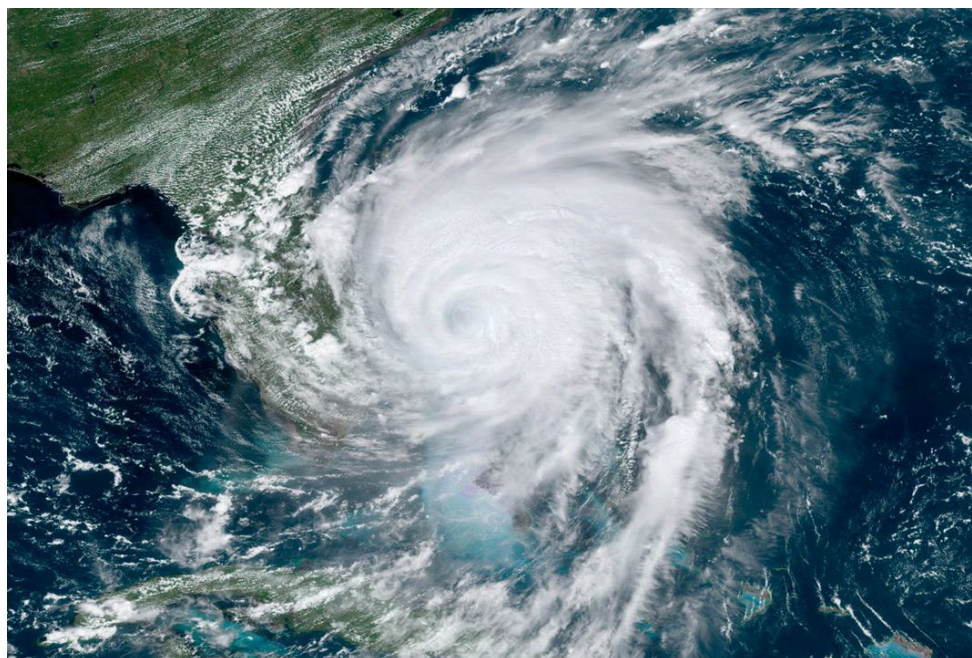


MARO MONTHLY

with Northwell Health's Crisis Management Team

ISSUE NO 1 | May - 2023 | Volume 6



HELLO!

Welcome to another month of Northwell Health Crisis Management Team's newsletter, where you can share, learn about, and explore emergency management topics! Each month we will highlight different topics in emergency preparedness and emergency management, as well as healthcare administration. We encourage you to review our upcoming course offerings and other relevant information!

As always, we look forward to sharing our resources, hearing your suggestions, and getting to know you at our trainings.

The May 2023 newsletter will be centered around *hurricane preparedness and response!*

OUR MISSION

To lead the health system and community in an efficient and effective way before, during, and after emergency situations.

OUR VISION

Northwell's Crisis Management Incident Response Team is committed to providing the surrounding community with a high-quality learning environment, training resources, and promoting an environment of collaboration with our training partners.



"Training proves to be the key ingredient to handling any disaster."

– Walter Maddox



Scan Here to Register for our courses!



Hurricanes: A Powerful and Destructive Force of Nature



As hurricane season approaches it is important to be prepared and equipped with information to best protect not only a hospital system but your personal safety! According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, hurricanes pose the greatest threat to life and property. In recent years, the United States has been affected by hurricanes that have cost significant damages to communities through the loss of life and property. Among the most notable events include Hurricane Katrina (2005), Hurricane Sandy (2012), and Hurricane Ida (2021). With the potential for such destruction, it begs the question, what is a hurricane?

Hurricanes are a type of storm commonly known as a tropical cyclone, which forms over tropical or subtropical waters. Tropical cyclones present as rotating low pressure weather systems that can reach a maximum sustained wind threshold of 74mph. Upon hitting the maximum threshold, the tropical cyclone is referred to as a hurricane. The Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale is used to determine the category of the storm. This scale utilizes a rating system of 1 to 5 with 5 being the worst category of hurricane (NOAA, 2023).

Everything Hurricanes: Hurricane Development & Hurricane Season

Hurricanes can occur in any territory in the Atlantic or Pacific Oceans. The time of year also determines when hurricanes are most likely to develop (US DHS,2023). It is important to know when hurricane season is for you:



Eastern Pacific Hurricane Season:
May 15- November 30



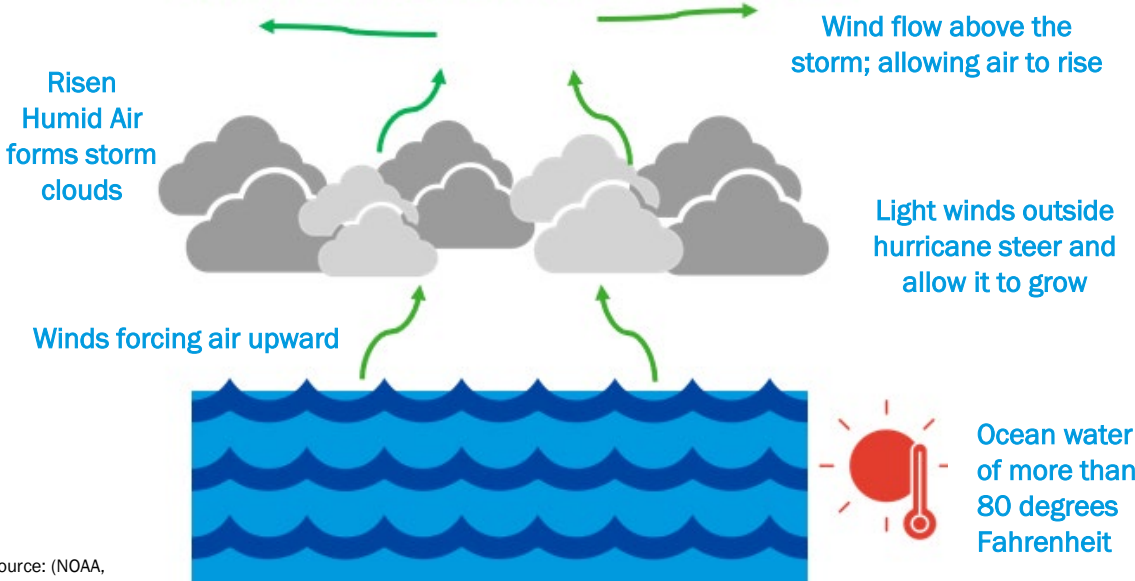
Atlantic Hurricane Season:
June 1- November 30



Central Pacific Hurricane Season:
June 1 – November 30

See below to understand the steps in a hurricane's development:

Understanding Hurricane Development



Interesting Fact:



“Typical hurricanes are approximately **300 miles** wide and can vary considerably in size.”

Source: “National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration”

Source: (NOAA,



Health Systems & Hurricanes: Maintaining Team Member Personal Safety & Continuity of Operations

“Planning starts at home” explained Aimee Corke.

Corke, Director of Northwell Crisis Management, is responsible for coordinating healthcare preparedness activities for Northwell Health System’s hospitals and ambulatory centers. In the past year, she had the opportunity to lead a system wide hurricane preparedness initiative to prepare team members for Hurricane season. As the 2023 Hurricane Season approaches, it is important to consider hurricane preparedness best practices to preserve personal safety, as well as health system operations.

At Northwell Health, team members personal safety is of utmost importance. Individuals should equip themselves with the knowledge to understand how to prepare for and respond to a hurricane. According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, when preparing for a hurricane it is important to start early and to gather the necessary supplies. Vital emergency supplies include but is not limited to food, water, medication, emergency contact information, pet supplies, and having an evacuation route.

In addition to team member safety, health systems and other health care entities should implement pre-planning initiatives to maintain continuity of operations. The Crisis Management Team often utilizes a 120-hour time frame to begin preparing for hurricane or other severe weather events. Preparedness efforts include the implementation of the following tools:

- Hazard Vulnerability Assessments (HVAs)
- Evacuation if Facilities in Disaster System (eFINDs)
- Shelter in Place Assessments
- Hospital Evacuation Assessments
- Identifying Sea, Lake, and Overland Surges for Hurricane (SLOSH) Zones

To learn more about hurricane preparedness for health systems please listen to the May 2023 MARO Monthly Podcast!

Health System Highlights: Northwell’s 2022 Hurricane Hannah Patient Evacuation Exercise



In preparation for the 2023 Hurricane Season, the Crisis Management Team at Northwell Health partnered with Huntington and South Shore University Hospital to simulate a hurricane evacuation drill. A total of 45 participants were included in this simulation along with 10 local fire department juniors who role played as patients. The drill simulated patients needing evacuation from South Shore Hospital to Huntington Hospital because of interruption of hospital operations due to a hurricane. Staff who participated in this training were able to practice using eFINDs, a patient tracking system. This exercise highlighted evacuation best practices and areas in need of improvement.

PERSONAL PREPAREDNESS

Tips to be best prepared for hurricane season!



Know your local evacuation route & develop an evacuation plan



Write down emergency contact information and inform family & friends of your status

Have a disaster supply kit

Can include food, water, batteries, charger, radio, cash & important documents



Keep extra cash on hand



Have access to needed medication & medical supplies



Don't forget your pets!

Have extra pet food and other necessary items! Consider travel or pet care arrangements.



 Northwell Health

MARO Monthly

Emergency Management Podcast



Hosted by Brian O'Neill

As hurricane season quickly approaches, we encourage you to listen to our May 2023 podcast, hosted by Vice President of Business Continuity, Brian O'Neill. The May podcast focuses on hurricane preparedness, response, recovery, and best practices to keep your healthcare facility safe. O'Neill is joined by Directors of Crisis Management Aimee Corke and Glenn Schaefering. Together, the three consider the potential impacts hurricanes can have on continuity of operations, health systems, team member safety, and more!

[LISTEN HERE](#)

UPCOMING COURSES



Course: Planning for Disaster Debris Management

Date: 6/13-14/2023

Location: Webinar – Register through DHSES LMS



Course: Storm Surge- Use of GIS in Hurricane Evacuation Planning & Evacuation Decision Making

Date: Ongoing

Location: Webinar – Register through DOH LMS



Course: eFINDs Train the Trainer

Date: 07/13/2023

Location: In-Person- Register through Northwell Crisis Management Website

For the full list of upcoming courses visit the Crisis Management Website!

June 2023 MARO Monthly Topic:
Emergency Management for Assisted Living Facilities & Nursing Homes



Submit your questions about Incident Management for Nursing Homes by scanning the QR code!



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