

## 7.2.1 Emergency Preparedness Vulnerability Assessment

Before performing any manual mitigation or designing an emergency preparedness plan (EPP), healthcare facilities should assess their functional, physical-nonstructural, and structural vulnerabilities in the event of a disaster. By knowing the answers to the questions posed below, a facility can create the right EPP for itself based on its geographic location, building structure, etc. This questionnaire covers a wide array of possible vulnerabilities, some of which may not be applicable to all facilities at all times, especially given that most disaster codes are called for disasters of limited extent and duration (e.g., traffic accidents).

Appropriate personnel should participate in the evaluation of aspects of the facility about which they are most knowledgeable (e.g., pharmacists should evaluate pharmaceutical supplies). In some instances, the assistance of a qualified plumber, electrician, licensed structural engineer, etc., will also be necessary.

The following areas are covered:

### Functional Vulnerability

- Electricity page 2
- Water supplies page 4
- Refuse collection page 5
- Sewage system page 6
- Gas systems page 6
- Communications page 7
- Supplies/equipment page 8
- Space page 10
- Staff and medical page 12
- Patient care issues page 14
- Facility characteristics page 14
- Disaster kits/sheds/trailers page 15

### Physical-Nonstructural Vulnerability

- Installations page 16
- Piping installations page 16
- Building structure page 17

