

Severe Weather Action Plan

The following is a timeline of activities that will occur in the event a hurricane or other severe weather event. Should a storm develop more rapidly, the timeline will be adjusted accordingly.

**72 Hours
Before Event**

Hospital Services will contact hospital partners within the impacted zones to determine if they have closure plans.

- If the Hospital is closing, Hospital Services will work with the hospital to schedule pick up of all blood inventory.
- Hospitals within evacuation zones that are remaining open will have their stock levels increased to 110% of normal stock levels and will be provided an inventory of fresh apheresis platelets to hold during the weather event.

**48 Hours
Before Event**

For hospitals that are closing, arrangements will be finalized to pick up all blood components for the duration of the weather event. Restock will occur after the hospital has reopened.

**24 Hours
Before Event**

Hospital Services will contact all open hospitals for final stock orders and notify them of our pending shutdown plans.

**12-24 Hours
Before Event**

Once a final determination is made to suspend blood delivery activities, The Blood Center will begin temporary shutdown procedures.

During Event

The Blood Center operations will be suspended until the conditions are safe to resume activities.

Once winds reach sustained 35 mph or more, no routine deliveries or specimen pickups will be made. Rapid Delivery services will be placed on hold or severely delayed due to evacuation traffic, flooding, ice on the roads, or other hazardous conditions.

Every effort will be made to resume activities as quickly as possible to minimize impact on patient care services; however, the safety of our Hospital Services staff is priority during the disaster event.



Once it has been deemed safe by our Command Center, The Blood Center will resume blood product deliveries to facilities as needed.



Hospital Services will call to arrange for restock of blood components and will contact hospital partners who had their inventory increased during the severe weather to pick up any excess or unneeded blood components for redistribution.

Important Contact Information

Hospital Services (713) 791-6250

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