Hurricane Irma – ‘No’ Clinical Impact

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Hurricane Irma – ‘No’ Clinical Impact

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CHALLENGE

PLANNING

Disaster Preparedness Department
Policy: Baptist Health have a responsibility to the community to maintain public health and safety

PREPAREDNESS LEVEL ACTIVATION

9/05 Level 3 monitoring and assessing
9/06 Level 2 - A/B teams notified. Teams are re-randomized planning for 4 Hurricanes per year
9/07 Evacuate and close Keys hospitals
9/08 Level 1 - Emergency Operation Incident Command Activated
9/09 Team A reports 0700, Irma approaches
9/10 Irma arrives
9/11 Team B reports 0700 after all clear, return to Level 3
9/15 Mariner’s hospital re-opens
9/26 Open field hospital at Fisherman’s hospital site

EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS

Expecting Families

• EDs 50% - 100% over capacity per entity over period
• ICUs all full
• Mobile carts constant use
• eMDs - new role overseeing admissions - hospital discharges
• Injuries pre-hurricane – shutters etc

Refuge for ALL – Employees and their Families

SOLUTION - Not any port in a storm

• SOP tele-psych and tele-stoke
• Bed placement
• Patient Transports/Transfers
  • >25% pre-storm % (closed two hospitals)
  • >75% after all clear
• Transportation of staff et al. after all clear non-emergency vehicles
• Which Docs were in ORs and when we could send cases
• Volume of non-patients in-house
• D/C power mechanically electrical dependent patients
• Couldn’t send d/c’d patients home to no electricity
• WKBH auditorium opened for discharged patient accommodation
• FIU secondary location with telehealth remotely
• Hyperbaric chamber knocked out
• Find state facilities CO poisoning

Telehealth Center of Excellence BEACON for System Transfer Center-Bridge Office of the Watch

eICU was the Port in the Storm for ALL

• Flexing – Everyone was a Generalist
• eICU cared for non-ICU patients
• WhatsApp communication
• Exponential Teamwork

Mobile Hospital set up in the Keys

CONCLUSION - No Hurricane related deaths!
EOC, Experience. Pre-planned systems did not fail, Not a time to think ‘outside the box’

LESSONS LEARNED

• No internet or cell service
• Remember Walkie Talkies??
• Improved food planning
• Shower sign
• Garbage
• Bathroom
• Create a third team ‘C’