



Well Being Mission Sheet

In the continuing evolution of our Hurricane Michael deployment, responders will be assigned missions to determine the wellbeing of residents impacted by the Hurricane. Lack of power, communications and access challenges make it necessary for public safety to physically contact residents and assess any medical needs they may have. While the assessment of individuals for medical needs is routine in daily EMS practice, the conditions of a disaster response create new, unique approaches.

Here are some guidelines to help as you continue the deployment.

- Attempt to make contact with residents at each address assigned
 - Best Effort – No forced entry, but make an effort to visualize the scene safely while announcing yourself (don't surprise or alarm residents – Announce “EMS”)
 - Document “No Contact Made” if no one is identified
- Ask residents if they have any immediate medical issues (our goal is not to be a comprehensive healthcare provider, but to identify current needs)
 - USAR teams have already been through many of these areas and have already made contact with many of these residents so emergent conditions have likely been addressed already.
 - Assess individuals, if necessary, and determine a practical, safe medical action plan – This is a tremendous opportunity to use your years of education, experience, skills and access to others (your partner in many cases) to provide sound approaches.
 - Many people may not need transport but may need medical guidance
 - Utilize paratransit for medical needs such as going to pharmacy for important medications (insulin, blood thinners, etc)
 - Often, people just need guidance and expertise or have questions regarding their health
- Document any other non-medical needs
- Distribute resource handouts as appropriate
 - Pharmacy sheet
 - Info sheet
- Interactions may range from a quick conversation to a medical assessment to transport to a hospital. It is more important to get this right than to go fast.
 - Whatever the outcome the interaction should be documented/relayed through the appropriate system.

Perhaps most important, provide reassurance and support. These residents are scared and are in an uncertain and confusing situation. Be compassionate, caring, and supportive. Your words and guidance will help them (literally) weather the remainder of this storm

Thanks for giving of yourself to help so many. *It means the world to this community...*

Ed

Ed Racht, MD
Chief Medical Officer