

The University of Texas- Houston Internal Medicine Residency Program Disaster Plan

In the event of a natural disaster or emergency, all Residents and Interns rotating on the Internal Medicine Service are required to abide by the terms of the official University of Texas- Houston Internal Medicine Residency Program Disaster Plan.

All residents and interns will be notified that the disaster plan is going into effect via a page and an email by the Internal Medicine Office or the Assistant Chiefs of Service Office (ACS). The page and email will state the time and date that the plan is going into effect. The disaster plan will remain into effect until notified to the contrary by the Internal Medicine Office or the ACS's.

All **essential personnel** will be required to remain in their assigned locations. Essential personnel are defined below. If you feel you cannot stay due to personal or family concerns you must find coverage for your assigned duty. Your coverage needs to be approved by the ACS's prior to your being excused.

Essential Services include:

ER at LBJ
CCU at Hermann
MICU at Hermann and LBJ
Ward Teams at Hermann and LBJ
St. Lukes Episcopal Hospital
MD Anderson Cancer Center

All *consult services* are deemed non-essential, and these services will be covered by the subspecialty Fellow and /or Attendings. Residents and Interns on the service will be excused when the disaster plan takes effect. All subspecialty patients need to be checked out to their respective fellow or attending. Return to work immediately after the disaster plan is no longer in effect.

For residents and interns rotating on **essential services**, the following plan will be activated:

1. All residents and interns on Wards, CCU or MICU that are **ON-CALL and PRE-CALL** on the day the disaster plan is activated are required to report to their assigned duties immediately.
2. Residents and interns will rotate working 12 hour shifts to cover patient care until the disaster plan is no longer in effect.
3. For Ward Teams - there will be two Ward Teams on duty at a time in each hospital. Ward teams must divide the patients from ALL ward services equally and round on them on them on a daily basis. The cross-cover and admitting duties will then be divided amongst the two ward teams on duty in 12 hour shifts.
4. Renal Wards at Hermann and LBJ will be covered by the Renal Fellow.

5. The ER at LBJ will be covered by all of the residents and interns scheduled for the day and night shifts on the day the disaster plan is activated. They will rotate duties in 12 hour shifts.
6. CCU/Cardiology at Hermann will function similar to the Ward Teams (see number 3).
7. MICU at Hermann and LBJ will rotate duties in 12 hour shifts.
8. St. Lukes – this is DIFFERENT from the Hermann and LBJ policy. Contact the chief resident for St. Luke's in the event of a disaster 832-355-4693 (office) or page him/her through the St. Luke's page operator – 832-355-1000. The on-call, pre-call, and pre-pre-call interns and residents are to report to duty immediately (3 days worth of call). You will rotate work in 24 hour shifts.
9. MDACC – The on-call and pre-call residents/interns will report to MDACC and rotate working in 12 hour shifts to provide cross-coverage to existing patients.

Ready Reserve-

Interns and Residents on Ready Reserve must report to the ACS's when the disaster plan is activated in order to approve any evacuation plans. These residents **may be deemed as essential** and required to report to duty until the disaster plan is no longer in effect.