

Ice Storm Exercise

Instructions

Please read before beginning the exercise! This exercise is a self advancing, voice over power point presented in flash player format. You may need to download or update your flash player program, which is available free online at:

<http://www.adobe.com/support/flashplayer/downloads.html>.

Once you open the program, it will advance automatically. You may stop, pause, or advance it at anytime by using the controls on the bottom of the screen.

The exercise presents a brief scenario from the first warnings for an ice storm on to the first stages of recovery. During the exercise you should apply your agency's actions to correspond with stages of the storm.

Before you begin, be sure to download the accompanying handouts so you may take notes for discussion after the exercise.

Exercise Guidance

There are many questions to be considered during the course of this drill. There are no right answers other than what helps your agency and you to continue to safely take care of your patients while preserving staff safety and the integrity of the agency as a business.

Some key points to remember:

- Your response must be based on your plan – not what you think you should be doing! You must consult your agency emergency plan every step of the way and take notes on what the gaps and strengths are. At the end of the drill, you can discuss your findings and how to improve your plan, or perhaps your knowledge of it.
- If you are the staff member in charge of emergency planning, we recommend you print out the handouts from the drill, date and keep notes of who participated in the drill, and complete an after action report (AAR) and any documentation referencing your plan to improve your emergency plan. If you wish to make a formal report, a template for an after action report is available on the homeland security website: www.wvdhsem.gov/Training/training_AAR_Template07.doc. This will all serve as documentation that you have been performing internal agency drills/exercises.

- If you are unable to bring large groups together, you can ask employees to engage in the drill independently and fill out the form on the next page and bring to you with their feedback.
- It's also important to keep in mind that this is a regionalized or local, not national emergency, and you can not assume CMS will be waiving the Conditions of Participation.

This drill is intended to be only part of your agency's drill and exercise program and should be used to supplement other, more structured and collaborative drills within your agency and community.

Additional Resources:

Home Care Prepare is a website maintained by HCA Education and Research to provide emergency preparedness information to the home care industry. Check out the link below to find information on Incident Command Systems as well as NYS requirements as outlined in a May 2005 DAL for Emergency Planning.

http://homecareprepare.org/Planning_Documents.html

Ice Storm Exercise Employee feedback form

Agency:

Employee Name:

Date:

Gaps Identified: Employee	Corrective Action or Room for Improvement	Gaps Identified: Agency	Corrective Action or Room for Improvement
Strengths Identified: Employee		Strengths Identified: Agency	
<p>Comments:</p>			