

Sample Scenarios for Emergency Drills

- 1. At the beginning of the day, the radio/TV at the center alerts the staff that a snowstorm has begun in the county. Heavy snowfall has begun, and blizzard-type conditions can be expected. The warning came at a time when the center was treating a full shift of patients. The center has not had interruption of water or power. Family member are very anxious about staying and having to drive in this weather. Road are not being cleared and it is getting worst as the day go on. The transportation companies have pulled their vehicles and you still have several patients that need rides home. As you are near the end of the day, the power goes out on your half of the city.
- 2. The center is informed by the city water company that there was a water line break causing water loss for the entire city. Repairs are now underway, but it is not expected that the water will return until sometime tomorrow. This is then followed by a Boil Water order for the area for the following 48 hours. Your manager left for a vacation and your ROD is at a national business meeting, with limited access to e-mail or phone.
- 3. While running a full shift of patients, the power at the facility failed. Assume that the center either does not have a generator in place or the generator failed to turn on and cover the power outage. The Access Coordinator just spoke with the power company, and a transformer has been disabled. Power is not expected to resume for several hours. Two hours after initial power outage, the Access Coordinator learns that power will not be restored for at least 24 hours due to mechanical problems with a main transformer.
- 4. During the day, the radio/TV alerts the staff that a tornado has been spotted and the sirens were activated in your neighborhood. The warning came at a time when the center was full of patients. The center has had interruption of power, and all the cell towers were destroyed in the area, and you realized you forgot to plug in your cell phone last night. One of the RN's had called in sick that morning with the flu, so the center is now short staffed. While waiting in the protected area, you hear the storm arrive and leave with audible sounds of glass breaking. The radio reports that the tornado warning has passed. You receive notification that repairs are needed. How do you secure the building before leaving for the day? How do you communicate with patients and teammates?
- 5. Your facility receives an alert that the rising river waters in spring may cause flooding to your region. Your center is distant from the river, and you were informed earlier that the risk to your facility was not at all likely. While the city is taking measures, it may not be in time to protect the center. Flooding is expected within two weeks. The Center Manager is updated that flooding is likely for the center. Flood waters to arrive in about 5 days. On the 3rd day the facility is informed that their building is being evacuated at 12 Noon today due to arriving flood waters this evening. What is the plan?



- 6. As a result of a severe thunderstorm that passed over the community. Lightning struck the east side of the building, instantly producing flames. The fire began at a time when the center is full of patients, in recovery, Prep, procedure room and along with family & patients in the lobby. Within 5 minutes, emergency services arrives to address the situation. Two hours after the emergency, the fire has been put out, and damage to the facility is assessed. You are informed that the facility has been too severely damaged to continue medical services. Time until anticipated reopening is one week. What is the plan?
- 7. Throughout the day, several strong thunderstorms have ripped through the county causing flooding in low lying areas and minor power outages due to high winds. Heavy rain, severe lighting and small to golf ball sized hail were reported. There is now downed power lines and debris have led the County Sherriff to close roads. One of the roads that were closed is to your center because of a large tree that knocked a power line down and is still active. It will take several hours before the electrical crew will get to that power line.
- 8. At 0900, the fire alarms were activated because the bio med technician who was working on a piece of equipment when a fire ignited and caused a minor explosion. The technician suffers burns across 40% of his body and is having an issue breathing. One teammate within the vicinity of the fire have suffered minor injuries. The first responders are on the scene and have extinguished the fire. There is still lot of smoke in the center. The local newspaper followed the first responders and are now on scene.
- 9. The weather is unseasonably warm and humid. Temperatures are hovering around 87 degrees and 90% humidity. Without warning, power to the building is interrupted. Initial news reports indicated a large truck crashed into the city's main power plant, crippling several transponders, causing a broad power failure across a 45 mile area. The emergency generator tries to start up, but without success. Several attempts are made, but the generators will not turn on. The building is without power. Daylight provides enough light for patient rooms; however, the sun will begin to set within the next two hours. The building temperature begins to rise and patients, teammates and visitors are complaining of the heat. You are experiencing mechanical difficulties due to equipment overheating. THE HVAC system is not working and there is no air-conditioning.
- 10. There was a magnitude of 5.4 earthquake it lasted for 2 minutes. All phones (landlines and cellular) are jammed. Electricity is out in your region Teammates are concerned about their families and are attempting to contact schools/homes, but cannot get through. Ceiling tiles, fixtures and other building materials have fallen or come loose throughout the center. The Department of Transportation is strongly recommending citizens to not drive due to unsafe roadways. Who are key partners you want to communicate your status and changes in operation to and how?



- 11. Weather forecasters are predicting a major change in the atmosphere that could see a sharp increase in the severity of hurricanes in the next few weeks. The very next week you begin following a tropical storm with the projected path on hitting landfall by your center. On Friday, the tropical storm becomes a hurricane just as it hits landfall. High winds and water have down power lines and a couple cell phone towers. Teammates and patients don't want to leave center. What is the plan?
- 12. The center is full of patients in recovery and one in the procedure room. You hear a loud noise in the waiting room, then it registers that it was a gun shot when a teammate runs past you yelling "He has got a gun". Teammates feel fear and anxiety and even initial disbelief. You initiate the RUN-HIDE-FIGHT procedures. Where do you go? Who do you take with you?
- 13. A son is upset because the procedure was unsuccessful on his mother and is coming to term that his mother may die. Teammates try and de-escalate the man but he is getting more aggressive. The Center Manager tries and reasons with the son. The son takes a swing at the Center Manager and hits her in the jaw. What do you do? What do you with other patients? Then after he hits the Center Manager he produces a knife from his pocket. You initiate the RUN-HIDE-FIGHT procedures. Where do you go? Who do you take with you?
- 14. A report comes in that chemical release from a storage facility near you and it is going to require the evacuation of several hundred of people. Law enforcement shows up in your waiting room and tell you the center is in line with hazardous chemical plume and you will need to evacuate immediately. You have a patient in the procedure room and the procedure is underway. What is the plan?
- 15. You get a call from the police stating there is a man who is armed and dangerous in your neighborhood. The police are in the process of looking for him but want you to go into "lockdown" and report anything suspicious. People are coming in to seek shelter while the hunt continues and police is telling them to get off the streets. What do you do? How do you get ahold of the patient that is due to arrive in 10 minutes?