

NOVA Conference Emergency Preparedness and Response

Claire Monzeglio, MSN, RN, CCRN

Toni A. Smith, DEMPS Coordinator

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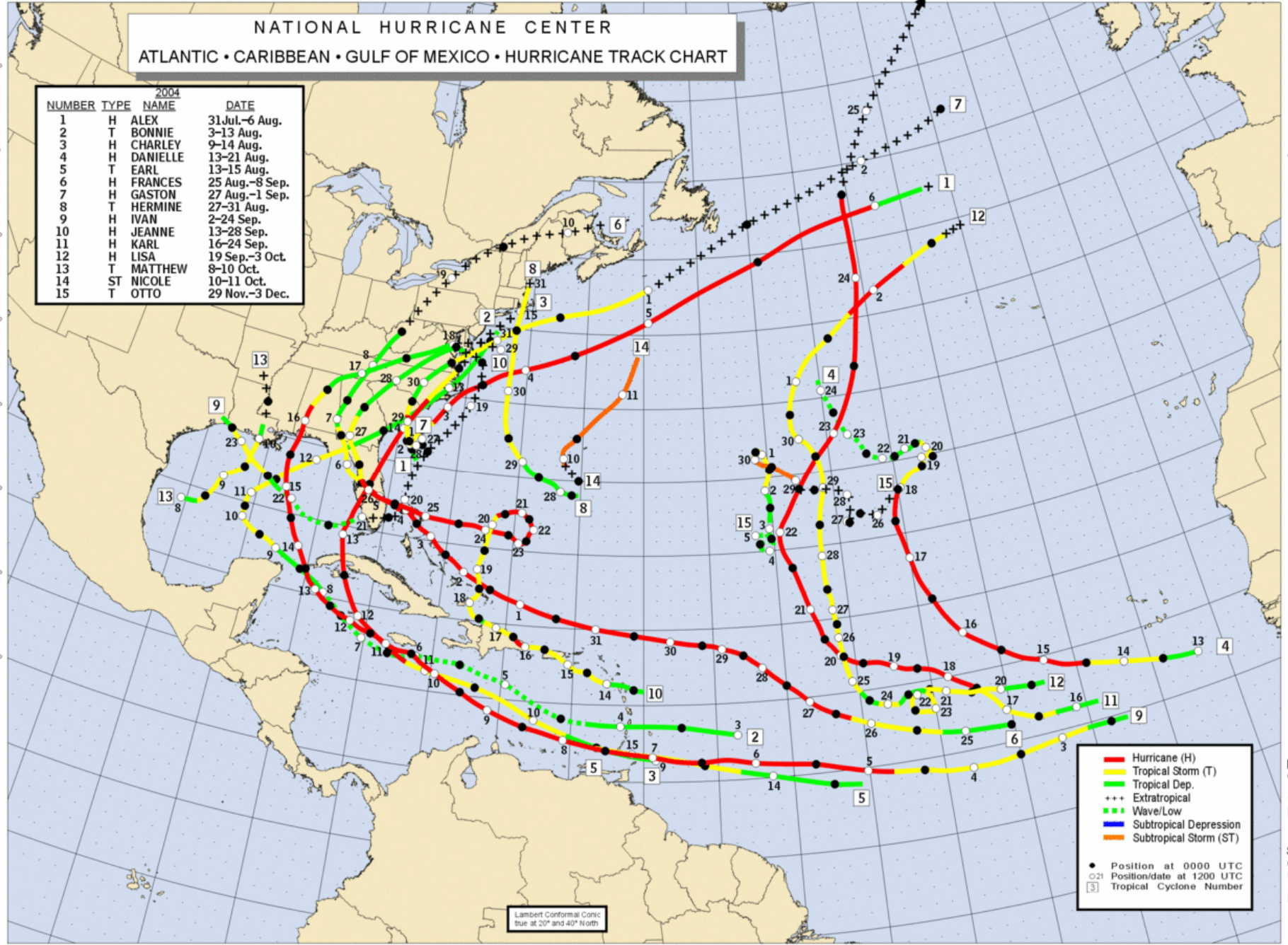
LET US INTRODUCE YOU TO SOME OLD FRIENDS

- **ALEX**
- **BONNIE**
- **CHARLEY**
- **DENNIS**
- **IVAN**
- **FRANCES**
- **KATRINA**
- **RITA**
- **WILMA**



NATIONAL HURRICANE CENTER ATLANTIC • CARIBBEAN • GULF OF MEXICO • HURRICANE TRACK CHART

NUMBER	TYPE	2004 NAME	DATE
1	H	ALEX	31 Jul.-6 Aug.
2	T	BONNIE	3-13 Aug.
3	H	CHARLEY	9-14 Aug.
4	H	DANIELLE	13-21 Aug.
5	T	EARL	13-15 Aug.
6	H	FRANCES	25 Aug.-8 Sep.
7	H	GASTON	27 Aug.-1 Sep.
8	T	HERMINE	27-31 Aug.
9	H	IVAN	2-24 Sep.
10	H	JEANNE	13-28 Sep.
11	H	KARL	16-24 Sep.
12	H	LISA	19 Sep.-3 Oct.
13	T	MATTHEW	8-10 Oct.
14	ST	NICOLE	10-11 Oct.
15	T	OTTO	29 Nov.-3 Dec.



- Hurricane (H)
- Tropical Storm (T)
- Tropical Dep.
- +++ Extratropical
- Wave/Low
- Subtropical Storm (ST)

- Position at 0000 UTC
- Position/date at 1200 UTC
- ③ Tropical Cyclone Number

Lambert Conformal Conic
true at 20° and 40° North

LEVELS OF PREPAREDNESS

- **Personal**
- **Institution**
- **Service**
- **Patient care area**



PERSONAL PREPAREDNESS

MAKE A PLAN!

- **WHO?**
- **WHAT?**
- **WHEN?**
- **HOW?**
- **WHERE?**

**COMMUNICATE
THE PLAN!**

www.FEMA.gov

www.Ready.gov



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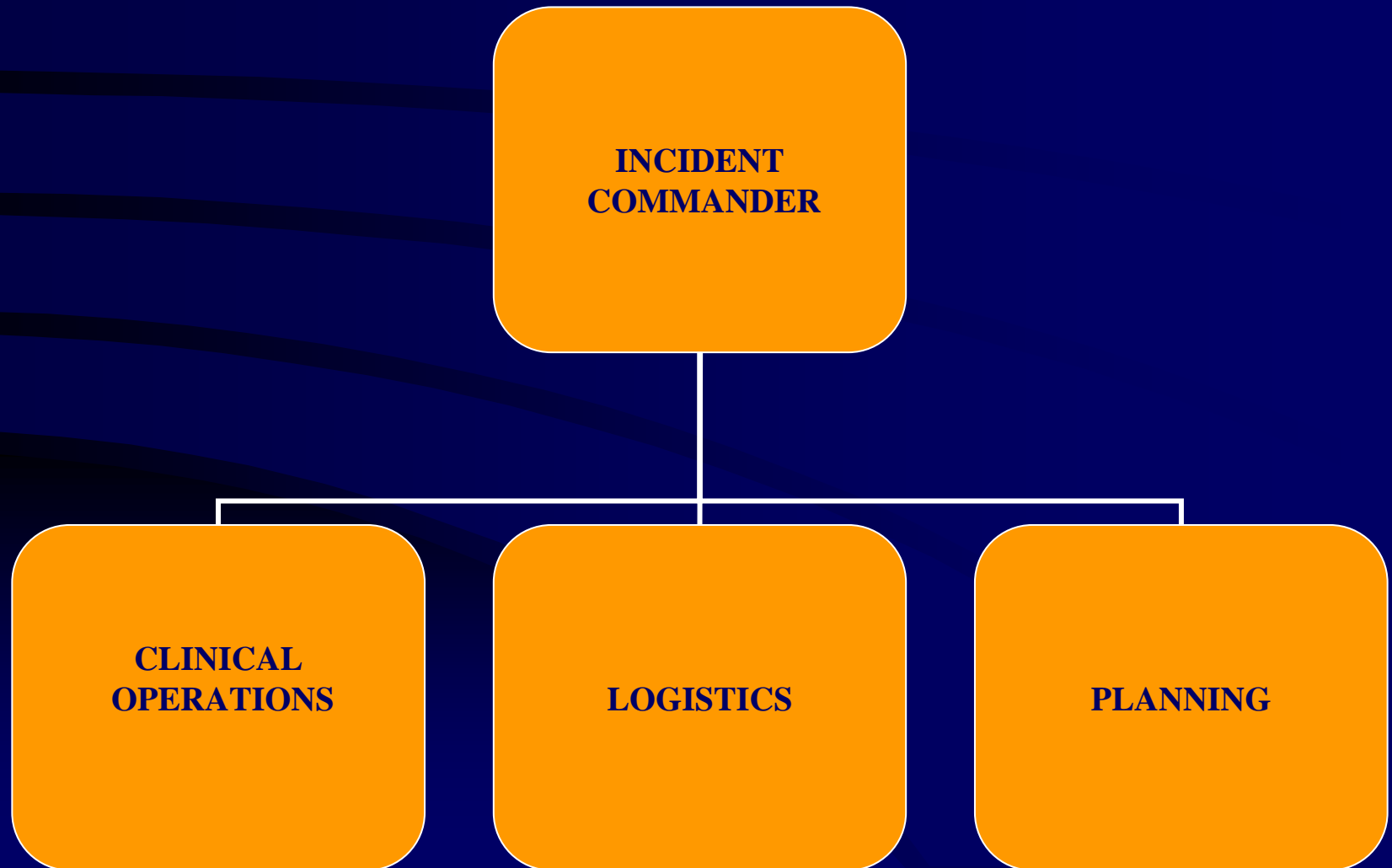
PREPARATIONS AT THE INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL

MUST CONSIDER PRE-, INTRA-, AND POST
DISASTER NEEDS

- PEOPLE
- SUPPLIES
- EQUIPMENT



HOSPITAL EMERGENCY INCIDENT COMMMAND SYSTEM HEICS



SERVICE LEVEL PREPARATIONS

- PEOPLE
- EQUIPMENT
- SUPPLIES



PATIENT CARE AREA PREPARATIONS

- PEOPLE
- UPDATED PHONE LISTS
- SUPPLIES
- EQUIPMENT



PREPARING TO ACCEPT EVACUATED PATIENTS

- PEOPLE
- SUPPLIES
- EQUIPMENT
- SPACE
- ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS

Family members

Pets

Types of patients



ORIENTATION FOR DEPLOYED NURSES

- **DETERMINE THE EXPERIENCE AND SKILLS OF EACH NURSE, MATCH TO FACILITY NEEDS**
- **COMPETENCY PACKETS**
- **COMPUTER ACCESS**
- **LOGISTICS**
- **FACILITY TOUR**



VHA's Fourth Mission (Emergency Management Functions)

- **VA Contingencies**
- **DoD Contingencies**
- **NDMS**
- **NRP**
- **Radiological Emergencies**
- **COOP/COG**



National Response Plan

- **Public Law 93-288 (plus amendments)**
- **FEMA promulgated the FRP in 1992**
- **Did you know VA may be tasked for?**
 - **engineering services**
 - **mass care and sheltering**
 - **resource support**
 - **health and medical**



FRP Deployments

- **Large amounts of medical supplies**
- **Since Hurricane Andrew, every major domestic disaster**
- **Hurricane Katrina – Gulf Coast Ongoing**
- **> 300 VA Employees on Gulf Coast today**



Unique Resources of the VA

- **Personnel**

- **>185,000 staff**
- **> 15,000 physicians**
- **> 3,600 pharmacists**
- **> 36,000 nurses**
- **All are good looking and talented**

- **Largest health care system in the world**
- **164 VAMC's**
- **200 + OP Clinics**
- **Lots of med supplies**
- **Contractors, engineers, Social Workers, etc..**
- **Located in most Major cities**



Deployments

- **All presidentially declared disasters**
 - e.g. Hurricanes Andrew, Floyd, Katrina, Northridge Earthquake
- **On-site support to high-threat events**
 - e.g. NATO 50, Olympics, Inauguration, Papal Visit, Economic Summit of the Eight, World Trade Center



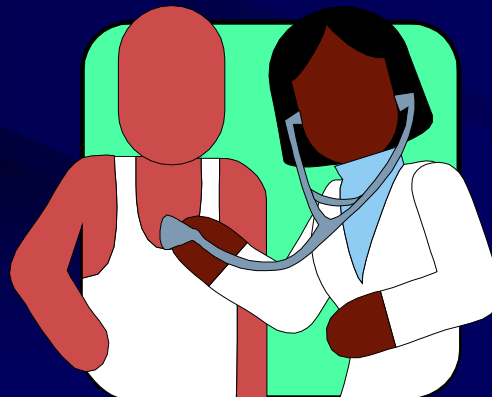
DISASTER EMERGENCY MEDICAL PERSONNEL SYSTEM (DEMPS)

- **The Disaster Emergency Medical Personnel System is a federal program that sends volunteers to affected areas throughout the country immediately following a natural or man-made disaster. Whether it is a hurricane, flood, or terrorist incident, those affected will always need our assistance in the aftermath.**



Protection of VA Facilities

- **DEMPS can help us ensure continuity of care at VA healthcare facilities following earthquakes, severe storms, terrorism, and other events that overwhelm local capability**



DEMPS

(Disaster Emergency Medical Personnel System)

- **VHA Handbook 0320.3, July 21, 2000**
- **Nationwide registry (a database)**
- **Full-time VA employees**
- **Volunteers for deployments**



DEMPS

(Disaster Emergency Medical Personnel System)

- Professional qualifications
- Job skills
- All types of disasters
- Includes specialized WMD training



What can I expect during deployment?

- Length of deployment
- Living conditions
- Pay and leave issues

Be flexible. Expect the unexpected.



How will I be notified?

What should I do then?

- **Notification process**
 - **EMSHG will send a request through the VISN Director to the Medical Center Director**
- **Actions you take**
 - **contact supervisor**
 - **travel arrangements**
 - **work and home issues**



But what is EMSHG and what do they want?

- **Emergency Management Strategic Healthcare Group**
- **Under Veterans Health Administration**
- **Here to make sure if a VA needs something after a disaster, that we get it!**



Coordinators

- **Each Medical Center has their own DEMPS Coordinator.**
- **Provide Training**
- **Assist with Deployments**
- **Liaison between EMSHG and Medical Center Leadership**



How will I receive training?

- **DEMPS Coordinator**
- **Local resources**
 - **VAMC library**
 - **Teleconferences**
 - **DEMP's Handbook**
- **VISN-based training**



HOW DO I JOIN?

- **Complete new registration form**
- **Obtain approval from Medical Center Director**
- **Review deployment information**



ANY QUESTIONS?

THANK YOU!!

