

HIM.3.2 Respond to Disasters

Procedure Area: Hospital Inventory Management Procedures (HIM)

Modified: Jan 2014

Purpose

To determine the immediate blood need, especially for red blood cells, of your facility and communicate that information to the local region that serves your facility in the event of a natural or manmade disaster.

Scope

Customers

Procedure Steps

1. Determine the immediate and short-term medical need for blood at your facility.
2. Communicate the amount of blood your facility needs to function for 24 hours. Note that type O RBCs for immediate transfusion to disaster victims will be provided.
3. Reassess your need for blood and blood components throughout the disaster period, and communicate this information to at least once every 24 hours.

Additional Information

- In the event of a domestic disaster or act of terrorism affecting the blood supply, the disaster task force will coordinate with the American Association of Blood Banks to accomplish the following:
 - Determine the medical need for blood
 - Facilitate transportation, if needed, of blood from one facility to another
 - Communicate a common message to the national blood community and the public about the status of the blood supply in the disaster-affected community.
- If the situation warrants limited civilian traffic or for any other reason where it is deemed necessary, inventory movement (in whole or in part) to one or more local facilities may be arranged to better provide for potential patient need.