



SEPT. 4, 2008

HEALTH ADVISORY

Department of Health Gathering List of Ambulance Services Willing To Deploy To Coastal Areas

The North Dakota Department of Health, Emergency Preparedness and Response Section is continuing to collect availability status of staffed North Dakota ambulances willing to respond to states being impacted by the Gulf storms. There are two more major storms that appear to be forming in the next seven days that may impact the coastal areas. Additionally, ambulances may be needed to return evacuated patients to nursing homes and hospitals.

Several ambulance services have responded to the Health Advisory issued on 8/30/08. If you have not yet responded but have ambulances and staff available to respond, please complete the following information and return by email to twiedric@nd.gov.

Ambulance services would be deployed under Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) requests. **Ambulance services should not respond to the Gulf unless officially deployed under EMAC or through a FEMA contract.** If deployed under EMAC, ambulance service team members would become uncompensated employees of the North Dakota Department of Health. The ambulance service would be compensated at FEMA disaster rates by the requesting state. Disaster responses involve working under difficult conditions, so responding crews may be subjected to austere conditions such as sleeping in a tent or barracks.

Under the EMAC agreement, the requesting state accepts the licensure provisions of the State of North Dakota and agrees to incur the liability risks for the response. The North Dakota Department of Health will provide workers compensation coverage.

Please provide the following information to the North Dakota Department of Health, Emergency Preparedness and Response Section if you are willing to provide ambulance assistance to the Gulf states:

- Names of Ambulance Service: _____
- Contact Person: _____
- Contact Phone Numbers: _____
- Email Address: _____
- Number of Staffed Ambulance Vehicles: _____
- Service Level: (Basic or Advanced): _____
- Earliest Date Available to Deploy: _____

If you have staffed ambulances available to respond, please send the information by email as soon as possible to twiedric@nd.gov. **If you have previously responded that you have ambulances available, it is not necessary to resubmit your information.**

Responding that you are willing to provide a staffed ambulance does not mean that you will be deployed. Before committing to being deployed, you will be advised of the reimbursement amounts that will be provided by the requesting state. If your service is deployed, you will receive a briefing and deployment instructions from the North Dakota Department of Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Section. If you have questions, please contact us at the email address listed above.

Categories of Health Alert messages:

- *Health Alert conveys the highest level of importance; warrants immediate action or attention.*
- *Health Advisory provides important information for a specific incident or situation; may not require immediate action.*
- *Health Update provides updated information regarding an incident or situation; no immediate action necessary.*
- *Health Information provides general information that is not necessarily considered to be of an emergent nature.*

This message is being sent to local public health units, clinics, hospitals, physicians, tribal health, North Dakota Nurses Association, North Dakota Long Term Care Association, North Dakota Healthcare Association, North Dakota Medical Association, North Dakota EMS Association and hospital public information officers.

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You have received this message based upon information contained within our emergency notification database.

If you have a different or additional e-mail or fax address that you would like to be used, please contact the

North Dakota Department of Health, Health Alert Network program at 701.328.2270.

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