2019 Hurricane Season Preparedness

Welcome!

John Wilgis
Vice President, Member and Corporate Services
Florida Hospital Association
Objectives

• Understand the role FHA serves in representing Florida’s hospital community to public and private organizations and local, state and federal governmental agencies.
• Review FHA’s core incident management structure.
Objectives

• Review and discuss the main lessons learned from the 2016, 2017 and 2018 hurricane seasons.
• Discuss the predictions and early outlook for tropical weather for the 2019 eastern Atlantic hurricane season.
Objectives

- Discuss FHA’s role as a support organization to State Emergency Support Function – 8 (Public Health and Medical Services).

Polling Question
Florida Hospital Association

Founded in 1927, the Florida Hospital Association (FHA) is the voice of Florida’s hospital community.

Through representation and advocacy, education and informational service, we support the mission of our members to provide the highest quality of care to the patients we serve.

315 hospitals (217 acute care hospitals with emergency departments) statewide including large health systems and small community hospitals
FHA Role in Response

• Support agency to the State Emergency Response Team through ESF8
  – Coordinate hospital response activities
  – Communicate important information
  – Advocate for issues impacting hospitals
FHA Emergency Contacts

• Call 850-205-1101 – 24/7/365

• Email – disaster@fha.org

Lessons Learned

2016, 2017 and 2018
Historical Perspective

• Prior to 2016, 11 year hiatus in significant tropical weather
• Matthew and Hermine (2016), Harvey, Irma and Maria (2017), and Michael (2018)
• Other events
  – Cyber attacks, Pulse and Stoneman Douglas shootings, Zika, MERS case, Haiti earthquake, H1N1 pandemic, Ebola…

In General Terms…

• Successes –
  – Response leadership
  – Resource support
  – Life Safety
  – Community support
  – Patient Movement

• Needs improvement –
  – Catastrophic incident planning / response
  – Community health and medical sustainment
  – At-risk population support
  – Recovery support
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Hospitals

- Hospital performed exceptionally well, given the widespread impacts.

- Many hospitals have evacuated – some more than once… some for the first time

- There were no unmet needs for hospitals that were not addressed.
Hospitals

• There is a need for housing / sheltering for staff and family members of essential personnel – both short and long term.

• Hospitals who lost utility provision (e.g., water, sewage or power) did not have those utilities restored in a uniform manner.

Resource Allocation

• Placard program for essential medical resource transportation assets allowing access into evacuated / impacted areas.

• Establish multiple vendor relationships for critical supply needs (e.g., oxygen, generators, fuel, etc.) and consider vendor managed inventories.
Medical Surge

- Medical surge was a significant before, during and after storms.
- Poor community preparedness complicated the problems.
- Discharge planning and coordination needed at all levels.

Non-Acute Providers

- Struggled in many areas for many reasons (e.g., ineffective planning; command, control and coordination; resource support; etc.).
- System redundancy and resiliency was an issue (e.g. power; climate control).
Patient Movement

• Primarily, hospitals transferred patients within their own systems.

• “Blanket” CMS 1135 waivers should be requested through a Governor’s executive order.

Patient Movement

• Not enough transportation assets; federal ambulance strike teams very helpful.

• Consistency with re-entry, re-opening procedures for licensed, residential providers.
Health Care Coalitions (HCCs)

- HCCs should define their support role, share it with local and regional health and medical providers and State ESF-8 and implement their plans.

Special Needs Shelters

- Improve the existing sheltering system to ensure resources are adequate to meet the needs of all individuals seeking safe harbor within a local, shelter environment.
Recovery Operations

- There is no single, easy to use, reference document or guidelines for licensed health care facilities instructing them on the recovery process.

- The Division of Emergency Management provided information about the recovery process with hospitals and other licensed health facilities.

Polling Question
2019 Hurricane Season

What to Expect?

Preparedness Points

May 11 - Complete a Written Plan

- Writing down your plan will help you stay organized
- When faced with an emergency, ensure everyone in your home is prepared for the next storm

COMPLETE A WRITTEN PLAN

- Make a plan
- Prepare a plan
- Update the plan
- Share the plan

Keep your plan written and accessible from your safe location.
MAY 5 - Determine Your Risk

Hurricanes bring many hazards to U.S. coastlines and island areas, including storm surge along the coastal areas, flooding due to heavy rainfall, strong winds, rip currents, and large waves.

DETERMINE YOUR RISK.

MAY 6 - Develop an Evacuation Plan

Find out if you live in an evacuation zone. Plan where you’ll go and how you’ll get there. Make sure you have a plan to evacuate and be sure to plan for your pets.

DEVELOP AN EVACUATION PLAN.
Preparedness Points

MAY 7 - Assemble Disaster Supplies
Get your supplies before hurricane season begins. Have enough food and water for each person for about three days. Be sure to fill your prescriptions and have medical supplies, medicines, batteries and phone chargers on all ready. Gas up your vehicle and keep cash on hand.

Preparedness Points

MAY 8 - Get an Insurance Checkup
Check in with your insurance agent well before hurricane season. Remember that flood insurance must be received separately. Prepare your home and vehicles according to your policy, and know where your insurance documents are located. Take them with you if you evacuate. Visit FloodSmartGuru for more information.

Preparedness Points
Preparedness Points

MAY 9 - Strengthen Your Home
There is a lot you can do around your home to help protect it from the strong winds that come with hurricanes. Well ahead of the approaching storm, take these on your property, which are expected to occur. Secure outdoor items, secure all doors on your property and find a safe location for your vehicle.

2019 Storm Names

- Andrea
- Barry
- Chantal
- Dorian
- Erin
- Fernand
- Gabrielle
- Humberto
- Imelda
- Jerry
- Karen
- Lorenzo
- Melissa
- Nestor
- Olga
- Pablo
- Rebekah
- Sebastien
- Tanya
- Van
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NOAA 2019 Predictions

2019 Atlantic Hurricane Season Outlook

- Named storms: 9-15
- Hurricanes: 4-8
- Major hurricanes: 2-4

Be prepared. Visit hurricanes.gov and follow @NOAA and @NHC_Atlantic on Twitter.
2019 Predictions

- 13 named storms
- 5 hurricanes
- 2 major hurricanes
- 50 named storm days
- 16 hurricane days
- 4 major hurricane days

Probabilities of Landfall

- Entire U.S. coastline – 48% (Avg. 52%)
- East coast including Florida – 28% (Avg. 31%)
- Gulf coast from Florida panhandle to Brownsville, TX – 28% (Avg. 30%)
- At least 1 major hurricane tracking into the Caribbean – 39% (Avg. 42%)
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It Only Takes One…
Polling Question

Our Work Today…
Support Organization

- Serve as a support organization to the State Emergency Response Team, Emergency Support Function – 8, Public Health and Medical Services (ESF-8).
  - Coordinate hospital response activities ensuring hospitals’ needs are met.
  - Communicate essential information to hospitals and health systems.
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• Coordinate hospital response activities ensuring hospitals’ needs are met.
• Communicate essential information to/from hospitals and health systems.

Support Organization

• Identify the status of hospitals (i.e., evacuation, bed availability, major structural damage impeding the delivery of care and/or services or forcing an evacuation, etc.).
  • Facilitate conference calls with hospitals as needed.
  • Assist hospitals with reimbursement information and knowledge of processes for accessing available relief funds.
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Questions?

Upcoming FHA Education

June 18 | 12-1 p.m. EDT
An Overview of AHCA's Emergency Status System (ESS)

- Details and registration available at:
  https://cc.readytalk.com/r/17ve5g3p53wx&eom
Webinar Evaluation

• We would appreciate your feedback!!

• Web participants can stay logged in as the webinar closes to be redirected to the online survey (the link will also be provided in a follow-up email).

FHA Emergency Contacts Update

• FHA requests updates to hospital emergency contacts semi-annually.
• Communicated through CEO and the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.
• Complete for June 1, 2019.
FHA Emergency Contacts

• Call 850-205-1101 – 24/7/365

• Email – disaster@fha.org

Thank you!