

Fatality Management and Associated Resources

The ODH Director Amy Acton M.D., has indicated that Ohio's pandemic curve demonstrating the prevalence of COVID-19 illness is plateauing and Ohio is not currently expecting any mortality surge. However, in an effort to maintain a preparedness posture, ODH and the Ohio EMA have agreed to mobilize semi-trailers and mobile cooling units in select counties of Ohio. In addition to the expansion of local capacities of these resources, ODH and Ohio EMA have planned three (3) surge sites that will serve as a storing facility for surge decedents. Please note, should these strategies be undertaken to address fatality management in Ohio, no unembalmed decedents will be accepted at these facilities.

ODH and Ohio EMA recommend local jurisdictions continue ongoing mass fatality planning and continue procurement of associated fatality management materials for their respective response planning to include body bags and refrigerated trailers. The state of Ohio currently maintains a state contract with the following vendors for the purchase of body bags:

1. Cardinal Health <https://shop.cardinalhealth.ca/>
2. McKesson <https://mms.mckesson.com/>

For counties procuring their own refrigerated trailers, ODH and Ohio EMA recommend trailers that possess surfaces that are easier to decontaminate after use such as trailers with aluminum flooring.

In anticipation for questions related to mass fatality planning and the presence of refrigerated trailers and mobile cooling units in the community, ODH has prepared the accompanying talking points for local stakeholders entitle "*Mobile Cooling Unit Rollout - Talking Points*".