | Revision # | Initials |
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