



Exercising is Good for You

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Exercise is good for you!



Exercise Ground Rules

- Assume the information provided is plausible, accurate, and scenario events directly impact your position
- You will play yourself but may need to think outside your normal role
- Promote maximum group interactions
- **PARTICIPATE:** There are no wrong answers – only better ones! That's why we're here



Hurricane Keeley



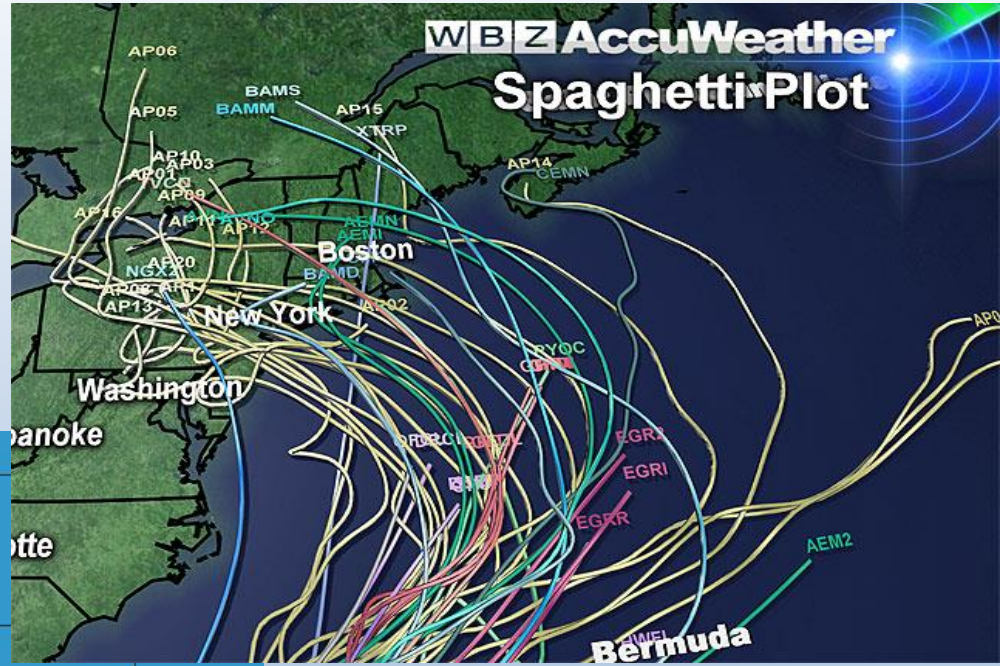
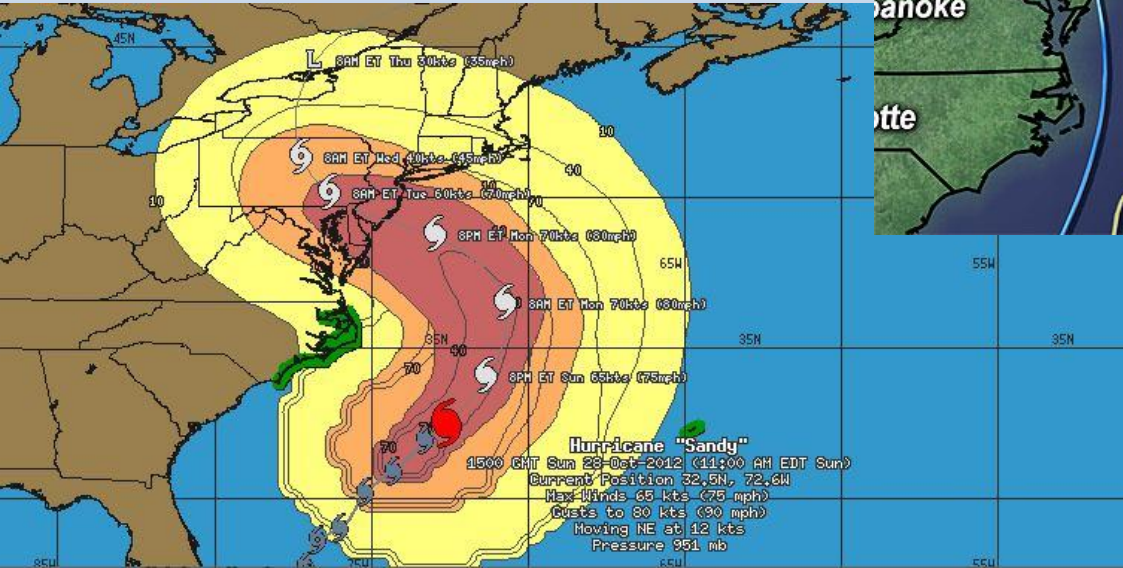
Objectives

- Discuss an hurricane scenario to determine how your organization would prepare for a hurricane, paying special attention to your emergency response plan, capabilities, and staff responsibilities.
- Identify any weaknesses in your plan, and consider the best ways to respond to the needs of your employees and the individuals you serve during a hurricane.
- Ensure your organization is operational as soon as possible after a hurricane.
- Debrief after the scenario to improve your response to emergencies and disasters, and troubleshoot any other unresolved questions.

Initial Event

- **Tuesday, 10:30 a.m.:** The National Weather Service (NWS) has issued a hurricane watch to residents across New York State that a Category 2 hurricane, Keeley, is predicted to skim the coast of North Carolina, and intensify, moving rapidly north-by-northwest over the next three days.





Discussion Questions

- What preparedness efforts would you be taking at this point?
- Would you establish a liaison with the local Emergency Manager?
- How would you share status updates across agencies and with your patients?
- Do you have established Memoranda of Understanding with other stakeholders?

Discussion Questions

- Do you have alternate vendors in place?
- Do you have a plan developed for loss of water and power?
- What type of resources would be needed beyond those available through other public agencies?
- What mutual aid agreements are in place with agencies from other jurisdictions?
- Are there private sector and community partners you are working with at this point?

Discussion Questions

- Do you have alternate communication systems in place?
- Is there a plan for communication with local/State EMS and other health care facilities?
- Will you be coordinating with local and State Emergency Management on information dissemination to your patients (media releases, general information)?
- Do you have sufficient resources to respond to the disaster? What are some potential sources of assistance and how will these requests be made?

Discussion Questions

- Have you defined your agency's capacity for surge?
 - Maximum caseload
 - Scope of service
- Have you identified actions to increase surge capacity?
- Have you developed a patient classification/prioritization list?
- Have you communicated plans with local health care facilities regarding the scope of services and agency surge?

Discussion Questions

- Has a condensed admission packet been developed?
- Do you have a patient tracking system for patients who relocate from their homes?
- Have patients been informed of the local/State evacuation plans?

Update #1

- The NWS has updated the hurricane watch to a hurricane warning, and predicts Hurricane Keeley will make landfall in less than 24 hours.



Discussion Questions

- Do you have a plan for interrupted transportation?
- Do you have alternatives if a gasoline allocation plan is enacted?
- Is there a mechanism developed to identify staff as emergency personnel so they can access their patients?

Update #2

- Hurricane Keeley has made landfall 20 miles west of New York City, with sustained winds of 115 mph.
- Local waterways are two feet above flood stage.
- Approximately 300,000 are without power.

Questions

- What are your immediate actions and priorities in the first 24 hours after hurricane landfall?
- What information are you sharing with employees? How are you communicating about the status of your operations?
- Are you disseminating information to the community?
- Do you have a process in place to account for all of your employees? If people cannot be located or contacted, what - if any - processes do you have to account for them?

Update #3

- **Friday, 8:00 p.m.:** Search and rescue efforts are ongoing as reports of people trapped in flooded homes and apartments continue.
 - Utility companies are working around the clock to restore services, but most people lack electricity, natural gas, and water.
 - American Red Cross shelters open at public schools and undamaged recreation centers, where food, water, and personal items are available.
 - The Department of Public Works is clearing debris from main roadways, and the electric companies are repairing downed wires.

Questions

- Is your organization continuing to operate in any capacity?
- If yes, have you identified surge capacity for your agency (maximum caseload, scope of services)?
- Do you have a patient classification/prioritization list developed?
- Have staff been identified who will be available during the emergency?

Update #4

- **Sunday, 8:00 a.m.:** More than 6,500 homes and businesses suffered moderate to major damage.
 - Parts of major highways and roadways, and dozens of bridges and overpasses require major repairs and debris removal.
 - Many households are still without potable water and power.
 - Approximately 15,000 families are displaced from households and shelter.
 - You are able to access your facility(ies) for an initial damage assessment.
- There is significant damage to the structure of the building(s) and based on the initial inspection, your facility will not be operational in any capacity for at least 3 months.

Questions

- Now that you know the extent of the damage to your facility(ies), do you have options that allow you to continue operations?
- Can you access copies of your vital documents, such as insurance papers, financial information, and key business documents and records?
- How are you communicating with employees regarding their work status? What are your expectations for employees who cannot work, either because your organization is not operational or because they have suffered personal losses?

Questions

- What critical services do your employees rely upon to be at work (e.g., power, transit, schools/day care)?
- Experiencing disasters can be upsetting, so it is important to pay attention to the emotional reactions of your employees. How is your organization prepared to support individuals who express anxiety or stress?
- What is the long-term impact of this hurricane on your organization? Are there any steps you can take now that may lessen the impact of any event like this in the future?

Questions

- What can you do to support the community as it recovers? How can you improve your network and relationships to be better connected to the community to prepare for future events?

Hotwash Discussion Points

- Would your emergency response plan, capabilities, and staff responsibilities address actions needed to respond to such an event?
- Have staff been trained on your emergency plan?
- Did you identify any weaknesses in your plan?
- What mechanisms would you use to respond to the needs of your employees and the individuals you serve?
- How would you ensure your organization is operational as soon as possible?

Questions?

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