Stemming the Tide of Disease: The Naval War College Humanitarian Response Program and its Support for COVID-19 Response

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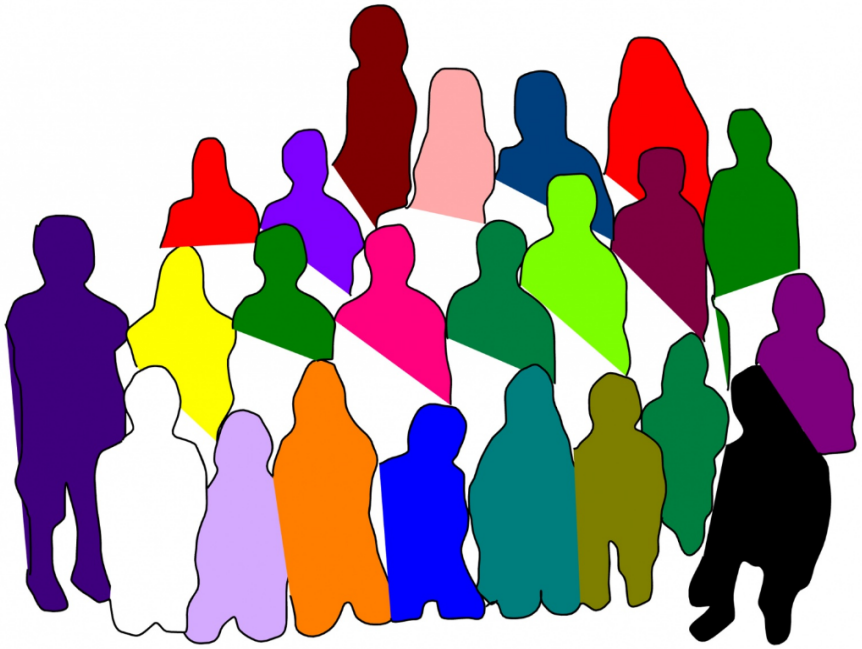
NCDMPH

Uniformed Services University

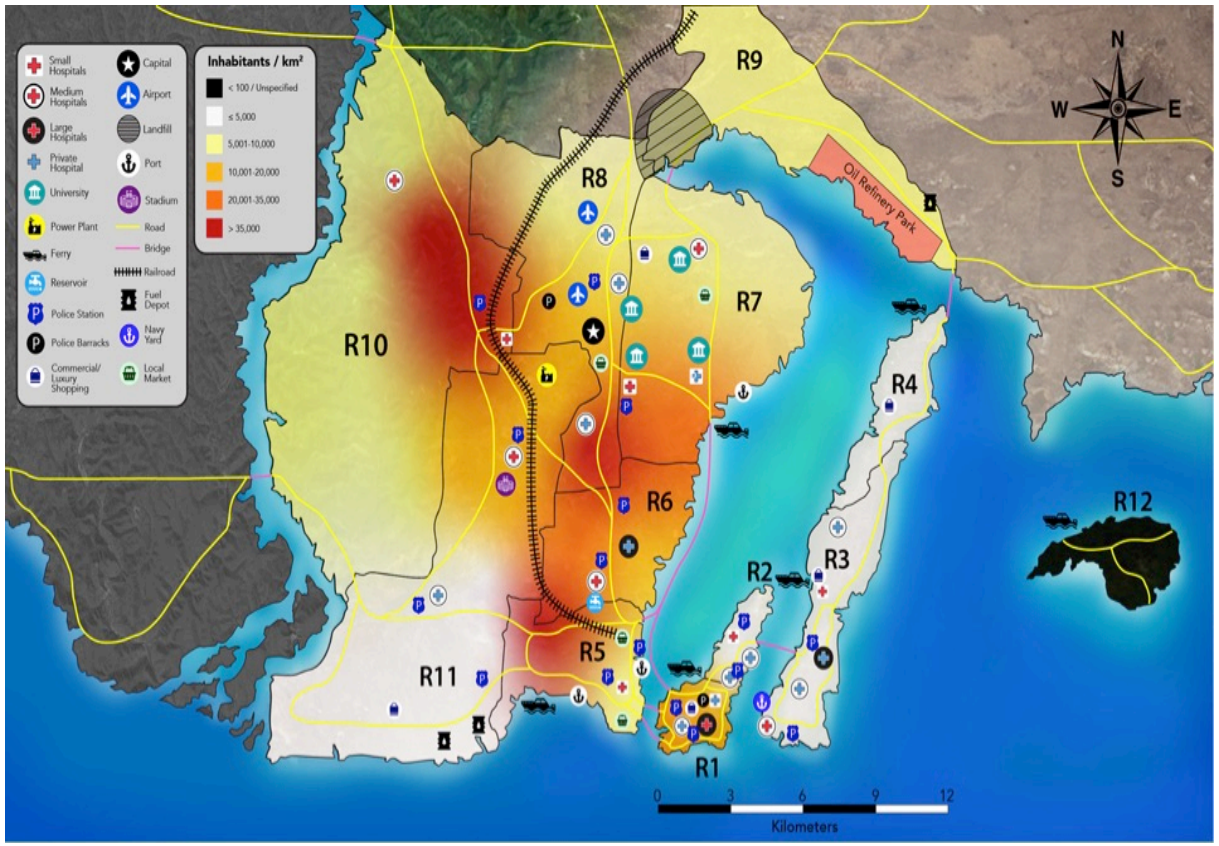
- Unclassified Event
- September 17–19, 2019
- Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Lab (Maryland)



- 50 participants
- Public Health, Emergency Medicine, Supply & Logistics, Healthcare Sector
- Government Representatives (including U.S. & International Militaries)
- Non-Governmental/International Organizations

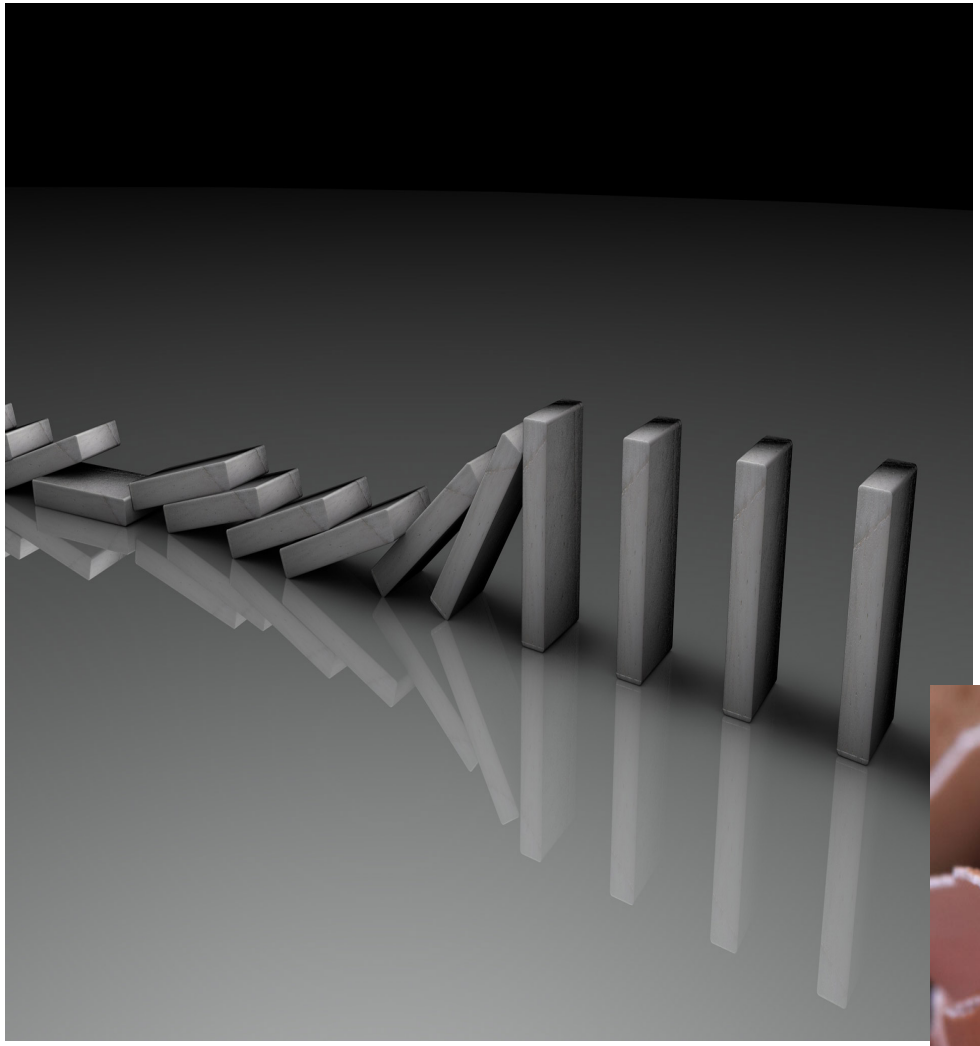
- 5 Dynamic Player Cells
- 3 Game “Moves” over Two Days
- Focused on Priorities & Response Activities of Essential Stakeholders
- Cross-Coordination Challenges while Achieving Objectives

- Fictional Mega-City
- Coastal, Complex Urban Environment
- Notional Pneumonic Plague (Rapidly-Spreading, but Treatable)



- **Move 1 – Outbreak/Initial Response**
- **Move 2 – Outbreak Apex/ Cascading Failures**
- **Move 3 – Outbreak Decline/ Anticipating Military Transition**

- Social Behaviors Matter Immensely



- Every Failure in a System Impacts Every Other System

- Private Sector Organizations are Essential, Nimble, & must be Integrated into Planning throughout *all* Response Phases

- NGOs/IOs focus on Response to Population Health Needs & assume a High Level of Risk (Direct Engagement)

- Military Forces Prioritize Protection of the Force Above Community Public Health Response

- Specialization and Siloed Expertise invite Failure, because Response Actions Consistently Cross Multiple Disciplines
- Large, Bureaucratic Organizations Resist Change, & Require Senior-Level Guidance to Adapt or Modify approaches to Problem Solving

Urban Outbreak 2019 Resources

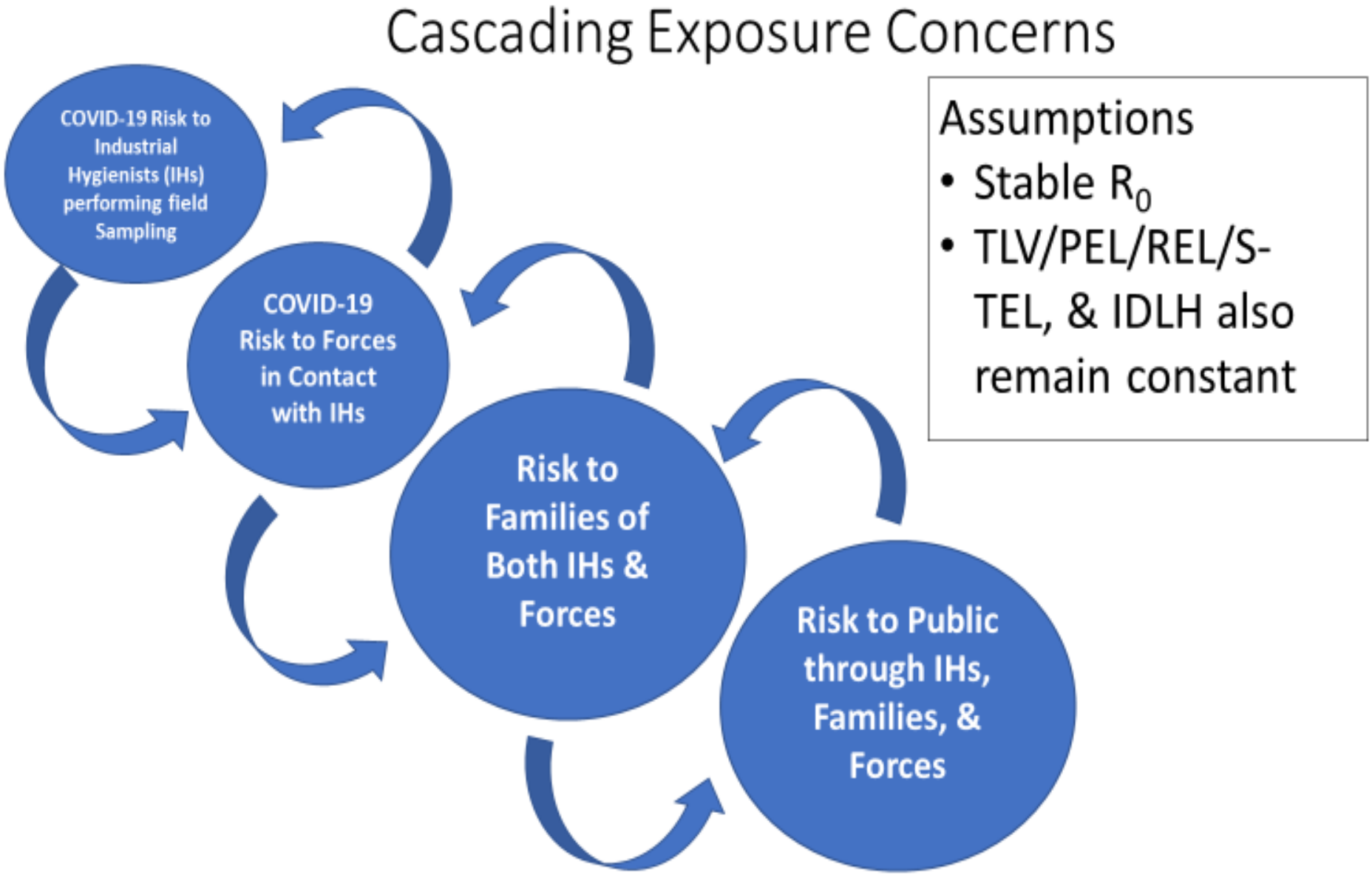
- Pre-Analytic "Quick Look":

https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1000&context=civmilresponse-program-sims-uo-2019

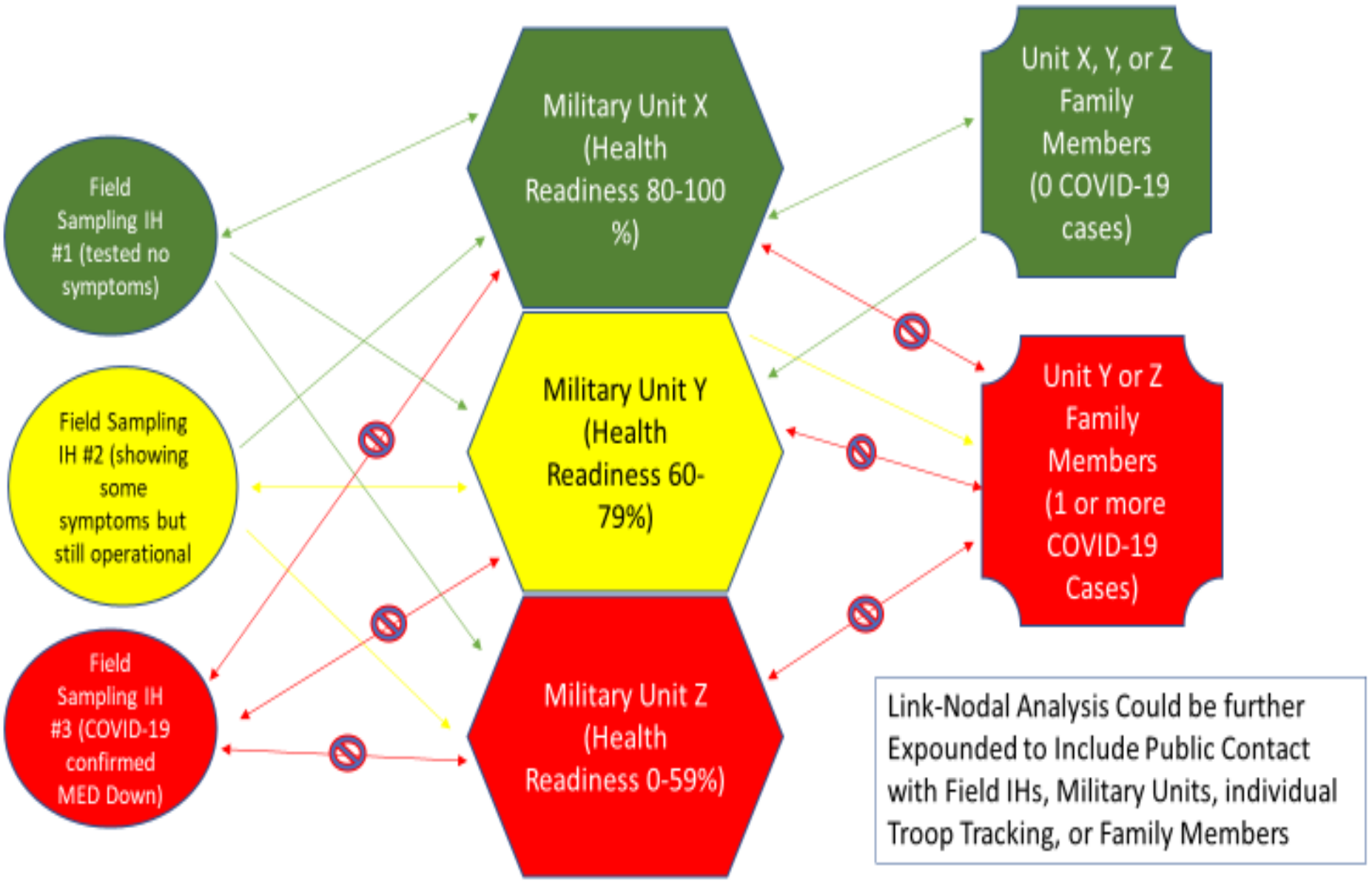
- Post-Game Findings:

https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1001&context=civmilresponse-program-sims-uo-2019

Technical Assistance & Modeling



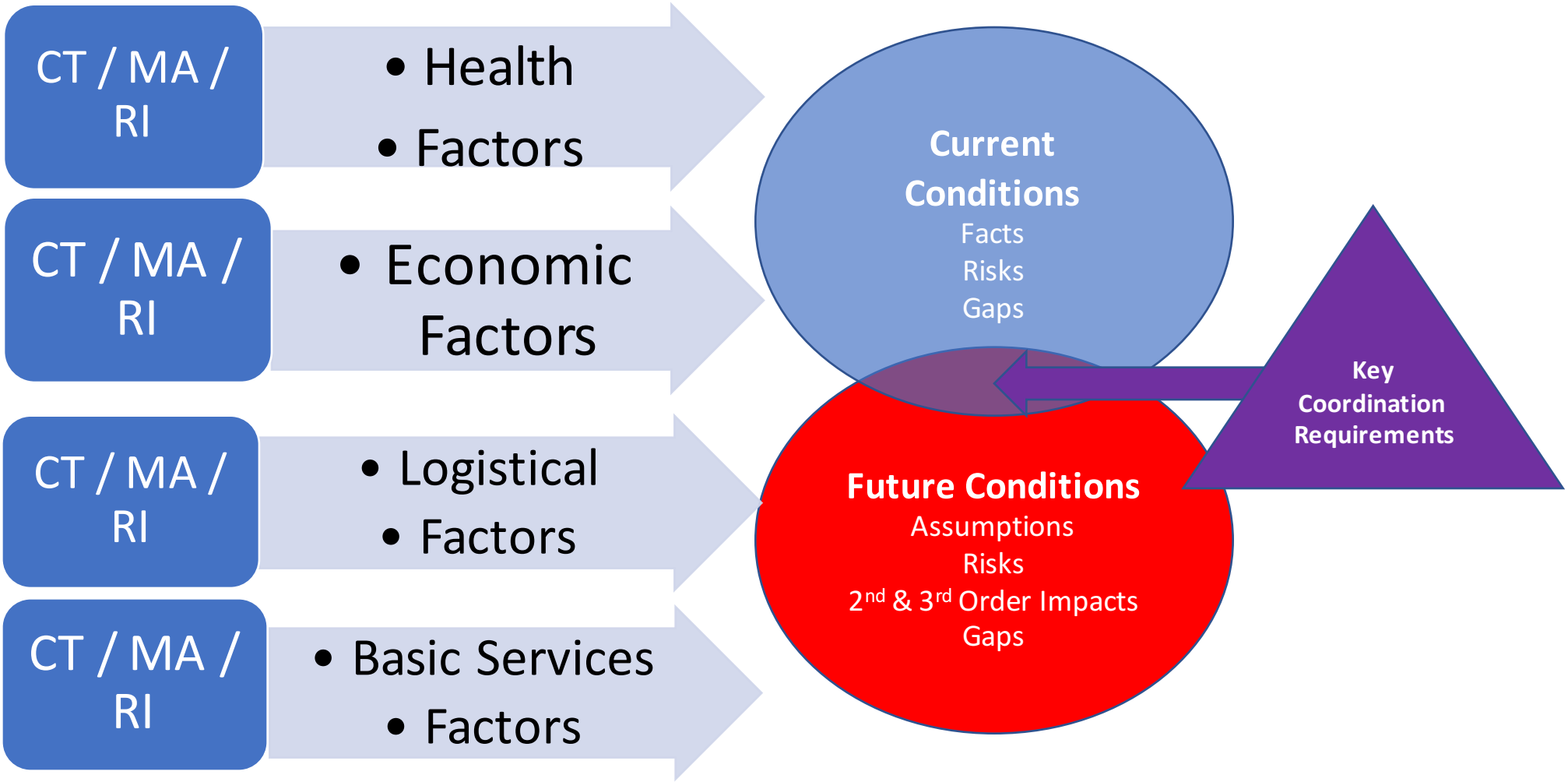
Notional Link-Node Construct



Notional Dashboard Based on Link-Nodal Chart

Field Industrial Hygienist	Unit Name	Unit Family Status	Public Contact
A	X-Ray	No Family Members w/symptoms or Confirmed COVID-19 Results	No Known Exposure
B	Yankee	Family members symptomatic no confirmed COVID-19 Results	Exposure in 1 or more venues
C	Zulu	Confirmed COV-19 Results	Multiple Exposures
Overall Force Assessment: Degraded, Limited Operationally			

Notional Multi-State Discussion Framework



Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Response (HA/DR): COVID-19 Response Resources

This LibGuide is a resource for identifying databases, books, articles, and primary source documents relating to humanitarian assistance and disaster response, including resources for civil-military coordination in humanitarian emergencies

COVID-19 Resources

- UNOCHA Global Humanitarian Response Plan COVID-19
- Sphere Standards and the Coronavirus Response
- Sphere: Applying humanitarian standards to fight COVID-19

- ASPR COVID-19 Resources
- CDC COVID-19 Resources
- DOD COVID-19 Resources
- ICRC COVID-19 Resources
- JHU COVID-19 Global Case Map
- NIH COVID-19 Resources
- ReliefWeb COVID-19 Resources
- UNICEF COVID-19 Resources
- UNOCHA ReliefWeb COVID-19 Resources
- WHO COVID-19 Resources
- WFP COVID-19 Resources
- COVID-19: A Frontline Guide for Local Decision-Makers
- Asia-Pacific Civ-Mil COVID Dashboard