

DMATTERS

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TADMAT Responds to Hurricane Marilyn

On September 18th at 12:36 PM the TADMAT received a call from NDMS activating them for response to the US Virgin Islands after Hurricane Marilyn (a category 3) struck the Islands. St. Thomas was badly damaged and the TADMAT was told to prepare a team strong on Physician and Nurse staff. At 7:30pm that evening, the TADMAT participated in a conference call with RADM. Frank Young, MD., the director of NDMS and the KY1 DMAT. We were told that we would probably be assisting in or around the St. Thomas Hospital. The next day on a C-130 Aircraft, the TADMAT deployed 38 team members which included, 7 Physicians, 13 Nurses, 5 EMT's and other support personnel. Probably due to our ability to field so many nurses and doctors, we were given the mission to assist the Boston, Massachusetts DMAT team at St. Thomas Hospital. Within 12 hours of arrival at St. Thomas we had our mission to deploy to the hospital grounds and by that evening we had our equipment ready and our team staffed the Emergency Department (which had moved out of the hospital into tents on the front lawn due to damage to the hospitals Emergency Ward). The TADMAT worked exceptionally hard and the combined Allied DMATs of OH1 and MA1 treated over 1200 patients at our site. Injuries included stabbings, gunshot wounds, head injuries, local diseases such as Duenge fever and Cigatuera fish poisoning, pediatric and adult respiratory problems, complications of diabetes and hypertension, and many puncture wounds and soft tissue injuries associated with the cleanup efforts. Also during the deployment, the team pitched in to unload thousands of pounds of relief supplies and pharmacy items. Patients who were seriously injured were evacuated by helicopter or airplane to Puerto Rican hospitals (a 30 min flight). There were frequently 2 or 3 choppers on the hospitals helipad evacuating patients. Security was provided by members of the US Marshals, some volunteers from the Charleston, South Carolina police department and the US Boarder Patrol. Also assisting the TADMAT and MA1 teams in the makeshift hospital ER were various hospital medical and nursing staff who remained on the island during the storm. The TADMAT left all of our supplies and equipment there on the island when we were deactivated. It was promised by NDMS that we would receive replacements for this equipment and the items borrowed from the National Guard. We would probably be receiving a DMAT Basic and Re-supply load also. The TADMAT Executive Committee would like to congratulate all the team members who deployed with the team for a very successful mission. We would also like to thank those that assisted in us getting "out the door" so fast. With your help, we were able to get the DMAT to Level-1 capability (72 hours self sufficiency with tents, cots, generators and food) in less than 13 hours. Finally, we would like to thank all those members who stayed at home or were unable to deploy. The "Home Team" concept will be further developed and is an important role in the DMATs ability to deploy. Without folks back home to cover in the event of a local disaster, we could never travel and help victims of some distant disaster.

Airshow '95 a success

The TADMAT provided medical care at the Toledo Express Airport Airshow '95. This event provided the team with a chance to show the local EMS community the capabilities of the TADMAT. Although our role was to provide medical care only in the event of a disaster situation, our services were called upon a number of times at the airshow. Patients were referred to us from other medical units as we had physicians present. The TADMAT provided treatment for over 10 injuries and illnesses at the airshow and had one patient transported by one of the on-scene EMS units to St. Luke's Hospital for more definitive evaluation. This event gave the TADMAT an opportunity to show off the new TADMAT disaster vehicle. This ambulance that was donated by Lucas County EMS, has been painted orange and labeled with the TADMAT logo. It will be utilized by the TADMAT for the Rapid Deployment Team and is identified as "RDT-1". We also extensively tested the TADMAT's communications capability. Al Geha, TADMAT Communications Officer provided "net control" at the site. A number of TADMAT members stayed overnight and had the opportunity to test their field gear.

Holiday Party Committee

A committee will be forming at the November DMAT meeting to begin planning the TADMAT Holiday party. Last year we did Halloween. This year it will be sometime in December or January. If you are interested in joining the committee please make yourself known at the next meeting!

TADMAT Information Hotline

The TADMAT Info-Hotline is always available to keep you updated about the latest TADMAT meeting date and time. When the TADMAT is placed on "Pre-Alert" or "Alert" the informational hotline will announce the latest info regarding the developing disaster. When the TADMAT is deployed, the info-line will give details about the team and how the deployment is progressing. All team members are urged to make use of this number to keep updated about the latest info regarding the TADMAT.

TADMAT pagers still available

If you presently have a pager with USA Mobile or another service, you might consider switching to a TADMAT pager. This alphanumeric pager has a special group page that allows TADMAT Executive Committee members to page a group message to everyone on the TADMAT. This is particularly useful for when we need to activate the TADMAT, remind team members of meetings or special events. The pager rental is \$10 per month which includes rental insurance if the pager is lost or stolen. If you pay the whole first year, you get 3 months free. There is a \$20 activation fee so for the first year it costs \$110. The next year is just \$10/month. An alphanumeric pager will allow you to receive text messages as pages. These can be sent from any personal computer or you can subscribe to a paging service that will type the messages for you. Otherwise, the pager receives pages just like your digital pager does now. An added benefit to the TADMAT

pager is that you will receive the National Weather Service severe storm announcements. If you would like to take advantage of this deal, please leave a message for Churton on the TADMAT voice mail (381-5163).

TADMAT DRILL NOV. 18-19

Once again TADMAT will host 100 Boy Scouts while presenting the Emergency Preparedness Badge on Saturday Nov. 18 & 19. Most of the lectures on Saturday have presenters, but there are still opportunities to be involved by helping with registration, coordinating, and demonstrating moving injured patients. Sunday is our drill. We would like to start moulaging victims at 0800 and the drill itself begins at 0900. Our scenario is a towering inferno at Harris Macintosh Towers on the Toledo Hospital Campus. We plan to run the scouts through triage & emergency stabilization. We will then transport them to 4 area hospitals. They will walk to Toledo Hospital & Scout leaders will drive them to Mercy, flower, & St. Luke's. This will help to fulfill the hospitals' requirements for disaster drills. We need a great TADMAT turnout. We will have to do the search & rescue, as well as triage and treat. A couple of the team will need to enter the scouts into the hospital drill. TV24 has voiced interest in doing a 2 or 3 part segment on the week-end so we need to have plenty of members present. TADMAT points will be awarded based on level of participation by each member. Two points will be awarded for each day and an additional 3 points if you lecture either day. I'm sure you are all wondering and to allay your anxieties--- Yes! There will be commemorative T-shirts available for \$10.00. We will meet @ 6 PM on Nov 9th before our monthly meeting to firm up the week-end plans. Thanks in advance for your help & participation.

New Committee is formed

At the last TADMAT meeting, a serious discussion developed among the team members with regard to the Marilyn deployment. Some of the issues addressed were: the timeliness and efficiency of the call-up, effective utilization of the team members who are unable to deploy, the point system, and getting more involvement from as many of the team as possible. It was obvious then that these and other issues could not be addressed properly at one or two meetings. Therefore, a team committee was created that will examine these as well as other issues important to TADMAT as a whole. It will function separately from the executive committee and be composed principally from members, not officers, of TADMAT. This Team Committee can and should examine everything about TADMAT. Nothing is sacrosanct. The whole purpose of this committee is to make TADMAT better than it is. This committee after its investigations are completed will make its recommendations known to the executive committee and to the team. Mike Fogle has been asked to serve as the head of this committee for 2 main reasons: 1) he is interested & has the ability in making this committee fulfill its mission & 2) he is not on the executive committee. Membership on this committee is still forming so if there are other TADMAT members who wish to serve on the committee or to provide input, contact Mike. Interested parties can meet immediately following the next DMAT meeting (November 9th)

TADMAT to sign MOU with the State of Ohio

On November 16th, members of the TADMAT will be traveling to Columbus to the State of Ohio Emergency Management Agency headquarters to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the State of Ohio. This MOU is an agreement between Ohio and the TADMAT to make the team a response arm of the Ohio EMA so as to provide disaster medical care following an incident within the state. When the state requests, the TADMAT will be activated and will travel to the disaster area to provide field medical care. The State of Ohio has agreed to provide transportation to and from the site, liability coverage for the team personnel and reimbursement of equipment and supplies utilized during the response. We will not receive a salary while on deployment for the State of Ohio as we do with the Feds. Additionally, the state will provide security for the team at the disaster site (probably in the form of State of Ohio or local Police. A similar document has been drafted and will be signed by the Dayton, Ohio DMAT and the Cincinnati Medical Response Team (a Red Cross disaster team). The EMA is planning a press briefing during the signing of the document. The TADMAT has been asked to assist the Dayton DMAT in setting up a Field Hospital simulation for display to the press. This will be a good opportunity to expose the TADMAT to the State of Ohio Emergency Managers as many of them will already be at the EMA HQ attending a two day conference. Many EMA Managers are unaware of the disaster teams that are within the state and their capabilities. This will be an excellent chance to show them what a resource we could be to them. If you are available on November 16th, please make it known at the TADMAT meeting on November 9th or call leave a message on the TADMAT voice mail (381-5163). We will probably be leaving from the MCO parking lot #4 at 7AM on November 16th with the TADMAT RDT-1 vehicle and a caravan of cars. The setup of the field hospital with the Dayton DMAT and the Cincinnati MAT is scheduled to begin at 10AM, the press conference is at 1PM and we should be taking things down and clearing out by 3:30PM and back in Toledo by 6PM. Team members who will be coming with us should wear the TADMAT uniform as we will be highly visible during this event. As it is so important to the team, 5 points will be awarded to those who are able to travel with us to Columbus and assist with the setup and takedown.