

# EMERGENCY CREDENTIALING PROGRAM

## Disaster Privileges

Emergency privileges may be granted to a volunteer practitioner when the facility Emergency Operations Plan has been activated and the organization is unable to meet resident needs **or** meet the needs of an influx of residents/people.

In the event the facility (Incident Commander / Administrator, in consultation with Medical Director or designee) determines that it is unable to handle the immediate resident needs during a disaster with their existing staff, emergency privileges may be granted to licensed staff volunteering their services.

Disaster privileges may also be granted to someone who may come with a resident from an evacuated facility. This procedure is about privileges and credentialing of physicians and other licensed staff (nurses) during a disaster.

- The receiving facility will manage the activities of individuals who receive disaster privileges.
  - Medical and Nursing personnel with disaster privileges will be identified by a facility issued ID (if systems are functional, a facility issued photo ID is required).
  - Managers will have staff with disaster privileges working under their observation. Managers will be responsible for clinical record review and sign-off, as applicable.
- Disaster privileges may be granted upon presentation of a valid government issued photo ID (i.e., driver's license or passport), and any of the following:
  - A current picture healthcare organizational ID card.
  - A current license certification or registration to practice and a valid picture ID issued by a state, federal or regulatory agency. A primary source of verification must be given where applicable.
  - Identification indicating that the individual is a member of a Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) or Medical Reserve Corps (MRC).
  - Identification indicating that the individual has been granted authority to render resident care in emergency circumstances, such authority having been granted by a federal, state or municipal entity.
  - Presentation by current organizational staff member(s) with personal knowledge of practitioner's identity.
- Within 72 hours, the organization will determine the need to continue this disaster privileging policy.

As soon as the immediate situation is under control, preferably not to exceed 72 hours, the verification process of credentials and privileges of individuals who have received disaster privileges must be completed.