New Jersey Newborn Screening & Hurricane Sandy

Impact, Response, and Aftermath

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Preparedness, Luck, and Serendipity

“Essential” Employees
October 25 - 29

HURRICANE SANDY

SANDY THREAT INDEX

ALERT

ACTION
October 29

- UPS delivered ONLY to NBS Laboratory
- Wrapped up Saturday specimens
- 19 staff
- Began to plan alternate specimen delivery options
October 30

- Governor approved use of NJSP for NBS
- Transport specimens to regional MCCs by 2p
- Message communicated through NJHA
- NJSP transport specimens to laboratory at 4p
- 7 NBS Staff
Rest of the Week

October 31
- 32 NBS Lab staff
- 2 Follow-up Staff
- 2 Medical Directors
- Lab took over communication
- USPS

November 1
- Resumed UPS except for 14 hospitals
- Used courier rather than NJSP

November 2
- Only 2 hospitals remained affected
- “Normalcy” returned to lab
Epilogue: After Action Report

- Communication
  - One phone number
  - NJHA, Program, Agency, Vendors
  - Hospital contact list
  - Cell phone/email

- Saturday before
- 7 staff on Tuesday
- MCC/NJSP
- Follow-up
  - Power
    - Supplies
    - Remote access
  - Workload
- Capital Post Office
- Family needs
- Essential employee needs

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**Hurricane Sandy**

*...by the Numbers*

- **2** The number of hospitals evacuated
- **5** Number of state shelters opened
- **11** The number of long-term care facilities evacuated
- **39** The number of acute care hospitals that lost power
- **60** Number of DOH staff who worked in Health Command Center and the Regional Operations and Intelligence Center
- **73** The number of conference calls hosted by DOH with partners
- **74** The number of assisted living facilities that lost power
- **100** Number of EMS Task Force units activated
- **127** Number of shelters at height of the storm
- **135** Number of out-of-state ambulance units, sent from 5 states, that assisted during the storm
- **137** The number of health care facilities that lost power
- **885** The number of email addresses that received Hippocrates updates
- **1,746** The number of health care facility residents evacuated
- **7,005** Number of people in shelters at the height of the storm
- **84,113** The number of Hippocrates email notifications sent
- **2.7 million** Number of households that lost power at the height of the storm
Thank you

- Christopher Rinn
  - Assistant Commissioner, PHILEP
- Meena Rathee
  - Preparedness Exercise Coordinator
- Lauren Gokhale
  - UPS
- NBS Community