

# CHNC Educational Web Series:

Emergency Preparedness and  
Disaster Management for NICUs

# WELCOME

## **Welcome to the Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Management web series!**

This series is developed in collaboration with the CHNC Educational Advisory Committee, CHNC Transport Focus Group, and the Pediatric Pandemic Network.

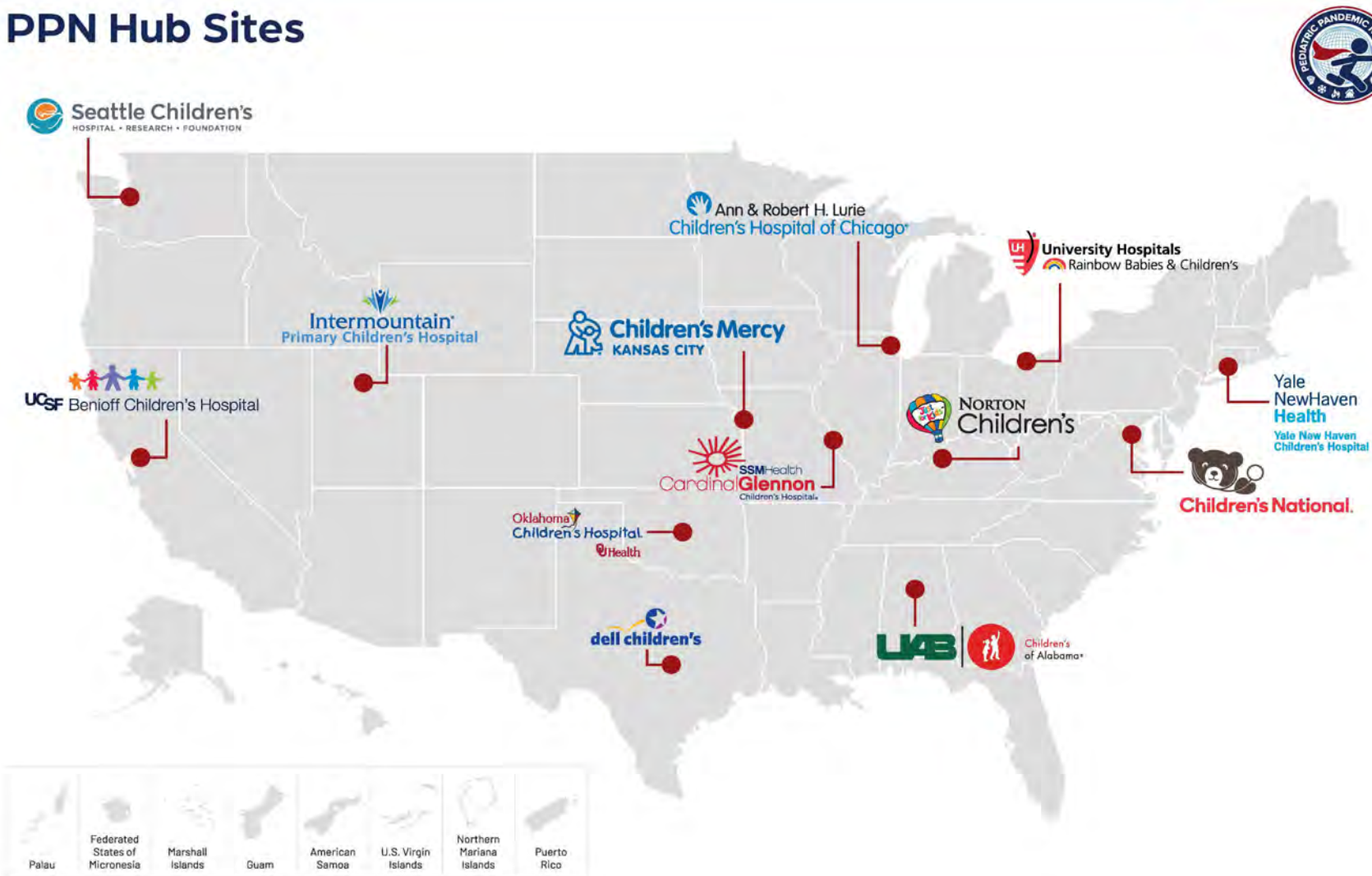
Calls occur the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month  
3-4pm CT / 4-5pm ET

**Next call** will be September 10, 3-4pm CT / 4-5pm ET

**If you are registered for this call, you should have all the 2025 invites on your calendar. If you need to register, please reach out to [eac@thechnc.org](mailto:eac@thechnc.org)**

# Pediatric Pandemic Network

## PPN Hub Sites



# Continuing Education Learner Notification

## Relevant Financial Relationships

The planning committee and presenters have no relevant financial relationships with ineligible companies.

## Financial and In-Kind Commercial Support

No financial nor in-kind commercial support was received for this education activity.

**Joint Accreditation:** In support of improving patient care, this activity has been planned and implemented by Children's National Hospital. Children's National Hospital is jointly accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC), to provide continuing education for the healthcare team. Children's National Hospital Accreditation Provider# 4008362

## **Credit Designation Statements:**

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**Requirements to Claim Continuing Education (CE) Credit:** Participants may obtain CE credit for this session if you attend the entire session and complete an evaluation. A code and link/text number will be provided at the end of the session.



# Disclosure

This content is provided for CHNC participants as educational material for informational purposes only. This material does not constitute the provision of medical advice or a specific standard for care and is not intended to be a substitute for independent professional medical judgment, advice, diagnosis, or treatment.

# The Role of the Transport Team in Emergency Preparedness

CHNC Transport Focus Group





# Our Speakers



# Emergency Preparedness



**Bernie Estiandan, RRT, NPS, C-NPT**  
Respiratory Care Practitioner Transport Specialist  
Alan Purwin Emergency Transport Program  
Children's Hospital Los Angeles



# Generator Failure

- August 21 2023 White Memorial lost power during tropical storm Hilary.
- 241 patients were moved. 30 of which were deemed critical.



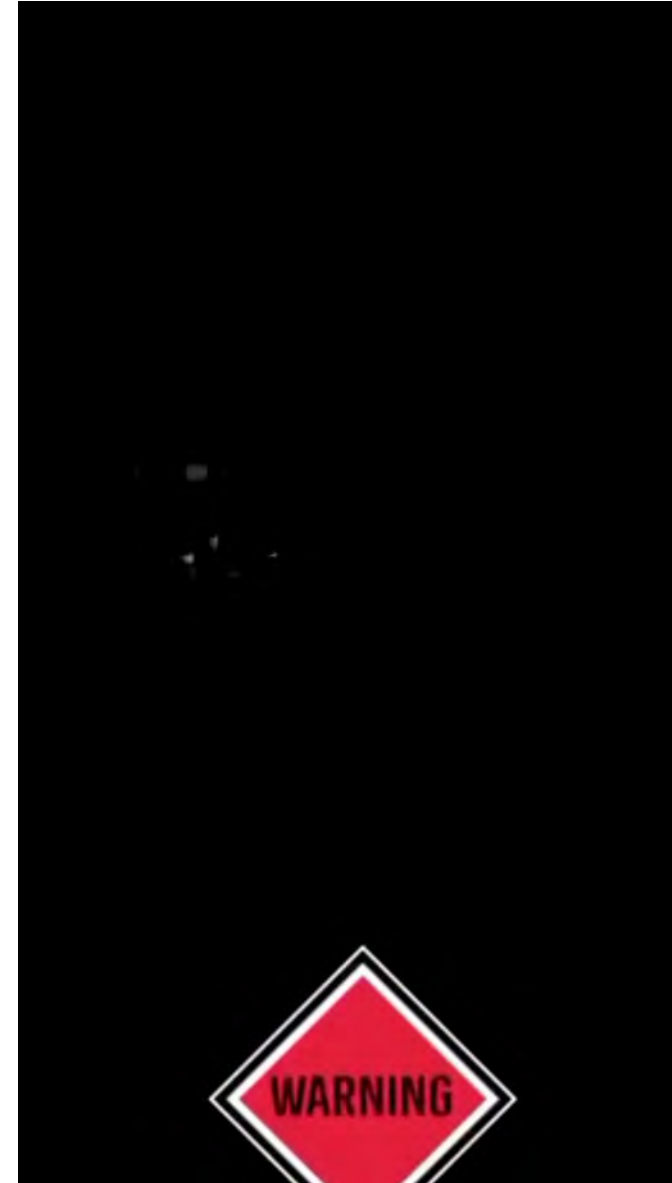
# Arriving on scene

- Our team was not dispatched for Critical NICU patients.
- Navigating traffic of incoming and out going LAFD Ambulances.
- LAFD had a single gurney carrying two or three NICU patients.
- Lack of resources.
  - No monitors
  - 100% oxygen
  - Open to elements



# Evacuation

- No elevator
- No visibility
- No emergency evacuation equipment available.
- Assigned roles for patient transport to ensure patient safety.



# Lessons Learned & Preplanning

- Evaluation of resources available
  - Oxygen sources
  - Transportation devices
  - Effective strategies for maneuvering through LAFD traffic.
- Yearly competencies = Equipment day
  - Understanding how and when to use emergency evacuation equipment.
    - Medsled and Medsled Evac Basket
    - Emergency action plan binders in Office and Helipad
  - Annual emergency training provided by department disaster leaders.
    - Command center communication

# Transport Disaster Preparedness: The El Paso Experience



**Sadhana Chheda MD FAAP**

Neonatal Transport Medical Director  
Chair of the Quality and Patient Safety Committee  
El Paso Children's Hospital  
Associate Professor  
Division of Neonatology | Department of Pediatrics  
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**Wanda L. Helgesen, MSN, RN**  
Executive Director  
BorderRAC



# Transport Disaster Preparedness The El Paso Experience

Sadhana Chheda MD

Associate Professor, Division of Neonatology | Department of Pediatrics TTUHSC-EL Paso

Medical Director of Neonatal Transport & Chair of the EPCH Quality and Patient Safety Committee

El Paso Children's Hospital

Wanda Helgesen MSN, RN

Executive Director of the BorderRAC







# City-Wide NICU Evacuation Simulation

- Rationale:
  - Federal requirement
  - An actual fire that occurred in a NICU in 2012
  - The creation of levels of care designations for neonatal services in 2013

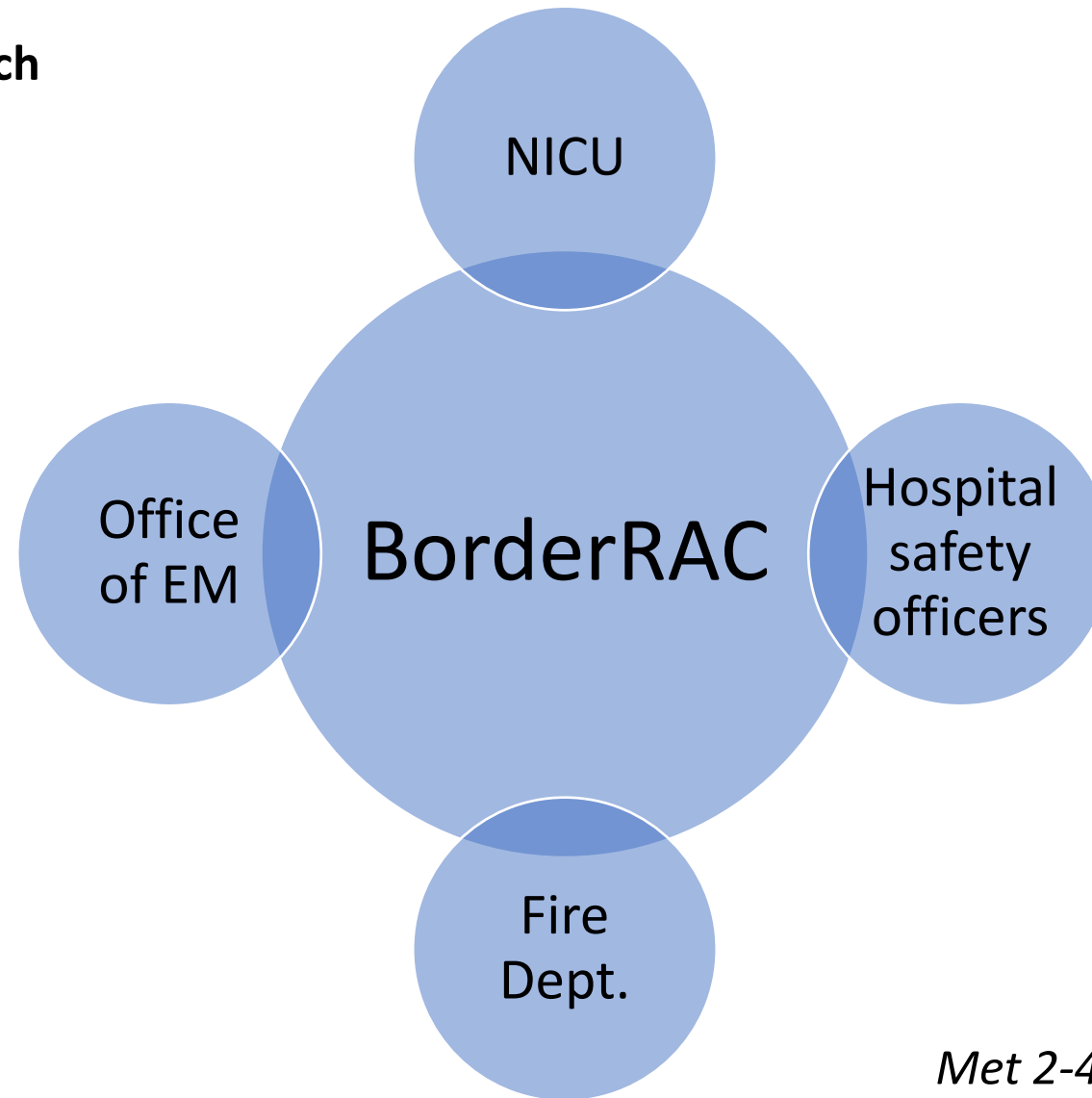


# Planning

- City-wide Perinatal Committee
- Under the RAC umbrella
- Utilizing the Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program



## Multidisciplinary Approach



*Met 2-4x before exercise (6 weeks)  
Tabletop exercise performed*



# Scenario

- Simulated electrical fire in the neonatal intensive care unit.
- NICU had to vertically evacuate 6 simulated patients of varying acuity into awaiting ambulances in the hospital parking lot with intent to transfer to another facility
- Evacuated simulated patients included 1 of the highest acuity (intubated, mechanically ventilated, and on multiple continuous intravenous infusions), 2 of medium-acuity (on oxygen and intravenous infusion), and 3 low-acuity patients (on gavage feedings)
- Elevators could not be used.
- The evacuation exercise included actual response from the EPFD and ambulance services.
- Parents were notified in advance, and signs were placed outside the NICU doors when drill was taking place



# Objectives

- Implement hospital interagency notification protocols and activate Hospital Command Center.
- Begin evacuation and mobilize all available critical resources.
- Coordinate triage and evacuation from NICU facility with pre-hospital providers within 10-15 minutes of incident.
- Evacuate each patient outside to hospital grounds to await ambulance arrival. As soon as safe to do so, continue providing patient care for neonatal patients. The exercise ends when the critical infant is loaded into an ambulance.
- Establish and evaluate incident command and unified command between the participating organizations.
- Establish effective communication and coordinate public safety.
- Issue public information, alert, warnings and notifications to the public in a timely and accurate manner.



# Core capabilities and emergency response objectives for each NICU evacuation exercise

Core Capability	Objective
Communication	Establish emergency/disaster communication utilizing equipment and methods to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Appropriate and timely <u>external notification</u> of the emergency and coordinate with public safety.</li><li>- Effective and timely <u>internal notification</u>.</li><li>- Notification of hospital operator, activation of fire alarm, notification of necessary personnel within 5 minutes of incident.</li><li>- Effective <u>communication within the facility</u> among the various elements and locations of emergency response to include utilization of all communication methods used such as telephones, radios, cell phones, and runners.</li></ul>
Staff Responsibilities	Utilization of fire response procedures – Rescue, Alarm, Confine, Extinguish/Evacuate (RACE)
Safety and Security	Secure the area and assure the safety of associates, visitors, and patients.
Patient and Clinical Support Activities Resources/Assets	Coordinate triage and initiate evacuation from NICU within 10 minutes, ensuring patient care was provided during horizontal and vertical (if applicable) evacuation.
Staff Responsibilities Facility Emergency Response	Activation of hospital command center within 10 minutes of initial fire and utilization of hospital incident command system.
Resources/Assets	Issue public information, alert, warnings, and notifications to the public in a timely manner.
Patient Clinical and Support Activities	Tracking of patients and staff during evacuation.





# Post Event Analysis

- The timed objectives were completed in the majority of NICUs.
- In 5 out of 6 NICUs notification of fire within 5 minutes was performed without challenges
- In 4 out of 6 NICUs, establishment of a hospital incident command within 10 minutes was performed without challenges
- In 4 of 6 of the NICUs, triage and initiation of evacuation within 10 minutes was performed without challenges
- Only 2 NICUs thought to utilize their transport teams



## Post Event Analysis

	Theme	Number of NICUs Reporting This Theme*
<b>Areas of Strength</b>	<u>Patient Headcounts/Tracking Performed</u>	6
	<u>Quick arrival of personnel reinforcements from other departments</u>	6
	<u>Availability and knowledge of evacuation equipment</u>	5
	<u>Teamwork</u>	4
	<u>Clear leadership assumed within NICU</u>	4
	<u>Successful use of a staging area/rally point in another part of hospital</u>	3
	<u>Quick internal notification of incident</u>	3
<b>Areas for Improvement</b>	<u>Lack of understanding of incident command structure</u>	6
	<u>Lack of enough resources/equipment for care in staging areas/rally points</u>	5
	<u>Inadequate communication with EPFD</u>	5
	<u>Evacuation route unclear or lack of knowledge of alternative evacuation route</u>	5
	<u>Head counts/tracking of staff and visitors</u>	4
	<u>Staff slow to move away from fire areas/re-entered fire areas</u>	3
	<u>Requested more evacuation drills</u>	6





# Post Event Analysis --- Areas of Struggle

Tasks	Number of NICUs Reporting This Theme*
NICU staff labels and stores patient's medication properly, when transporting from one area to another	6
Unified Command personnel will develop a message and select appropriate person to deliver message to the media and alert the public to the incident, as soon as possible	6
NICU staff establishes minimum supply of formulas for infant feeding. NICU staff has adequate supply of waterless hand cleaners, gloves, diapers, feeders/nipples, IV tubing and solutions	5
Hospital Command Staff will be communicating and coordinating all response activities with other agencies in the Hospital Command Center that have arrived to assist	4
NICU staff gathers and utilizes alternative medical equipment to use during the evacuation process such as self-inflating bag valve masks, gas powered ventilators, battery powered monitors such as pulse oximeters, bulb syringes or other non-electric suction devices, flashlights, additional blankets/hats, chemical warming mattress, battery operated fans, and baby evacuation vests	3
Ensure others who may have been injured during the incident, receive the appropriate treatment	2



# Post Event Analysis

- Staff are protective of babies and were unrealistic in:
  - Being able to re-enter the building in a fire
  - Who should go first (not always the sickest)
  - Having the tools to resuscitate at “the bottom” knowing some of the sickest of the sick would come out in the arms of firefighters, not hospital staff.



# EPFD Comments

- Solid teamwork and the ability of the NICU staff to start evacuation before EPFD arrival
- Lack of organization and communication within the incident command structure
- Lack of knowledge of alternate evacuation
- Staff were unrealistic about the ramifications of smoke exposure
- Walking briskly, not running, while carrying patients
- Use of 'spotters' for staff carrying patients in stairwells





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# Summary

- NICU staff do not have a clear understanding of the hospital-wide incident command structure and their role within that
- The mass casualty mind frame, known well to our trauma compatriots, is not common among the NICU community
- Passive training does not consider equipment needs for post-evacuation care, alternative evacuation routes, understanding of incident command structure, and unified communication with first responders, the public, and other facilities
- Concepts specific to the care of the neonate were performed well (patient identification & patient care)



# Lessons Learned

- Incident command training for NICU leadership is needed.
- Mass casualty triage strategies are necessary when evacuating large numbers of patients (most good for the most patients)
- A neonatologist should assume the role of incident commander (“captain of ship:”) who in coordination with nursing leadership provides clear instructions to teams of staff to prepare patients for evacuation.





# Lessons Learned

- Establish a communication process within the NICU and with the EOC
- Communication has to be simple. Use common terminology and clear text
- Appoint triage leader (neonatologist) to determine which babies leave first (mass casualty attitude) & what meds & equipment will be utilized for the evacuation
- Determine all possible evacuation routes within the Unit
- Place way-finders along the evacuation route



# Lessons Learned

- Set up a staging area (staffed with Neo & RN) at the exit point where babies & staff can be processed.
- Prepare "GO Kits" and pre-filled backpacks with infant care supplies that would be required to meet patient needs. The back packs should be filled with enough supplies to carry us forward for about 4-6 hours





# Conclusion

- Although hospitals have an extensive disaster plan, the expertise and knowledge to execute an efficient and effective evacuation needs to be the responsibility of the caregivers working in NICU.
- Simulation is an effective way for hospitals to bolster staff knowledge in emergency preparedness



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# The Triage by Resource Allocation for INpatients (TRAIN®) Tool Overview

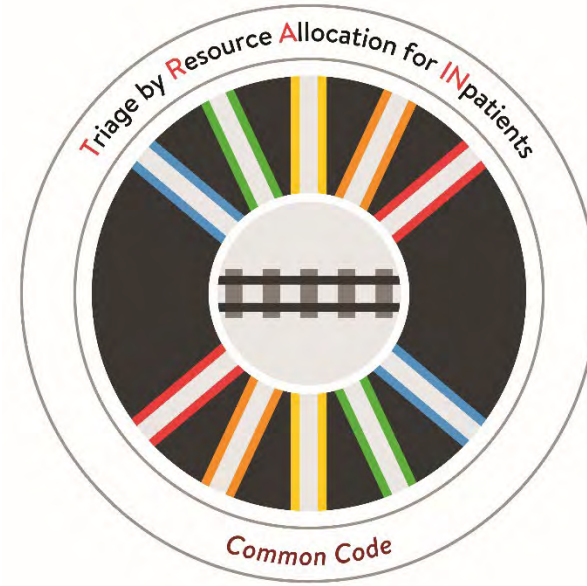
**Ronald Cohen, MD**

Clinical Professor of Pediatrics

Stanford University School of Medicine



# The Triage by Resource Allocation for INpatients (TRAIN®) Tool: An Overview



# The TRAIN<sup>®</sup> Tool – What is it?

- Triage tool designed for hospitalized patient movement
- Uses resource needs of patient to determine transport needs in case of evacuation
- Created by expert opinion and aligned with local EMS protocols for transport
- Over a decade of experience & trial



# The TRAIN<sup>®</sup> Tool: Developed at Stanford Children's Health

- Tested for the following populations:
  - Neonatal
  - Pediatrics
  - Obstetrics
  - Adults
- Integrated into different electronic health records
- Easy just-in-time training
- Used in multiple organization



# Neonatal/Pediatric TRAIN<sup>®</sup> Tool

<i>Transport</i>	<i>Blue/Car</i>	<i>Green/BLS</i>	<i>Yellow/ALS</i>	<i>Orange/CCT</i>	<i>Red/Specialized</i>
<b>Life Support</b>	Stable	Stable +	Minimal	Moderate	Maximal
<b>Mobility</b>	Car/Carseat	Wheelchair or Stretcher	Wheelchair or Stretcher	Stretcher	Incubator or Immobile
<b>Nutrition</b>	All PO	Intermittent Enteral	Continuous Enteral or Partial Parenteral	TPN Dependent	
<b>Pharmacy</b>	PO Meds	IV Intermittent meds	IV Fluids	IV Drip x1	IV Drip ≥2
<b>Life Support</b>	<b>Stable + =</b>	Low flow oxygen			
	<b>Minimal =</b>	Oxygen hood, chest tube, etc.			
	<b>Moderate =</b>	CPAP/BiPAP/Hi-Flow, Conventional Ventilator, Peritoneal Dialysis, Externally paced, continuous nebulizer treatments, etc.			
	<b>Maximal =</b>	Highly specialized equipt., e.g., Neonatal Ventilator, HFOV, ECMO, iNO, CVVH, Berlin Heart, wt ≤ 1.5 kg, specialized medical personnel, etc.			
<b>Mobility</b>	<b>Car/Carseat =</b>	Able to ride in automobile with age-appropriate restraints			
	<b>Incubator =</b>	Transport incubator with equipment for connecting to ambulance			
	<b>Immobile =</b>	Unsafe to move without special equipment e.g., neurosurgical/bariatric			

# Neonatal TRAIN<sup>®</sup> Case

Neveah is a 3-day old 29-week premature baby girl who has severe hypoxemic respiratory failure. She is requiring high frequency oscillatory ventilation with inhaled nitric oxide. She is on multiple pressor infusions. She has been NPO and is on total parenteral nutrition.

Using the TRAIN<sup>®</sup> Matrix, how would this patient be categorized?

Transport	Blue/Car	Green/BLS	Yellow/ALS	Orange/CCT	Red/Specialized
Life Support	Stable	Stable +	Minimal	Moderate	Maximal
Mobility	Car/Carseat	Wheelchair or Stretcher	Wheelchair or Stretcher	Stretcher	Incubator or Immobile
Nutrition	All PO	Intermittent Enteral	Continuous Enteral or Partial Parenteral	TPN Dependent	
Pharmacy	PO Meds	IV Intermittent meds	IV Fluids	IV Drip x1	IV Drip ≥2
Life Support	Stable + =	Low flow oxygen			
	Minimal =	Oxygen hood, chest tube, etc.			
	Moderate =	CPAP/BiPAP/Hi-Flow, Conventional Ventilator, Peritoneal Dialysis, Externally paced, continuous nebulizer treatments, etc.			
	Maximal =	Highly specialized <u>equipt.</u> , e.g., Neonatal Ventilator, HFOV, ECMO, <u>iNO</u> , CVVH, Berlin Heart, <u>wt</u> ≤ 1.5 kg, specialized medical personnel, etc.			
Mobility	Car/Carseat =	Able to ride in automobile with age-appropriate restraints			
	Incubator =	Transport incubator with equipment for connecting to ambulance			
	Immobile =	Unsafe to move without special equipment e.g., neurosurgical/bariatric			

Neveah would be **RED**.

# Integration of TRAIN<sup>®</sup> Tool into the EHR

- Automation decrease clinical workflows
- Non-biased categorization
- Discreet data points from nursing chart rather than from orders
- Validation to ensure that the coding is correct



# Time Comparison Data

## Computer

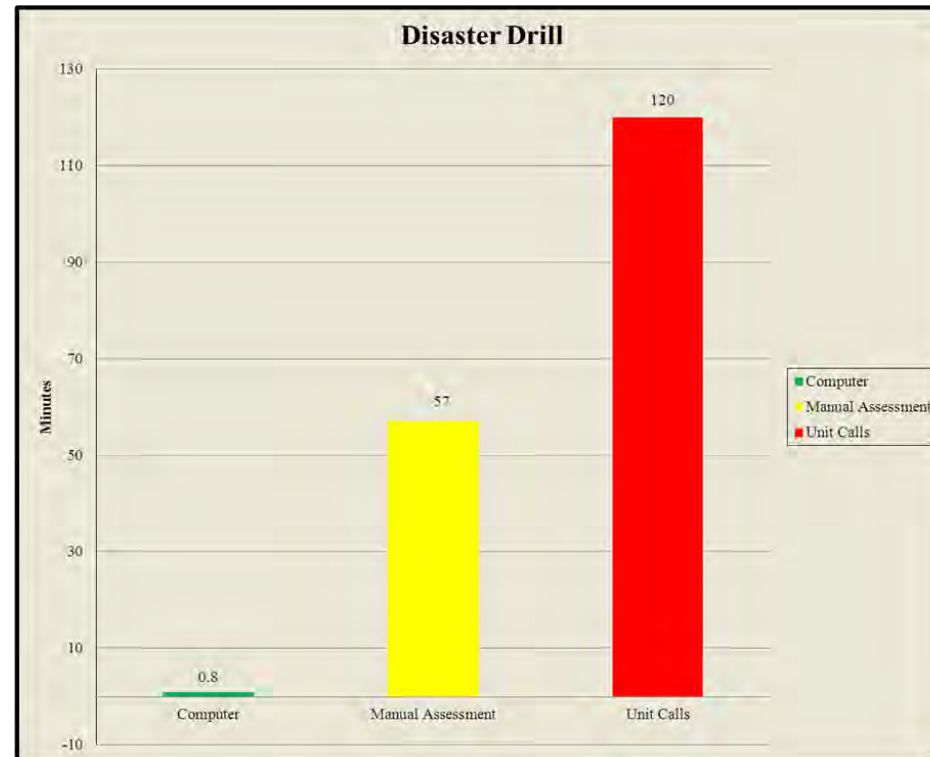
- 48 second

## Manual

- 57 minutes

## Command center request

- over 2 hours



# Uses for TRAIN<sup>®</sup> Tool in the EHR

- Daily reports
  - Office of Emergency Management
  - Administrative Nurse Supervisor
- Updates with any change in documentation
- Report is available to run at anytime
- Downtime report
- Decision making regarding personnel

# TRAIN<sup>®</sup> unit report

NO PATIENT Reason: Empty Bed	Empty	M R N	Emergency Contact Phone Number
Patient Name Reason: O2 Therapy - BiPAP	Orange/CCT		
Patient Name Reason: midazolam (LPCH) (VERSED) 1 mg/mL inj 0.5 mg Route - IV	Green/BLS		
Patient Name Reason: 1. DOPamine 3.2 mg/mL in D5W IV infusion; 2. EPINEPHrine (ADRENALIN) 2 mg in sodium chloride 0.9% 50 mL IV infusion	Red/SPC		
Patient Name Reason: dextrose 5 %-0.9 % NaCl with KCl 20 mEq/L infusion Route - Iv (Continuous)	Yellow/ALS		
NO PATIENT Reason: Empty Bed	Empty		
Patient Name Reason: 1. fentaNYL 2,000 mcg in sodium chloride 0.9% 50 mL IV infusion; 2. O2 Therapy - Invasive ventilation	Red/SPC		
Patient Name Reason: 1. TPN rate order.; 2. O2 Therapy - Invasive ventilation	Red/SPC		
Patient Name Reason: DOPamine 160,000 mcg in sodium chloride 0.9% 50 mL IV infusion	Orange/CCT		
Patient Name Reason: O2 Therapy - Room air	Blue/Car		

# Summary Report

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## TRAIN Category Summary

Unit	Blue/Car	Green/BLS	Yellow/ALS	Orange/CCT	Red/SPC	Total	Empty	Disaster
<u>160 HEMATOLOGY/ONCOLOGY</u>	0	0	11	3	1	15	0	5
<u>160 STEM CELL TRANSPLANT</u>	0	0	7	2	3	12	0	0
<u>190 ICN 1</u>	3	6	0	0	0	9	12	0
<u>255 PICU</u>	0	0	9	10	4	23	1	6
<u>260 CVICU</u>	0	1	1	2	8	12	8	5
<u>270 NICU</u>	2	6	5	6	9	28	13	5
<u>290 ICN 2</u>	2	2	2	1	0	7	7	0
<u>290 NEWBORN NURSERY</u>	36	0	0	0	0	36	0	0
<u>350 PCU</u>	0	1	10	4	1	16	1	5
<u>360 PCU</u>	2	0	9	3	0	14	0	5
<u>374 PCU</u>	4	5	6	1	4	20	0	5
<u>380 PCU</u>	0	0	7	0	3	10	0	5
<u>LABOR &amp; DELIVERY</u>	0	0	1	3	0	4	26	0
<u>MATERNITY 192</u>	8	0	4	9	1	22	4	5
<u>MATERNITY 292</u>	6	1	5	8	0	20	6	5
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>51</b>

## TRAIN Category Summary: Offsite

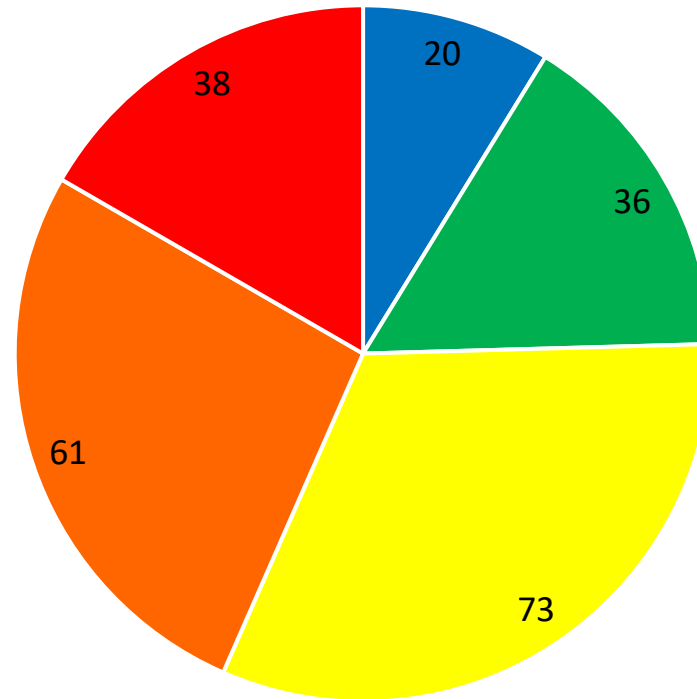
Unit	Blue/Car	Green/BLS	Yellow/ALS	Orange/CCT	Red/SPC	Total	Empty	Disaster
<u>COMPREHENSIVE CARE PGM</u>	9	0	2	0	0	11	4	0
<u>PEDI EL CAMINO</u>	0	1	3	0	0	4	11	0
<u>SEQ SPEC CARE</u>	1	3	0	0	0	4	5	0
<u>NURSERY</u>								
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>0</b>

## TRAIN Category Summary: Other

Unit	Blue/Car	Green/BLS	Yellow/ALS	Orange/CCT	Red/SPC	Total	Empty	Disaster
<u>APU PERIOP</u>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>DIALYSIS-IP</u>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>INFUSION CENTER</u>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<u>MAIN OR PERIOP</u>	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
<u>SHORT STAY UNIT</u>	0	0	5	0	0	5	4	4
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

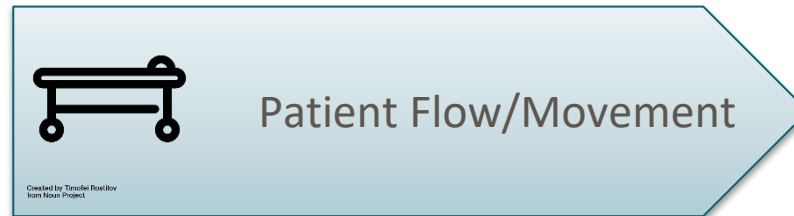
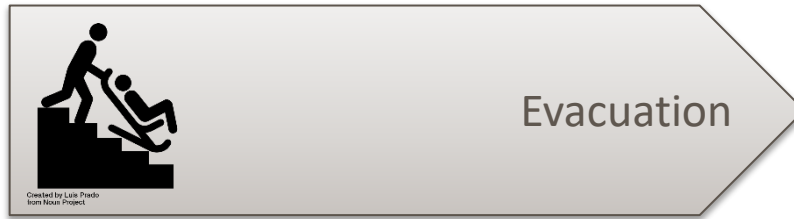
# The TRAIN<sup>®</sup> Tool: Day at-a-Glance

N = 228 Pediatric/Neonatal Patients

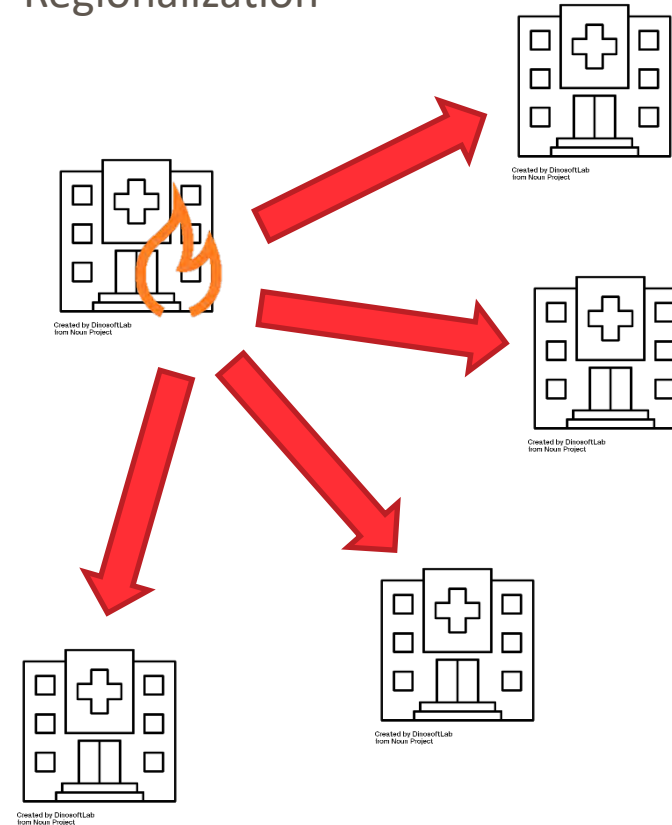




# Uses for the TRAIN<sup>®</sup> Tool



## Regionalization



# TRAIN® Tool: Advantages

- Implement a standardized, objective, and automated inpatient triage system with *minimal impact to workflow*.
- *In event of emergency, Quickly Assess and Accurately Request the right resources* from the emergency operations center.
- Streamline communication with a common code for regional disaster coordination.

# TRAIN<sup>®</sup> Tool: Advantages

- Don't use any triage system – join others in using the TRAIN<sup>®</sup> tool
- Included in FEMA/TEEX training as best practice
- Adopted (or in the process of being adopted) by all NICUs in CA, San Diego County, Central Florida, NYC, Sutter, and others
- Endorsed by Western Regional Alliance for Pediatric Emergency Management (WRAP-EM)

# TRAIN<sup>®</sup> Resources:

- Cohen RS, Murphy B, Ahern T, Hackel A. Regional disaster planning for neonatology. *J Perinatol* 2010; 30:709-11.
- <https://wrap-em.org/index.php/document-details/702-triage-by-resource-allocation-for-inpatients-train>.
- Daniels K, Oakeson AM, Hilton G. Steps towards a national disaster plan for Obstetrics. *OB/GYN* 2014; 124:154-8.
- Carbine D, Cohen R, Hopper A, Murphy B, Phillips P, Powers R. *Neonatal disaster preparedness toolkit*. California Association of Neonatologists. [https://www.cpqcc.org/sites/default/files/DP\\_Toolkit\\_-\\_final\\_\\_2-5-15.pdf](https://www.cpqcc.org/sites/default/files/DP_Toolkit_-_final__2-5-15.pdf)
- Taylor K, Godin G, Lin A, Cohen R. Utilizing an interprofessional team to create a disaster preparedness report in the electronic health record. *J Informatics Nursing* 2017; 2:6-10.
- Lin A, Taylor K, Cohen RS. Triage by resource allocation for inpatients (TRAIN): A novel disaster triage tool for hospitalized pediatric patients. *Disaster Med Public Health Prep* 2018; 12:692-6.
- Lin A, King M, Eriksson C, McCarthy D, Newton C, Cohen RS. Universal Level Designations for Hospitalized Pediatric Patients in Evacuation. *Hosp Pediatr* 2022; 12:333-6.

# Learn More:

Go to: [TRAIN.stanfordchildrens.org](https://TRAIN.stanfordchildrens.org)

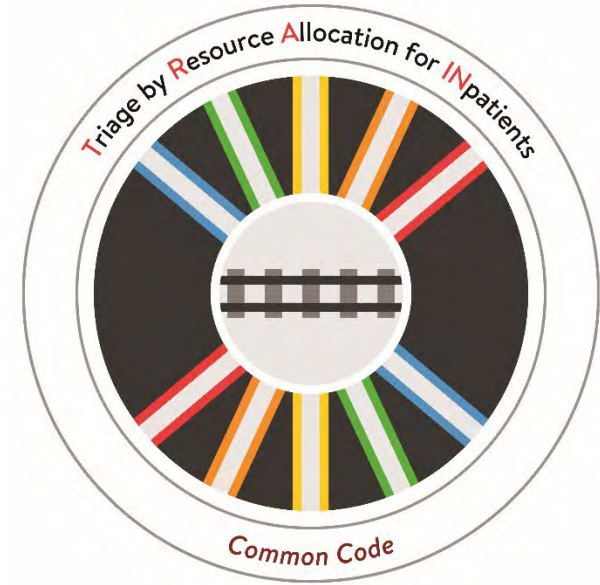
The TRAIN® Team	
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Contact Us: [TRAIN@stanfordchildrens.org](mailto:TRAIN@stanfordchildrens.org)



# Discussion

- Questions/Comments?



# Storm Surge and Small Survivors: The High-Stakes Hospital Evacuation



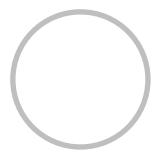
**Niki Shimko, MSN CCRN CPN C-NPT**  
Critical Care Transport Team Manager  
Golisano Children's Hospital

# Storm Surge and Small Survivors: The High-Stakes Hospital Evacuation

NIKI SHIMKO, MSN CCRN CPN C-NPT  
FNPTNA PRESIDENT  
GOLISANO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL  
TRANSPORT TEAM MANAGER



## DISCLOSURE



I have no financial disclosure or conflict of interest with the presented material in this presentation

## OBJECTIVES

- 01** Examine lessons learned on hurricane preparation for the NICU
- 02** Illustrate the key factors that contributed to evacuation
- 03** Identify three differences and triage tactics for evacuating a neonatal patient
- 04** Understand the relationship impact of teamwork in evacuations
- 05** Describe repatriation and challenges faced with neonatal patients

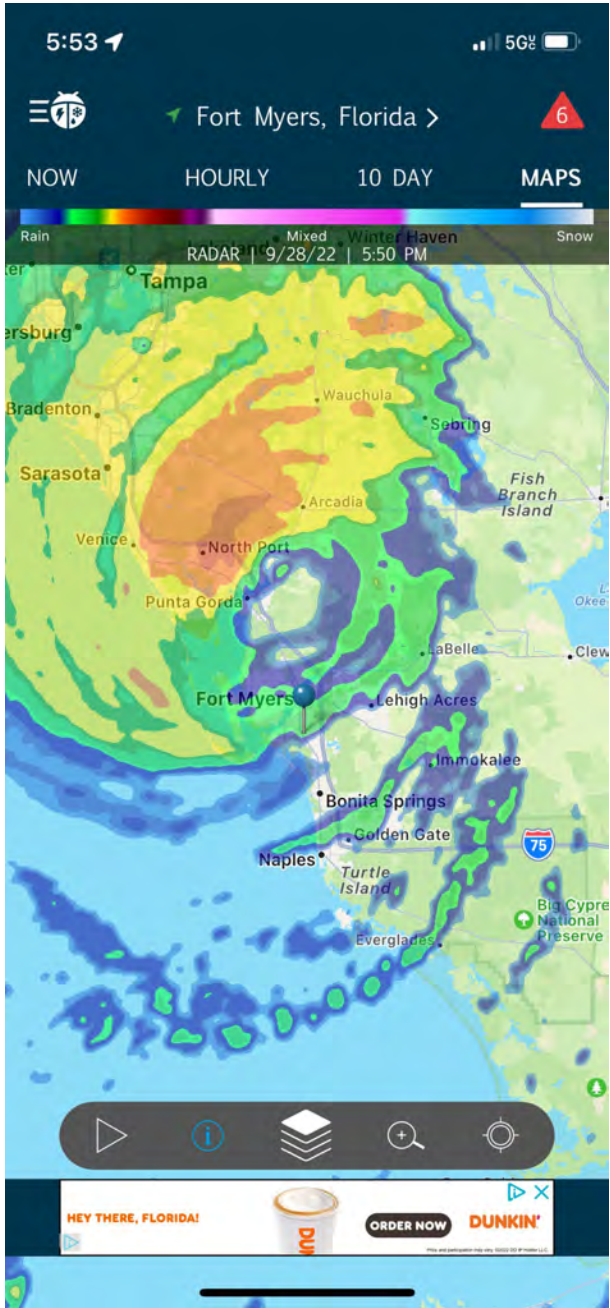
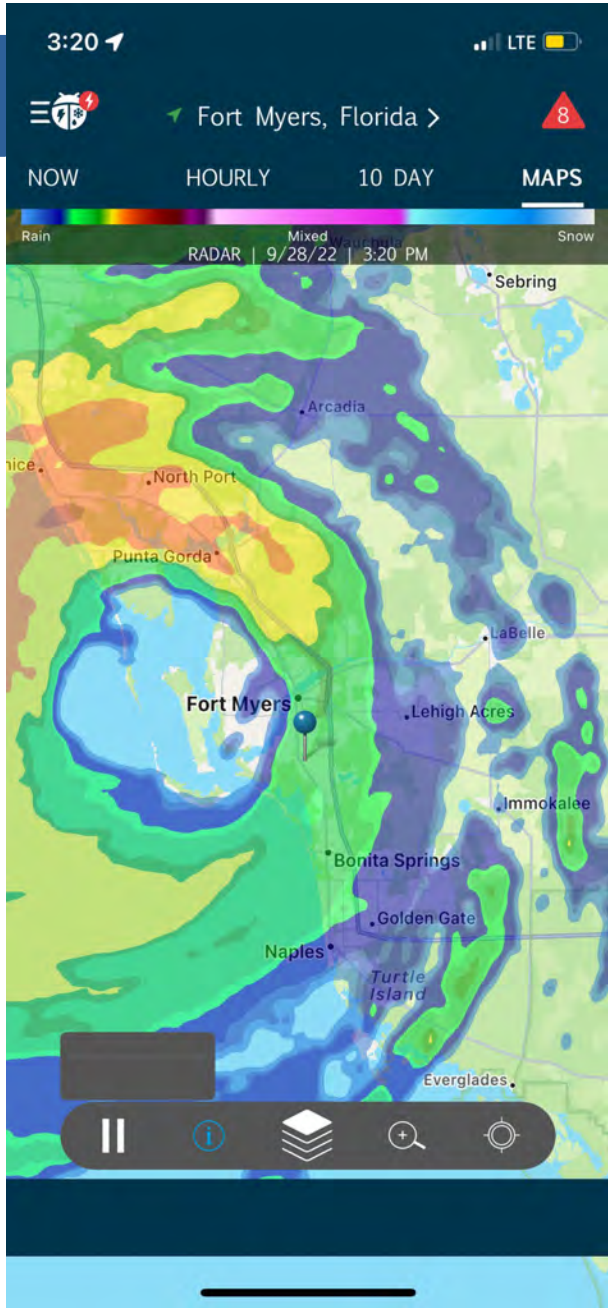
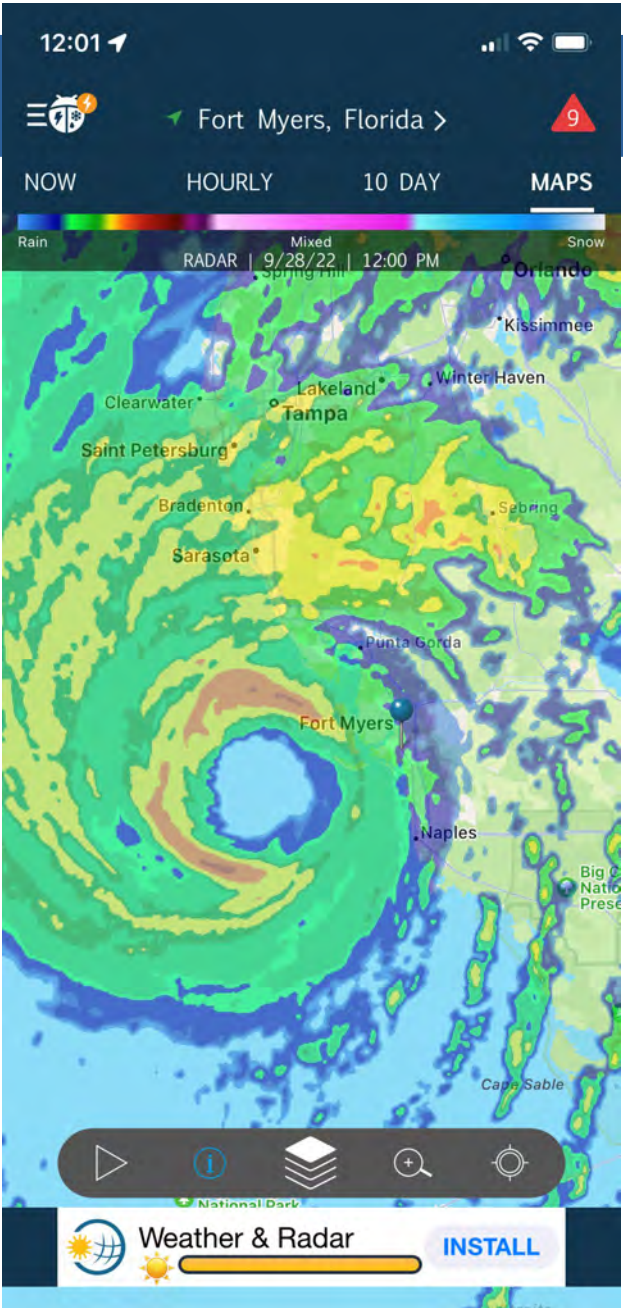




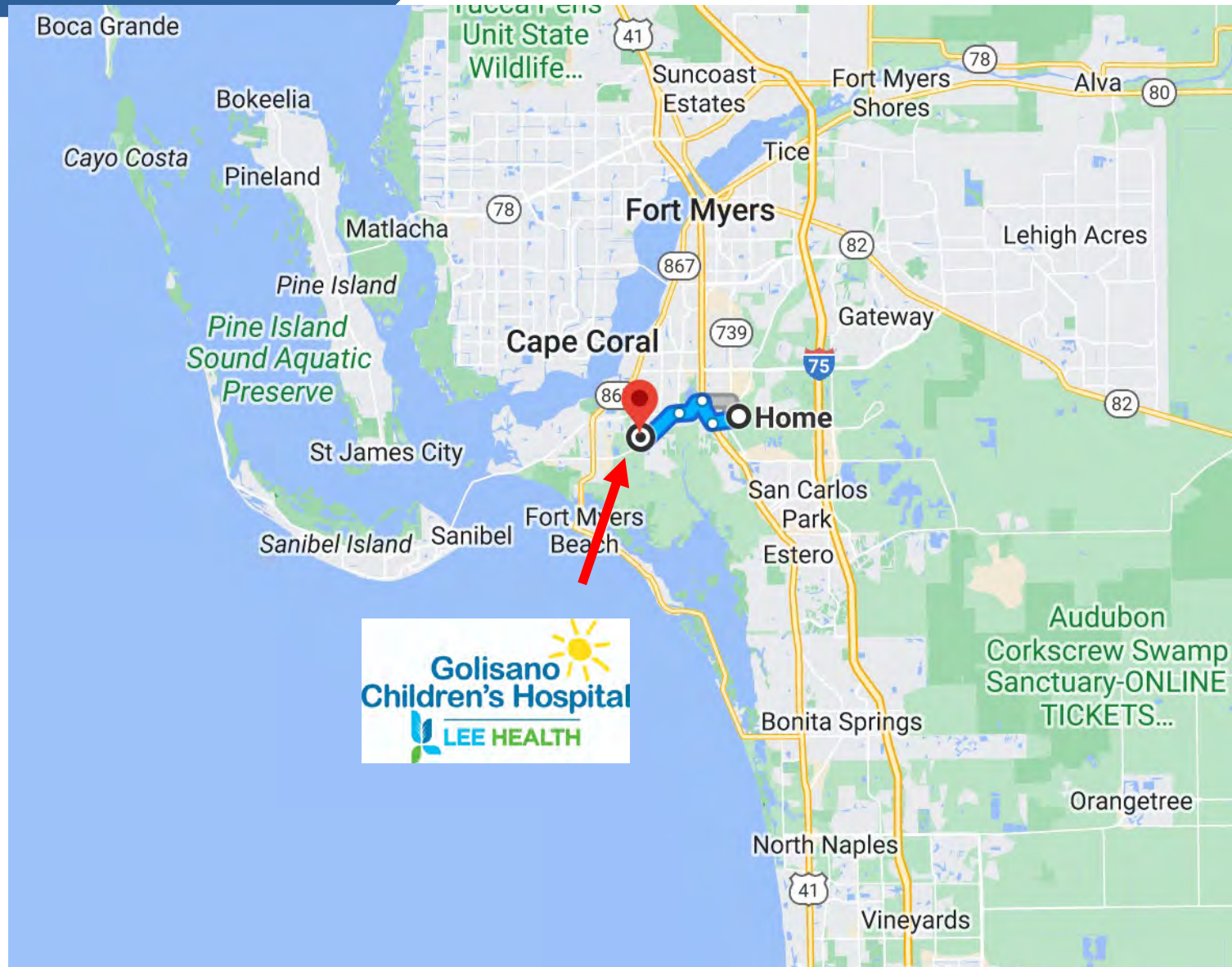
## Hurricane Ian Evolution & Facts

September 19	Tropical wave
September 23	Tropical depression
September 23	Tropical storm
September 26	Category I hurricane
September 26	Landfall in Cuba as Category III
September 28	Category IV – Landfall Cayo Costa 3:05 pm

5 <sup>th</sup>	Strongest hurricane on record to strike the US
161mph	Category 4 Winds (Category 5 prior to landfall)
156 / 41	Storm related lives Lost / Due to Storm Surge
2.6 Million	People lost power
1,100	Cell Phone Towers lost due to power outages
\$112.9/ \$109 Billion	Estimated damages overall / Florida



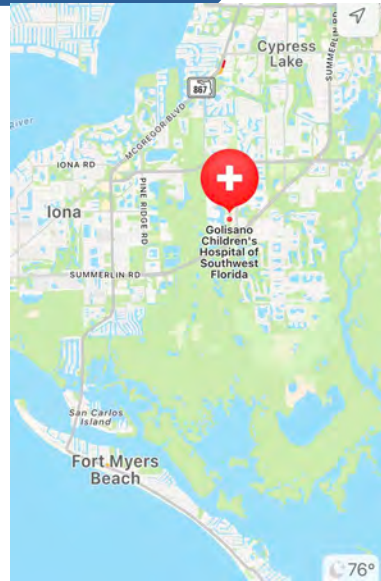




## SURGE

Here is the link for a video showing the response and collaboration of FNPTNA post-Hurricane Ian.

<https://youtu.be/SiXCEiTJ5AM?si=73glilvmL-vaK3bR>





# STATE PREPARATION



## BUREAU OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL OVERSIGHT PATIENT MOVEMENT SUPPORT STANDARD OPERATING GUIDANCE



Florida Department of Health,  
Division of Emergency Preparedness and Community Support  
Bureau of Emergency Medical Oversight

2023

## FLORIDA AMBULANCE DEPLOYMENT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE

Version 1.7  
7/2/2018

**1. PURPOSE:** The purpose of this Ambulance Deployment Standard Operating Procedure (ADSOP) is to establish a mechanism for State ESF-8 to marshal and deploy ground and air emergency medical services (EMS) assets during disaster response.

**2. SITUATION:** EMS assets are a critical component of the public health and medical response system. County Emergency Operations Centers (EOC) may request additional EMS resources during a disaster to supplement ground and air ambulances and EMS personnel in counties when their resources are overwhelmed by a major emergency or catastrophic disaster. The State EOC may request EMS resources to fulfill missions from other states under EMAC. Specific missions for EMS assets may include:

- Patient and medical facility evacuation support.
- Augmentation of day to day EMS services.
- Patient triage, treatment, and transport.

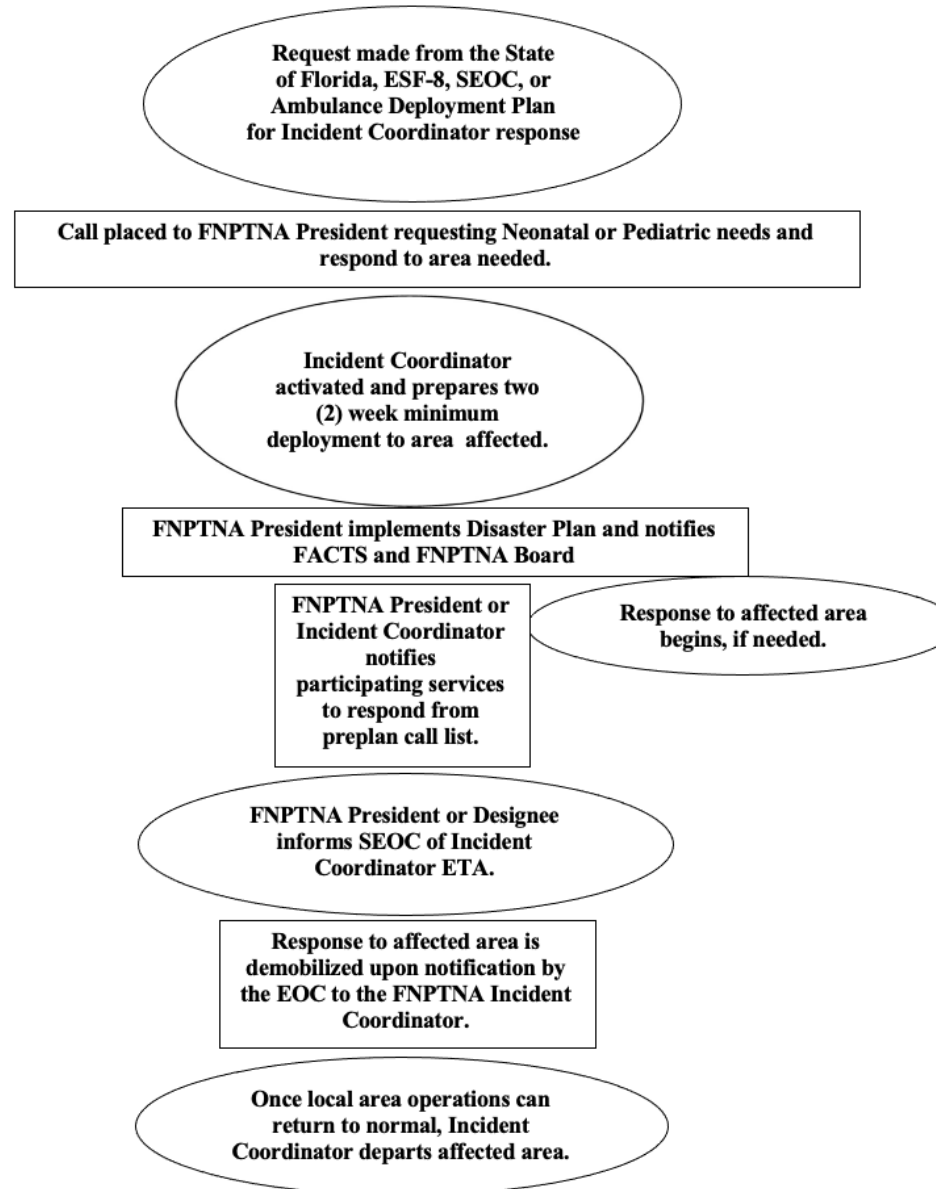
Appendix VIII, Public Health, and Medical Services, of the State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, establishes that deployment of EMS resources will be coordinated by State ESF-8, with ESF 4 and 9, the Florida Fire Chief's Association, (FFCA), the Florida Ambulance Association (FAA), and as necessary, the Florida Aeromedical Association (FAMA).

### 3. ASSUMPTIONS:

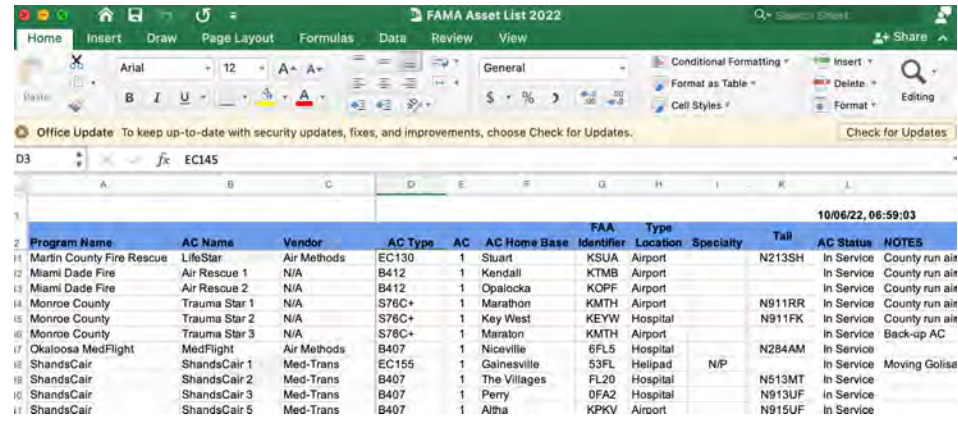
- The Department of Health ESF-8 Public Health and Medical, does not possess the capabilities of providing EMS transport. Resources are provided by non-impacted local EMS providers.
- As of February 2017, Florida has 5107 permitted EMS vehicles and 140 permitted EMS aircraft. The EMS vehicles consist of 2640 ALS transport, 1777 ALS non-transport, and 550 BLS transport. The air medical aircraft consists of 56 helicopters and 84 airplanes. In addition, Florida has 23 Mass Casualty Support Units strategically located throughout the state.
- State-level deployments of EMS assets will be authorized by State ESF-8 and coordinated with State ESF 4 and 9, FAA, and FAMA.
- Deployments of EMS assets will strictly adhere to the principles of Florida's Incident Command System.
- Resources can most efficiently be identified and marshaled working through established organizational structures and points of contact.
- EMS resources will deploy under an authorized mission request and will not self-dispatch to the incident scene.
- Availability of EMS assets may be limited during disasters due to competing operational commitments.
- All ambulance deployments are subject to weather conditions and safety considerations.



## Appendix 1: Disaster Plan Design



# COMMUNICATION



The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet titled "FAMA Asset List 2022". The spreadsheet contains a table with columns for Program Name, AC Name, Vendor, AC Type, AC, AC Home Base, FAA Identifier, Location, Specialty, Tail, AC Status, and NOTES. The data is organized into rows, with some rows highlighted in blue. The table lists various emergency services assets, including fire rescue, trauma, and medical flight services, along with their respective vendors, AC types, and locations.

Program Name	AC Name	Vendor	AC Type	AC	AC Home Base	FAA Identifier	Location	Specialty	Tail	AC Status	NOTES
Martin County Fire Rescue	LifeStar	Air Methods	EC130	1	Stuart	KSUA	Airport		N213SH	In Service	County run ait
Miami Dade Fire	Air Rescue 1	N/A	B412	1	Kendall	KTMB	Airport			In Service	County run ait
Miami Dade Fire	Air Rescue 2	N/A	B412	1	Opalocka	KOPF	Airport			In Service	County run ait
Monroe County	Trauma Star 1	N/A	S76C+	1	Marathon	KMTH	Airport		N911RR	In Service	County run ait
Monroe County	Trauma Star 2	N/A	S76C+	1	Key West	KEYW	Hospital		N911FK	In Service	County run ait
Monroe County	Trauma Star 3	N/A	S76C+	1	Maraton	KMTH	Airport			In Service	Back-up AC
Okaloosa MedFlight	MedFlight	Air Methods	B407	1	Niceville	6FL5	Hospital		N284AM	In Service	
ShandsCair	ShandsCair 1	Med-Trans	EC155	1	Gainesville	S3FL	Helipad	N/P		In Service	Moving Golise
ShandsCair	ShandsCair 2	Med-Trans	B407	1	The Villages	FL20	Hospital		N513MT	In Service	
ShandsCair	ShandsCair 3	Med-Trans	B407	1	Perry	0FA2	Hospital		N913UF	In Service	
ShandsCair	ShandsCair 5	Med-Trans	B407	1	Altha	KPKV	Airport		N915UF	In Service	

01

Asset List

02

Text Thread

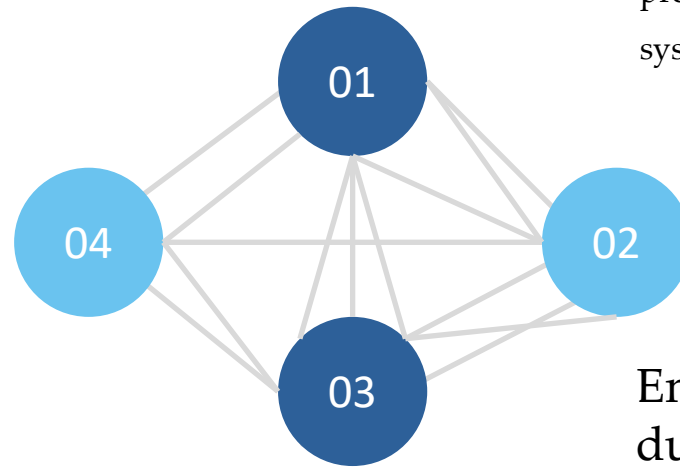
03

Board Call

## WATER MAIN BREAK

### Loss of water pressure

The critical challenge, due to multiple undefined breaks in the community water system, was a loss of water pressure, and concerns of cross-contamination with the sewage system. Our facility sustained loss of the domestic water plumbing function, loss of air conditioning, and loss of fire suppression sprinkler systems



### Address loss of water pressure

Unable to address loss of water pressure for wet fire suppression system

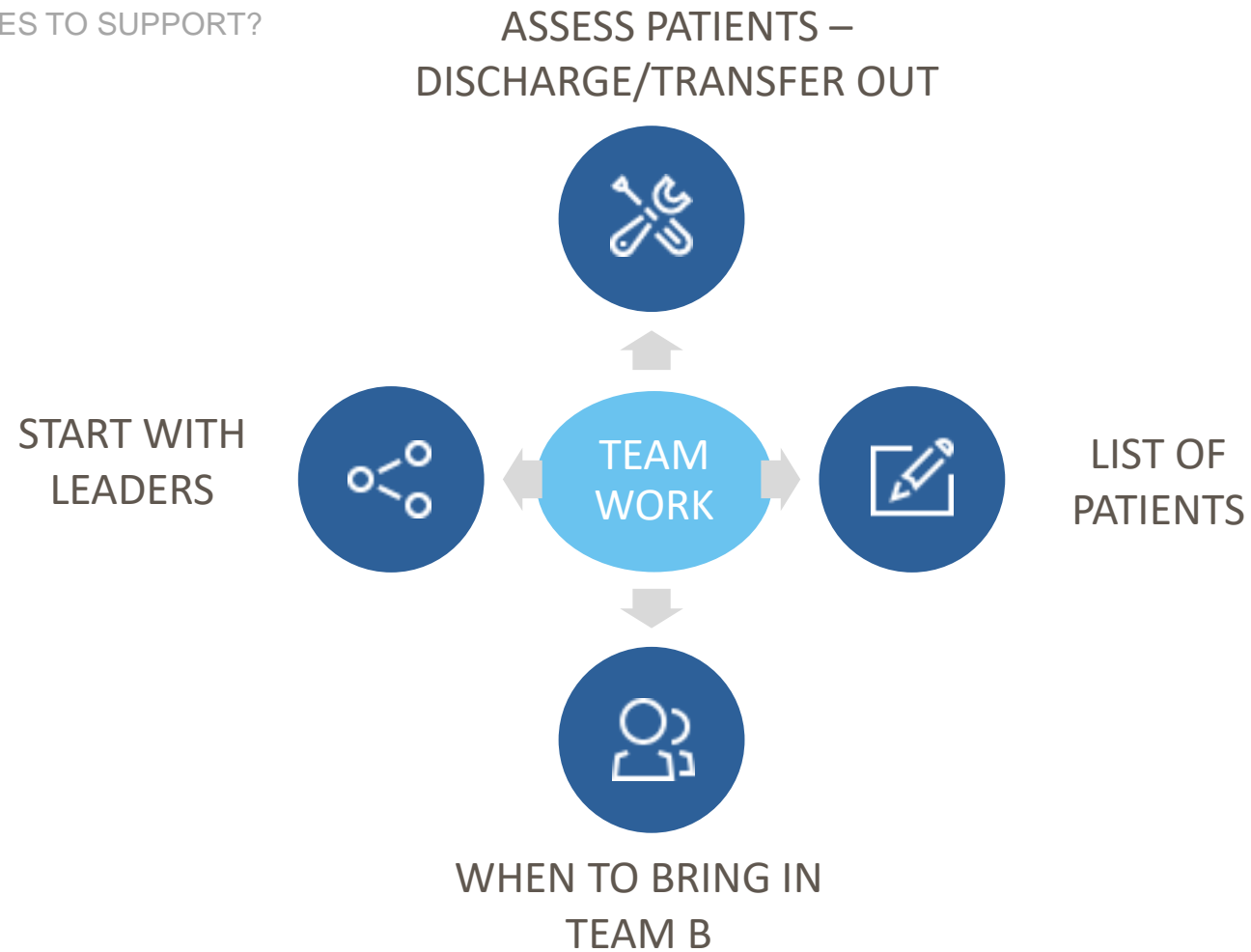
### Emergent action during the storm

Used contiguous lake water to support condenser water that flows through chillers to remove the transfer of heat- able to maintain air-conditioning function in both facilities.

## COMMUNICATION WITH STAFF

HOW DO YOU TELL STAFF YOU ARE  
EVACUATING?

DO YOU HAVE RESOURCES TO SUPPORT?



## INTERNAL COMMUNICATION

TWO WAY  
RADIOS

HAVE YOU  
EVERY MOVED  
A HOSPITAL?

POINT  
PERSON AT  
AMBULANCE

SHOULD HAVE  
PLACED ONE  
AT HELIPAD

POINT  
PERSON ON  
EACH UNIT

POINT PERSON  
AT ENTRANCE  
OF UNIT



## TRIAGE

Not so typical triage:

- Most PICU/Peds kids our before NICU started
- Who were Level II or Level III
- Who were on vents
- Open crib = stretcher
- Warmer = isolette
- Keep families/multiples together
- Who could tolerate over 2-hour trip in an ambulance  
Or with a nonneonatal team?



## TRIAGE TOOL

Lucile Packard Children's Hospital

### LPCH TRAIN MATRIX

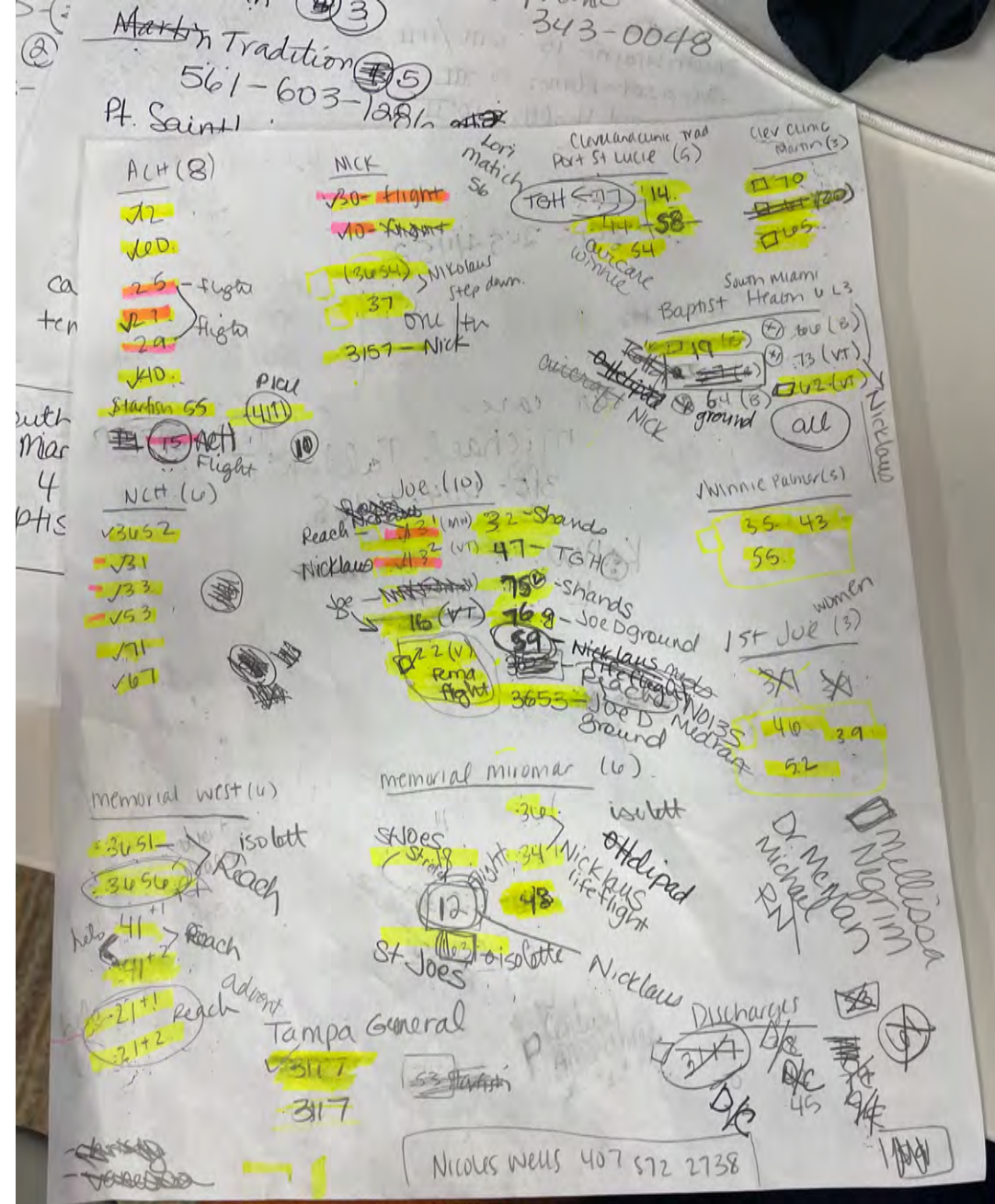
<i><b>Triage by Resource Allocation for IN-patients [TRAIN]®</b></i>				
<b>Transport</b>	<b>Car</b>	<b>BLS</b>	<b>Critical Care</b>	<b>Specialized</b>
<b>Life Support</b>	Stable	Minimal	Moderate-Stable	Max-Unstable
<b>Mobility</b>	Car/Carseat	Wheelchair/stretchers	Transport rig	Immobile
<b>Nutrition</b>	PO Feeds	PO/NG	NG/PO + TPN/IL	NPO & TPN/IL
<b>Pharmacy</b>	PO Meds	PO Meds/IV Meds/IV Fluids	IV Drip x1	IV drip $\geq 2$
<b>Life Support</b>	Minimal = Hood or Low Flow Cannula O <sub>2</sub> , Peritoneal Dialysis, etc.			
	Moderate-Stable = Conventional Ventilator, CPAP/BiPAP/Hi-Flow, Externally paced, chest tube, wt < 1500 grams, etc.			
	Max-Unstable = Highly specialized equipt., e.g., HFOV, ECMO, iNO, CVVH, Berlin Heart, etc.			
<b>Mobility</b>	Car/Carseat = able to ride in automobile with age-appropriate restraints			
	Transport rig = age-appropriate rig with equipment for connecting to ambulance			
	Immobile = Unsafe to move without special equipment e.g., neurosurgical/bariatric			

<https://asprtracie.hhs.gov/technical-resources/resource/1875/preplanning-disaster-triage-for-pediatric-hospitals-train-toolkit>



## CHALLENGES

- Paper tracking- HICS forms
- Neonatologists used to transfers – not evacuation
- Communication with families
- How could we have prepared better prior
  - Print a master patient list
  - Preprint face sheets



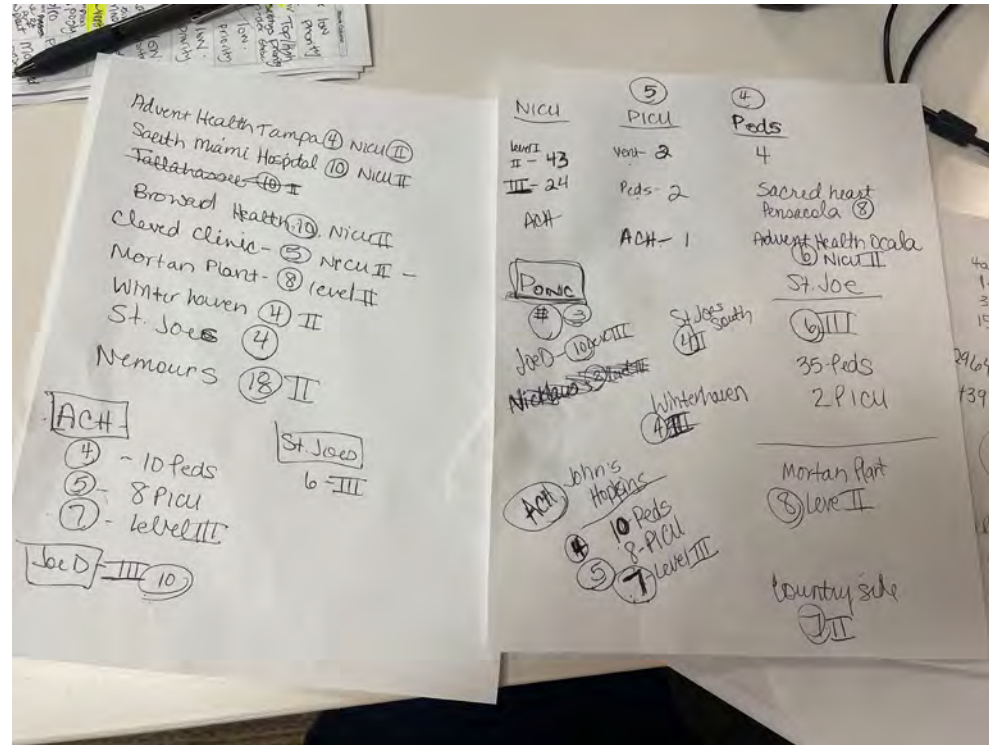
## BED PLACEMENT

### Multiple people calling for beds

- Who owns bed capacity?
- State – FHA System Command?
- General site to say what beds where and where we place?
- With phone numbers?

### Facilities

- Level II and Level III
- Helipad or not





## LANDING ZONE









## WEATHER



## AMBULANCES

- Not all ambulances are equipped the same
- Power Source
- PEDIMATES













PATIENTS MOVED

# All moved in 36 hours

81 total patients

62 Neonates

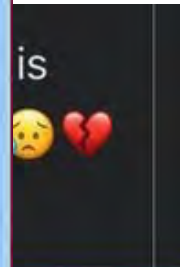
8 PICU

6 Peds

3 PONC

2 Peds ED

Well all  
until th



## SAFETY

- ✓ No safety or adverse events
- ✓ All patients arrived to expected facility



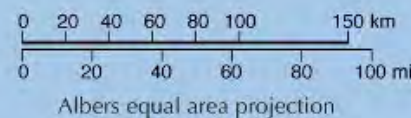


**15 Facilities Across The State**

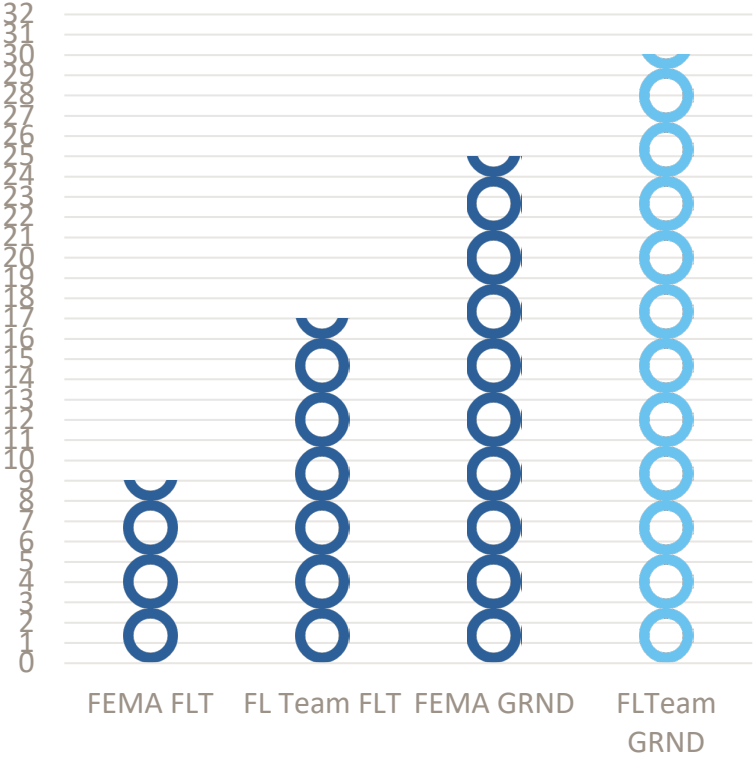
The map displays the state of Florida with 15 facilities marked by red stars. The facilities are located in the following areas (from north to south):

- Jacksonville
- Orlando
- Clearwater
- St. Petersburg
- Tampa
- Bradenton
- Sarasota
- Port Charlotte
- Cape Coral
- Fort Myers
- Naples
- Fort Lauderdale
- Hialeah
- Miami
- Miami Beach
- Kendall
- Homestead

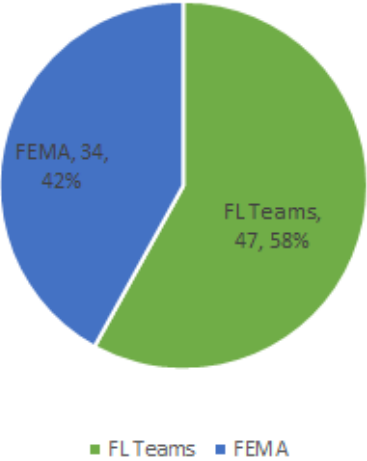
The map also shows major cities, highways, and geographical features like the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico. A scale bar and a compass rose are also present.



DATA



Who Transported?



Ground



68%

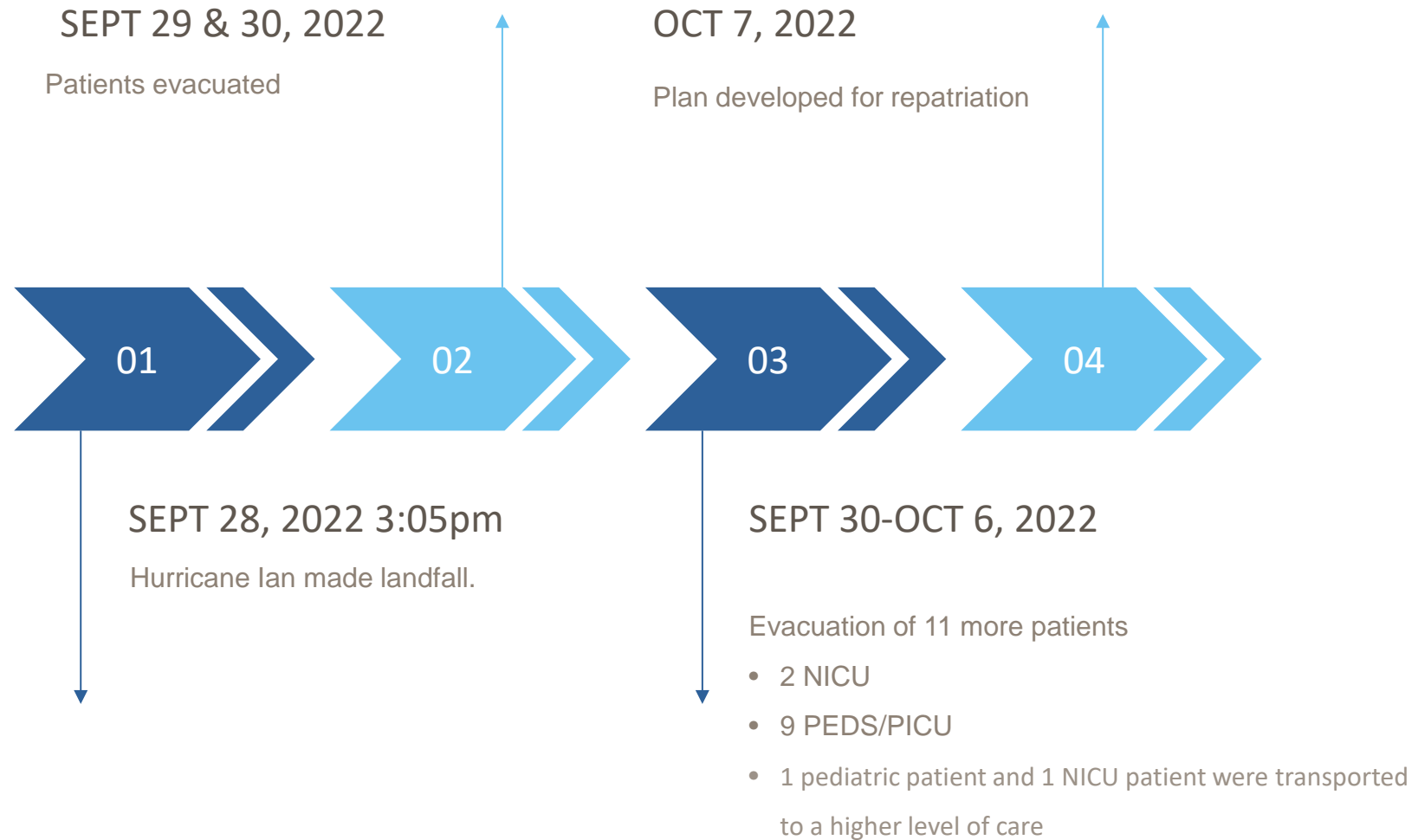
Flight



32%



## TIMELINE



# SWOT ANALYSIS

## STRENGTHS

Early Communication

Back-up Plan

No Middle Man

Used to Interfacility Mentality

Golisano teams went on transport –Mentally?

Repatriation – One Neonatologist taking calls

Relationships

HICS forms used

Had all the equipment needed

## THREATS

Statewide weather

Route I-75 flooding



## WEAKNESSES

Paperwork needs (perceived)

Bed placement – Internal vs FHA

Too many cooks in the kitchen with bed placement

Ambulance tracking – ETAs

Unknown Fuel Depot

Cell phone towers

## OPPORTUNITIES

Streamline paperwork (transfer vs evacuation)

Isolette Team

Redistribute team to help

Repatriation

Special Needs placement from the hospital

Plans for families at receiving facilities

## Years Later...

What has been done?

System:

Well on order

Disaster navigator is **Awareness and Preparedness**

Further discussion and training

What does it look like? CU

To-go bags in our N **Over 14 times giving this talk**

Evacuation Folders **nationally**

FNPTNA:

Updated the plan

Further education across the state

C-Suite leadership letter

State:

Patient tracking

Updated deployment plan

**Epic** Hyperdrive Sandbox B – PH PEDS NICU TRANSPORT – T

Unit Manager Patient Station Today's Pts Schedule OR Sched

Patient Lists

Edit List Patient Transport FL Location Sign Out Rpt

My Lists

- Niki's Patients
  - All - Treatment Team
- Niki's Unit
  - 1 Emergency Room - HER
  - 1 Emergency Room - LER
  - 2 Peds Sedation
  - 3 Neonatal ICU
  - 4 Peds ICU
  - 5 Peds Hem/Onc
  - 5 Peds IP Onc
  - 6 Peds Med/Surg
  - 7 Peds Med/Surg
  - Discharge Lounge
  - Emergency Room - PER
  - Peds NICU Transport
  - Peds Urgent Care

Available Lists

- Recent Searches
- System Lists
- Admissions Pending
- EpicCare Link Recently Discharged
- EpicLink Admitted Patients
- HOD Downtime
- Inpatient Draw List
- Quality Programs
- Recently Discharged
- Remote Client Caseload
- Skilled Nursing
- The Mass Evacuation Lists
- The Mass Evacuation-Recently Discharged Lists

Available Lists

- Remote Client Caseload
- Skilled Nursing
- The Mass Evacuation Lists
  - Mass Evacuation
    - All Patients at Cape Coral Hospital
    - All Patients at Golisano Children's Hospital
    - All Patients at Gulf Coast Medical Center
    - All Patients at HealthPark Medical Center
    - All Patients at Lee Memorial Hospital
    - All Patients at Rehab Hospital
    - All Patients at Skilled Nuring
    - Login Department
  - Patient Contact Information
- The Mass Evacuation-Recently Discharged Lis...



Unit Manager

Patient Station

Today's Pts

Schedule

OR Schedule

OnServiceMD

Provider Privileges

My Reports

Spiritual Care Catholic Census

Spiritual Care Census

TR3B - TRAINING ENV

EpicCare

NS

Hyperdrive Sandbox B - PH PEDS NICU TRANSPORT - TR3B - Training Environment - NICHOLE J SHIMKO

Search (Ctrl+Space)

Print

Log Out

Patient Lists

My Lists

Niki's Patients

All - Treatment Team

Niki's Unit

1 Emergency Room - HER

1 Emergency Room - LER

2 Peds Sedation

3 Neonatal ICU

4 Peds ICU

5 Peds Hem/Onc

5 Peds IP Onc

6 Peds Med/Surg

7 Peds Med/Surg

Discharge Lounge

Emergency Room - PER

Peds NICU Transport

Peds Urgent Care

Available Lists

Remote Client Caseload

Skilled Nursing

The Mass Evacuation Lists

Mass Evacuation

All Patients at Cape Coral Hospital

All Patients at Golisano Children's Hospital

All Patients at Gulf Coast Medical Center

All Patients at HealthPark Medical Center

All Patients at Lee Memorial Hospital

All Patients at Rehab Hospital

All Patients at Skilled Nuring

Login Department

Patient Contact Information

The Mass Evacuation-Recently Discharged Lis

All Patients at Golisano Children's Hospital 249 Patients

Refreshed just now

Search Current Local

Dept/Room/Bed	Patient Name	Discharge Disposition	Target Facility	Discharge Planning	Family/SO Notified / Nurse Handoff / Provider Handoff	CM Notes
PER / Exam 01 / EX 01	Craftsman, Marianne 12 y.o. / F 3/29/2012	---	---	---	---	---
PER / Exam 02 / EX 02	Cutoffsaw, Marianne 12 y.o. / F 3/29/2012	---	---	---	---	---
PER / Exam 04 / EX 04	Cutter, Marianne 12 y.o. / F 3/29/2012	---	---	---	---	---
PER / Exam 05 / EX 05	DeWalt, Marianne 12 y.o. / F 3/29/2012	---	---	---	---	---
PER / Exam 06 / EX 06	Diablate, Marianne 12 y.o. / F 3/29/2012	---	---	---	---	---
PER / Exam 10 / EX 10	Craftsman, Melanie 8 y.o. / F 1/22/2017	---	---	---	---	---
PER / Exam 11 / EX 11	Cutoffsaw, Melanie 8 y.o. / F 1/22/2017	---	---	---	---	---
PER / Exam 12 / EX 12	Zzedmasterone, Melanie 14 y.o. / F 4/4/2010	---	---	---	---	---

Craftsman, Marianne

DOB: 3/29/2012

Unit: PER

Room: Exam 01

Bed: EX 01

Mass Evacuation Form 260

Profile

Req Doc

Mass Evacuation Form

Missing Birth Weight or Gestational Age

Update Birth History

Marianne Craftsman

MRN: 40238323

Description: 12 year old female

LEE HEALTH

GOLISANO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL  
PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY DEPARTMENT - - GOLISANO  
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL  
6081 S HEALTHPARK DR

Today's Date  
1/22/2025  
Admission Date  
1/22/2025  
Discharge Date  
Data Unavailable

Mass Evacuation Form 260

## y Lists

## Niki's Patients

All - Treatment Team

## Niki's Unit

1 Emergency Room - HER

1 Emergency Room - LER

2 Peds Sedation

3 Neonatal ICU

4 Peds ICU

5 Peds Hem/Onc

5 Peds IP Onc

6 Peds Med/Surg

7 Peds Med/Surg

Discharge Lounge

Emergency Room - PER

Peds NICU Transport

Peds Urgent Care

## Available Lists

Remote Client Caseload

Skilled Nursing

The Mass Evacuation Lists

Mass Evacuation

All Patients at Cape Coral Hospital

All Patients at Golisano Children's Hospital

All Patients at Gulf Coast Medical Center

All Patients at HealthPark Medical Center

All Patients at Lee Memorial Hospital

All Patients at Rehab Hospital

All Patients at Skilled Nursing

Login Department

Patient Contact Information

## ☆ All Patients at Golisano Children's Hospital 249 Patients

Dept/Room/Bed	Patient Name	Discharge Disposition	Target Facility	Discharge Planning
PER / Exam 01 / EX 01	Craftsman, Marianne 12 y.o. / F 3/29/2012	—	—	—
PER / Exam 02 / EX 02	Cutoffsaw, Marianne 12 y.o. / F 3/29/2012	—	—	—

Craftsman, Marianne DOB: 3/29/2012 Unit: PER Room: Exam 01 Bed: EX 01



Mass Evacuation Form 260



Profile



Req Doc

Hospital Problems: Diagnosis: Date Noted: Sex: Female  
Pharyngitis 02/02/2023

Family/SO Notified?

## EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Rel to Patient

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Work Phone

- \*No Contact Specified\*
- \*No Contact Specified\*

## TRANSPORTATION NEEDS

Mode of Transport:	Special Needs:
Life Support:	
Triage Category:	
Means of Transport:	
Accompanying Equipment:	
Isolation:	No active isolations
LDAs:	Peripheral IV (Ped) 1/22/2025 Antecubital (Active)
Site Assessment	Clean, Dry, Intact 01/22/25 0634
Line Status	Blood returned 01/22/25 0634
Dressing Status	Clean, Dry, Intact 01/22/25 0634

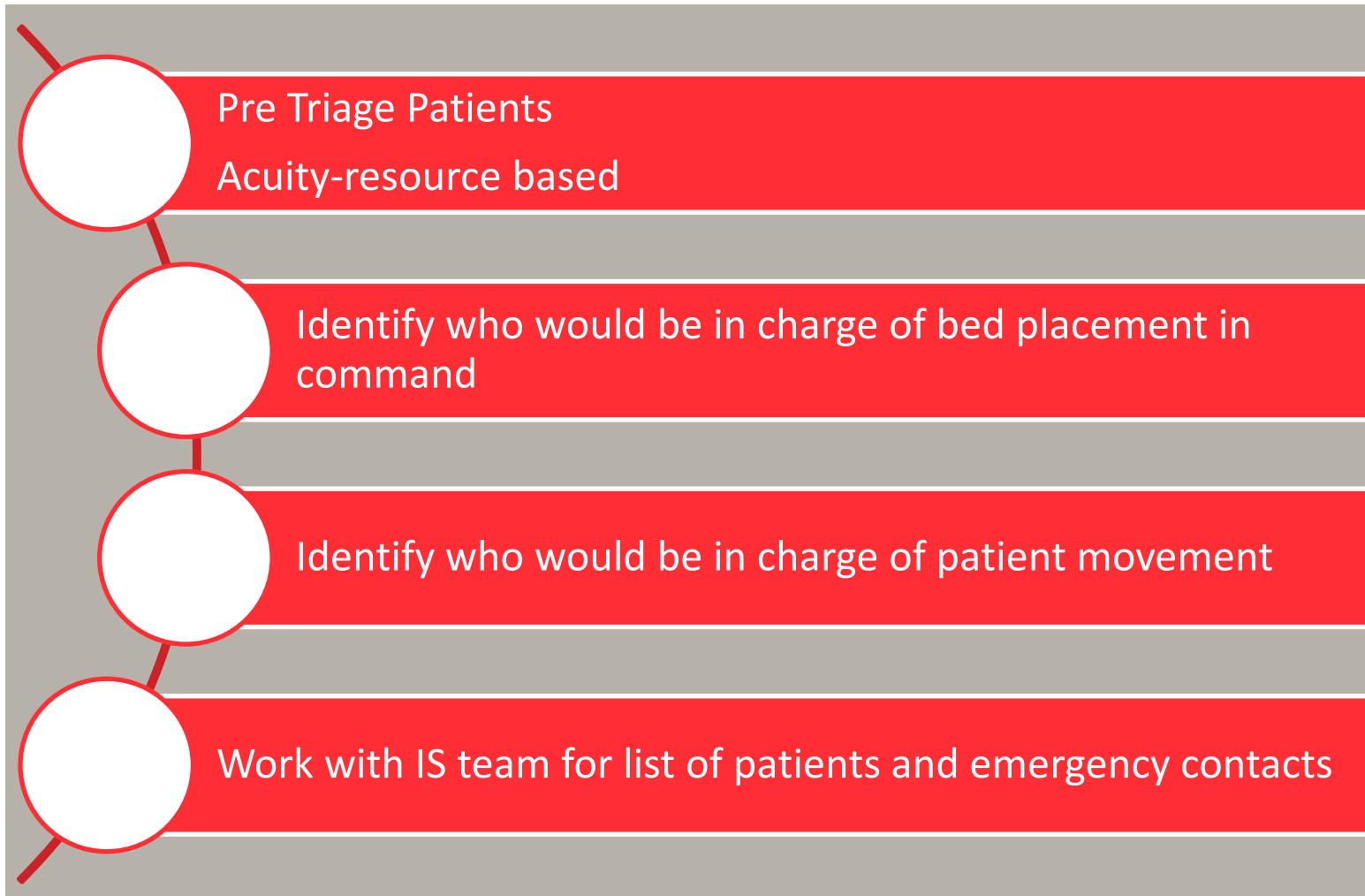
## EVACUATING CLINICAL LOCATION

Room Number: EXAM 01 Patient belongings:  
ID Band Confirmed by: Patient valuables:  
Medical Record Sent: Patient medications:

## TARGET FACILITY INFORMATION

Target Facility:  
Contact info:

If you called today... for tips  
for tomorrow







THANK YOU

# THANK YOU to all the teams

- LifeLine- John's Hopkins All Children's
- Joe DiMaggio Children's
- Life Flight – Nicklaus Children's
- Air Care – Orlando Health
- St. Joseph's Children's
- Winnie Palmer
- Med Trans
- Tampa General Aeromed
- Advent Health
- ShandsCair
- Sarasota Memorial



One day you will  
tell your story  
of how you've  
overcome what  
you're going

through now,  
and it will become  
part of someone  
else's survival  
guide. ♡

## RESOURCES

<https://asprtracie.hhs.gov/technical-resources/resource/1875/preplanning-disaster-triage-for-pediatric-hospitals-train-toolkit>

<https://www.stanfordchildrens.org/en/research-innovation/train>

TEEX Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness **MGT439**

THANK YOU

