Effective Use of Existing Licensed Healthcare Infrastructure During a Crisis or Catastrophe

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Division of Licensing
Arizona Department of Health Services
Existing Licensed Healthcare Infrastructure in Arizona

Community Information Resources

Ambulatory Screening & Care
- Private Offices & Clinics
- Outpatient Treatment Centers
- Outpatient Surgical Centers

Hospital Screening & Care
- Screening in the Acute Care Hospital ED Sites

Inpatient Care
## Existing Licensed Healthcare Infrastructure in Arizona

<table>
<thead>
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- **Inpatient Care**
Private Offices & Clinics

Private Offices & Clinics may provide any kind of service that does not require licensing:

- Office based surgical procedures
- Medical services (ARS-Title 36.401)
- Diagnostic services (Laboratory, Radiology, etc.)
Private Offices & Clinics

- Private providers licensed under ARS-title 32 are exempt from healthcare institution licensing as long as the individually licensed provider(s) are owners and provide patient care services within the Private Offices and Clinics.
Existing Licensed Healthcare Infrastructure in Arizona

**AMBULATORY SCREENING & CARE**

Private Offices & Clinics requiring licensing as healthcare institutions

- **ARS-title 36.402**: Private offices and clinics of healthcare providers licensed under ARS-title 32 that are:
  
  a. Free standing urgent care centers, or
  
  b. Patients are kept overnight as bed patients or treated otherwise under general anesthesia except when treatment by general anesthesia is regulated by ARS-title 32, chapter 11, or
  
  c. The office or clinic is an abortion clinic. For the purpose of this subdivision, “abortion clinic” has the same meaning prescribed in ARS-title 36-449.01
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Outpatient Treatment Centers

- **AAC-R9-10.101.39:** An “outpatient treatment center” means a healthcare institution class without inpatient beds that provides medical services for the diagnosis and treatment of patients.
Outpatient Treatment Centers

• An **outpatient treatment center** generally is a small private or public health facility that is devoted to the care of outpatients in a community setting.

• **Services provided at outpatient treatment center may include:**
  • Primary Care
  • Wellness and prevention
  • Diagnostics (laboratory, radiology, etc.)
  • Treatment
  • Minor surgeries
Existing Licensed Healthcare Infrastructure in Arizona

AMBULATORY SCREENING & CARE

Outpatient Treatment Centers

- Urgent Care Centers
- Dialysis Centers
- Primary Care Centers
- Imaging Centers
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Outpatient Surgical Centers

- **AAC-R9-10.101.38**: An “outpatient surgical center” means a type of healthcare institution with facilities and limited hospital services for diagnosis or treatment of patients by surgery whose recovery, in concurring opinions of surgeon and the anesthesiologist, does not require inpatient care in a hospital.
Outpatient Surgical Centers

- An **Outpatient Surgical Center** generally is a free standing healthcare facility that is devoted to outpatient surgical care on an elective basis.

- **Services provided at outpatient surgical center may include:**
  - General anesthesia
  - Conscious sedation
  - Pain management
Existing Licensed Healthcare Infrastructure in Arizona

AMBULATORY SCREENING & CARE

Outpatient Surgical Centers

- Endoscopy
- Ophthalmology
- Orthopedic
- Pain Centers
- Multi Specialty Surgical Centers
Existing Licensed Healthcare Infrastructure in Arizona

ROLE OF AMBULATORY SCREENING & CARE DURING A CATASTROPHE

• During a catastrophe and/or public health emergency, an Ambulatory Screening and Care Center can:
  • Provide effective outpatient management which may reduce the demand for inpatient care
  • Relieve pressure from hospitals so they can focus on more acute patients requiring inpatient care.
  • Function as a receiving entity for patients who do not require intensive services of an acute care hospital.

• During a catastrophe and/or public health emergency, an Ambulatory Screening and Care center can facilitate:
  • Rapid distribution of necessary medications & vaccines
  • Dissemination of educational information
  • Help manage non acute patients in the community who are seeking care

Leadership for a Healthy Arizona

Arizona Department of Health Services
Existing Licensed Healthcare Infrastructure in Arizona

During Crisis or Catastrophe Licensing Allows Ambulatory Screening & Care to:

- Expand hours of operation with a notification to the Arizona Department of Health Services-Division of Licensing Services (ADHS-DLS)
- Expand services if have resources available
- Develop operational relationships among other outpatient facilities
Screening in the Acute Care Hospital ED Sites

During public health emergency and catastrophe:

- Acute care hospital ED sites can be a triage point to provide medical screening examination (MSE)
- Screening sites may be located near (but separated) from hospitals’ primary EDs, either on or off hospital campus
- Patients can be directed to *Ambulatory Screening & Care* sites after MSE for continued care not requiring inpatient services.
Screening in the Acute Care Hospital ED Sites (Contd.)

- Critically ill patients can then be admitted or transferred to general or special hospitals
- Stabilized patients may be discharged from the screening facility to:
  - Home, or
  - Transferred to other healthcare facilities, such as:
    - Assisted Living
    - Nursing Home
    - Home Health Agency
    - Hospice
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on PROVISION OF CARE IN TEMPORARY AREAS

• **Question:** Can hospitals set up triage tents outside of the hospital's emergency department in an overcapacity situation to provide emergency department triage and medical screening examination services?

• **Answer:** If all other options, including contacting the respective county and utilizing other community resources, have been exhausted; the hospital may expand its emergency department beyond licensed space.

• The hospital must ensure that hospital personnel provide a medical screening/assessment to each patient that presents and that all appropriate resources are available to meet patient needs and protect patient rights.
• **Question:** Can a facility set up a temporary emergency incident clinic off of the hospital’s premises?

• **Answer:** When a health care institution is providing off-site services on a temporary basis, a separate health care institution license is not required.

• ADHS encourages health care institutions to work with their respective county to coordinate these “alternative care centers” under the county plan.
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Important websites related to healthcare licensing related information & FAQs

- Arizona Department of Health Services-Division of Licensing Services (ADHS-DLS)
  
  http://www.azdhs.gov/als/medical/

- Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)
  
  http://www.cms.gov/
Questions?