

Tracer Protection Services

TORNADO DISASTER PLAN

PURPOSE:

The purpose of the Tornado Plan is to provide specific instruction for the safety of the patients, visitors, and personnel in the event of a Tornado.

WEATHER MONITORING

It shall be the responsibility of the Safety Officer or designee to monitor the weather reports and inform the Control Center of any tornado warnings within the Baton Rouge area.

AUTHORIZATION TO ACTIVATE THE TORNADO PLAN:

Acting on the recommendation of the Safety Officer, the Chief Operations Officer or designee, will request the PBX Operator to make the following announcement:

“YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE, THE TORNADO PLAN IS IN EFFECT”

CRITERIA FOR ACTIVATING THE TORNADO PLAN:

1. A tornado has actually been sighted in the immediate area.
2. A tornado is indicated in the immediate area by radar.

THE PLAN:

*NOTE: During an activated Tornado Plan, elevators are not to be used.

The following procedures are to be activated immediately:

PATIENT CARE AREAS

1. The Charge Nurse will keep the Kardex and Narcotics keys with her and will direct the nursing personnel.
2. The Nursing Staff will:
 - a. Ask ambulatory patients to move to the hospital corridor outside the patient's rooms.
 - b. Position non-ambulatory patients away from windows, if possible. Non-ambulatory patients will remain in their rooms.
 - c. Position patients and visitors as far from windows as possible, preferably in a crouched position.
 - d. Provide blankets for protection when possible.

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- e. Remain with the patients.

SURGICAL SUITE

Elective procedures will be delayed until notification by the Vice-President, Patient Care Services or designee, or Director of Surgical Services or designee.

Procedures in progress will proceed with surgeons and surgery personnel kept informed of the situation.

OTHER HOSPITAL PERSONNEL

Information Desk personnel, with the assistance from Security, will clear the lobby and all visitors and direct them to the nearest shelter areas; i.e. inner corridors on the first floor. The cafeteria will be cleared immediately by the Dietary Service Supervisor or designee. The nursing staff will report to their assigned areas. All other personnel in the cafeteria will assist families and visitors to shelter areas; i.e. inner corridors on the first floor.

All personnel not directly involved in immediate patient areas will move to safe inner corridors of whichever floor they are on.

PLANT OPERATIONS

1. Close the fire doors.
2. Security Officers will act as weather observers and assist with clearing the lobby.

DIVISIONAL DIRECTOR OF NURSING OR DESIGNEE

Make rounds to appraise the situation and determine if and where additional assistance is necessary.

CONTROL CENTER

Will be located in the ECU management suite.

TERMINATION OF THE TORNADO PLAN

Acting on the recommendation of the Safety Officer, the Executive Vice-President or designee will request the PBX Operator to make the following announcement three (3) times:

“YOUR ATTENTION PLEASE, THE TORNADO PLAN IS CANCELED.....
ALL CLEAR”