

## **Hurricane/Tropical Storm Emergency Response/"Ride Out" Plan**

The Emergency Response Plan as approved by the Emergency Response Committee on June 1, 2009.

### **SMALL ANIMAL:**

Treatment Room Supervisor and the Small Animal ICU Supervisor will create A, B, and C tech teams. They will each coordinate one team and one of the ACS (Associate Clinical Specialist) 3's will coordinate the third. These teams will include Cardiology, Ophthalmology, Dermatology, Surgery, Rehab, SA Treatment, Oncology, Anesthesia and Junior Surgery Supervisor. Each team will rotate (A,B,C) responsibilities when a new storm is named and enters gulf.

- a. Ride out team will have 4-5 techs for Small Animal.
- b. Other two teams would need 6-8 techs per shift. Should have someone from every area on each team.
- c. Should have 10-12 total techs on each team.
- d. Ride out team of 4-5 techs for Small Animal would come back in 48 hours after the event if needed.
- e. Second team (B Team) will be expected to report 2 hours after sustained winds drop below 35 MPH.
- f. Third team (C Team) will be expected to report 12 hours after sustained winds drop below 35 MPH.

### **LARGE ANIMAL:**

The Large Animal Emergency Response Plan has been derived from the Small Animal Emergency Response, with minor adjustments. The large animal emergency coverage will be divided into two main phases, a ride-out phase and an aftermath phase. The EHSP will be divided into three teams (A, B, and C) and will include faculty personnel, house officers, front office personnel, technicians, student workers and research personnel.

The overall goal is to maintain equal numbers of technicians and staff with different skill sets from each area to work as a team to provide necessary coverage. Each team of personnel will be able to provide the required tools for continuity of service in the Equine Hospital

## **SUPPORT UNITS:**

Anesthesia, Pharmacy, Radiology, Surgery, Central Supply and Clinical Pathology are required to set up their own emergency plans that will provide 1-2 staff members for each shift (Team B & Team C) coordinating timing of arrival with the B teams from LA & SA which is 2 hours after sustained winds drop below 35mph. The support areas will not have a ride out team and will be contacted / coordinated thru Hospital Administration.

1) When a named storm enters the Gulf, the Emergency Response Committee will meet to discuss timeline and essential details of rolling out emergency response plan. Committee will meet daily afterward.

2) All teams will be activated at 72 hours prior to potential landfall. Each individual team will have a mandatory meeting to firm up plans for their individual group.

3) A decision will be made at 48 hours prior to landfall on a time to switch from normal operations to emergency operations. We would depopulate the hospital and postpone appointments to a later date.

4) Dr. Acierno will be supervising emergency service residents and interns.

5) Faculty on clinics for each service will supervise their residents and students in coordination with each service chief and the small animal section chief. Students may be required to participate in the clinic emergency response depending upon need and safety.

6) Students enrolled in VMED 5463 (Small Animal Emergency Rotation) will be supervised by the course coordinator (Dr. Ryan). Students may be required to participate in the clinic emergency response depending upon need and safety.

5) Communications post storm would be by phone, email and text messaging as necessary.

### Emergency Levels for the VTH&C

Level 1 Normal Operations

Level 2 Triage with full services taking cases directly from triage.

Level 3 Emergency only no scheduled appointments (like weekends).

Level 4 Ride out status just skeleton staff only no anticipated cases coming in

Level 5 Hospital closed

Updated 1/25/12