

Winter Weather (as seen earlier in January!)

The weather channel is calling for 12-18 inches of snow in the next 24 hours. Temperatures are going to drop quickly and will remain close to zero degrees, falling into the low negatives with the wind-chill.

It quickly becomes apparent that many staff members will be unable to get to work, as many main roads have become impassable. Residents will be unable to go outside due to the severe cold.

While trying to handle a significant staffing shortage, you get a call from maintenance telling you that one of your building's main water pipes has burst due to the cold, spilling large amounts of water into one wing of your facility. Repair trucks are at least 8 hours out due to the weather and previous requests for assistance. Residents in that wing of the building are being internally evacuated to other locations within your facility.

<p>What utilities and major services will be impinged? What do you have in place to accommodate and how long can you truthfully operate?</p>	<p>What are your biggest priorities for the first 24 hours? What would change if you had to wait 48?</p>
<p>What functions can your facility forgo in order to maintain basic patient care with staff shortages?</p>	<p>What other issues should you consider as a result of the pipe burst and hazardous weather?</p>

Chemical spill (based on the chemical spill in West Virginia)

A chemical plant that stores large amounts of 4-methylcyclohexane methanol (used to wash coal and reduce ash- American Association of Poison Control Centers) is located upstream from a well-known water plant. The chemical plant has an unknown spill due to an overflow of a containment tank. An unknown amount of 4-methylcyclohexane methanol has leaked into the soil and into the river leading to the water plant. This water plant supplies water to a large number of counties, including the one in which your facility is located.

Testing confirms that tap water is contaminated and is possibly unsafe to drink. Local and State officials put a ban on washing with and drinking tap water until further notice. Due to the large area affected by the spill, the bottled- water and bulk-water companies are overwhelmed with requests and are already seeing shortages. Officials are currently unsure how long the ban will last.

<p>What utilities and major services will be impinged?</p>	<p>What are your biggest priorities for the first 24 hours? How do you foresee managing this ban for a week? Outline your action plan.</p>
<p>How would you monitor residents and their use of tap water?</p>	<p>If water shortages from “safe” companies continue, how do you plan to get adequate water for staff and residents?</p>

Storm with power outage and tree crushing part of facility

Weather alerts start to come in concerning a large thunderstorm headed towards your area. The winds are expected to be 50-70mph, with the possibility of a tornado. Flying debris is likely. It is being recommended that everyone shelter in place and avoid being on the road unless absolutely necessary.

As the wind picks up and the storm intensifies, a tree outside your facility comes down, crashing into one wing of your building. There are no fatalities, but several injuries. 911 has been notified and EMS and fire are en route. Evacuation of the remainder of the residents in that wing is also in progress. This wing of the building houses one of your two kitchens and a dining room.

<p>What utilities are you most concerned about at this point?</p>	<p>What are your biggest priorities, aside from patient care and internal evacuation?</p>
<p>You are notified that the damaged wing of your facility will have to remain closed until it can be repaired. How will you plan to compensate for the closed dining room and kitchen?</p>	<p>Where do you plan to house those residents that have been displaced from their rooms? Elsewhere in your facility or at another facility?</p>