

Emergency Preparedness for Health Sciences Librarians

BQSIMB

Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, Manhattan
and Bronx Health Sciences Librarians
Meeting, November 14, 2008, METRO NY
Library Council, New York City

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“Which way ought I to walk..?”

“That depends a good deal on where you want to get to...”

- ✓ **Introduction; planning steps**
- ✓ **Role of information specialist**
- ✓ **Reality ~ practicality**
- ✓ **Resources**
- ✓ **Action Plan**

Graphic source: Carroll, L. Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. Project Gutenberg: Millennium Fulcrum edition 3.0 [WWW] <http://www.cs.cmu.edu/People/rgs/alice-table.html>

Emergency Preparedness for Health Sciences Librarians

Definition: A disaster is an occurrence such as a hurricane, tornado, storm, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, earthquake, drought, blizzard, pestilence, famine, fire, explosion, building collapse, transportation wreck, terrorist event, bio-terrorist (attack) event, pandemic, power failure or other similar natural or man-made incident(s) that causes human suffering or creates human needs that require assistance of hospitals, healthcare personnel as well as the support of libraries in aid of hospitals, healthcare personnel, first responders or public health personnel.

Emergency Preparedness for Health Sciences Librarians



■ Risk Assessment



■ Relationships & strategic partnerships



■ Pocket Response Plan PReP



■ Communications



■ MOU ~ Buddy



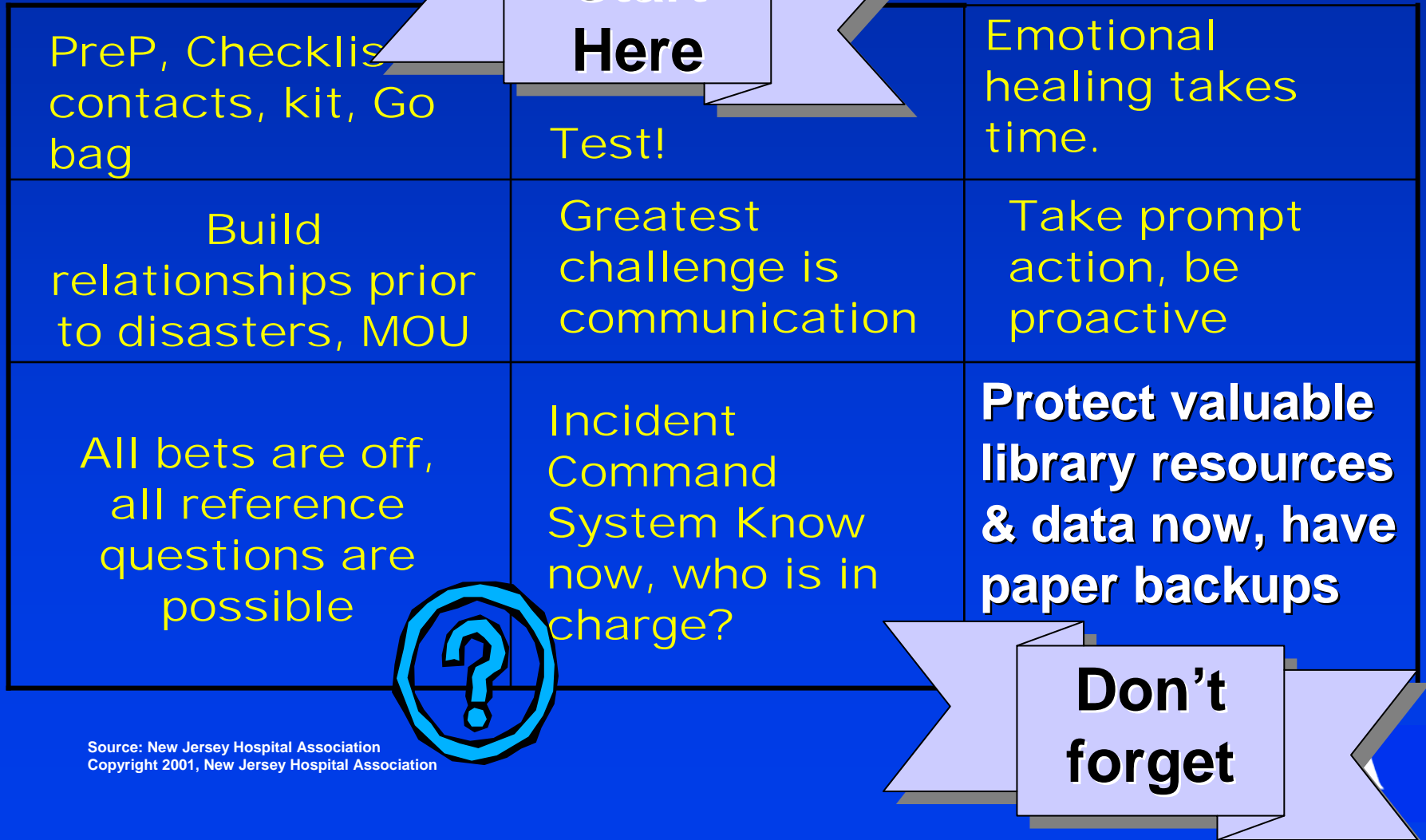
What Risks?
Natural?
Human?
Tech & Mechanical?
Combination?--
What's possible in your area?

Emergency Preparedness for Health Sciences Librarians: Service Continuity

- 1: Assess risks
- 2: Protect yourself, staff, patrons
- 3: Determine core services
- 4: Create procedures for remote access to core services
- 5: Determine core
- 6: Develop continuity of access plan for core electronic resources
- 7: Identify core print collection
- 8: Identify unique resources
- 9: Plan recovery of unique resources
- 10: Know how to obtain outside assistance

Source: <http://nnlm.gov/ep/10-steps-service-continuity/>

Emergency Preparedness for Health Sciences Librarians: Steps



Emergency Preparedness for Health Sciences Librarians

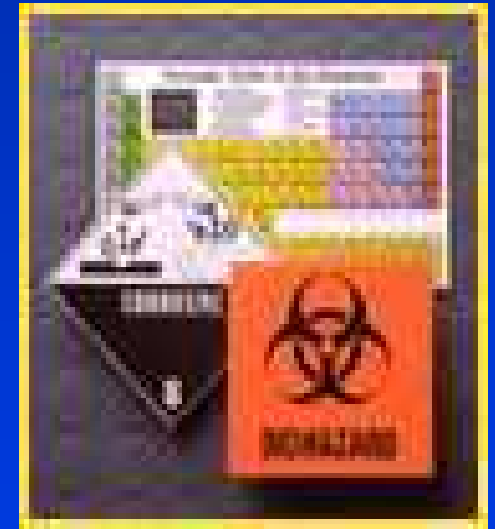
“The consequences of WMD are so terrible that we cannot afford to think of it as improbable.”

Bruce Lawlor, Major General, Joint Task Force Civil Support

Emergency Preparedness for Health Sciences Librarians

“We have the ability to make and use chemicals and poisonous gas. And those gases and poisons are made of the simplest ingredients, which are available in the pharmacies and we could, as well, smuggle them from one country to another if needed. And this is for use against vital institutions and residential populations ...”

Razzi Yousef, Terrorist



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“Specialists in infectious diseases thus constitute the front line of defense. The rapidity with which they and emergency room personnel reach a proper diagnosis and the speed with which they apply preventive and therapeutic measures could spell the difference between thousands and perhaps tens of thousands of casualties. Indeed the survival of the physicians and health care staff caring for the patients may be at stake. ...”

**DA Henderson Johns Hopkins
Center for Civilian Defense**

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■ LESSONS & ROLES: Reality ~ practicality

- Proactively provide Library resources
- Use the Web to the fullest
- Never underestimate importance of PLANS and remember no PLAN anticipates it all
- Partners - 'network ~ relationships' provide effectiveness
- Librarians are valuable assets, don't wait to be invited, go for it
- Don't underestimate
- Trust your instincts
- Some things are outside your control
- Remember life is fragile and precious



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■ Resources ~ Safety First: Personal, Home, Family

- American Red Cross:
www.redcross.org/
 - § Disaster Supplies Kit
 - § Evacuation Plan
 - § Shelter in Plan
 - § Personal emergency contact card & “Go” bag
- 72hours: <http://72hours.org/>



Emergency Preparedness for Health Sciences Librarians

Federal - BARDA/BT Act, 12/06

- Codifies HHS - Lead federal public health & medical response to public health emergencies and National Response Plan (NRP) incidents
- HHS - operational control of federal public health & medical personnel and assets during incidents (except Department of Defense DOD)
- New Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR)

■ NY State: SEMO

www.semo.state.ny.us/index.cfm

■ NY City: OEM

www.nyc.gov/html/oem/html/home/home.shtml

Associations: HANYS
<http://www.hanys.org/> & GNYHA

<http://www.gnyha.org/1/Default.aspx>

Emergency Preparedness for Health Sciences Librarians - KEY RESOURCE

- ***“NN/LM Emergency Preparedness and Response Toolkit”***

<http://nnlm.gov/ep/>

**1-800-DEV-ROKS
(1-800-338-7657)**

**Toolkit = Service continuity, MOU,
plan templates, disaster stories,
ready reference, etc.!**



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- <https://ccc.apgea.army.mil/products/Info/products.htm>
- U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Disease's *Medical Management of Biological Casualties Handbook*, 6th ed. 2005
- *Medical Management of Chemical Casualties Handbook*, 3rd ed. July 2000 *Medical Management of Radiological Casualties*, 2nd ed.
- *Medical Management of Radiological Casualties Handbook*, 2nd ed. 2003
www.ntis.gov/products/mmrc.aspx

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■ Resources:

- PandemicFlu.gov www.pandemicflu.gov/ and Secretary Leavitt's Pandemic Planning & Preparedness Webcast, 10-29-08 www.pandemicflu.gov/news/panflu_webinar7.html
- FEMA: www.fema.gov ~ CDC: www.bt.cdc.gov
- MedlinePlus "Biodefense and Bioterrorism" and "Disaster and Emergency Preparedness" pages:
www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/biodefenseandbioterrorism.html
www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/disasterpreparationandrecovery.html
- Am. College Physicians "Decision Support Tool for Smallpox, Inhalation Anthrax, Cutaneous Anthrax & Chemical Terrorism"
www.acponline.org/running_practice/technology/mobile_computing/bioterrorism/

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■ Resources:

- TOXNET: toxnet.nlm.nih.gov/
- QUAKELINE: mceer.buffalo.edu/utilities/quakeline.asp
- Resource Guide for Public Health Preparedness: www.phpreparedness.info/
- NLM's WISER: <http://wiser.nlm.nih.gov/>
- NLM Environmental Health & Toxicology sis.nlm.nih.gov/enviro/disasterrecovery.html
- Lessons Learned www.LLIS.gov ~ Responder Knowledge Base www.rkb.mipt.org
- MIPT Nat. Memorial Institute for Prevention of Terrorism www.MIPT.org ~ Terrorism Knowledge Base www.tkb.org

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- Volesko [Brewer], M.M. “It wasn’t raining when Noah built the Ark: Disaster Preparedness for Hospitals and Medical Librarians Post September 11,” published in: “*Bioterrorism and Political Violence*.” M. Sandra Wood, editor. [co-published simultaneously as *Internet Reference Services Quarterly*, Volume 6 Numbers 3-4, 2002]. NY: Haworth Information Press, ©2002. ISBN 0789019647; 0789019655. www.HaworthPress.com and <http://www.njha.com/librarysection/index.aspx>
- Brewer, M.M. “Algorithm for Disaster Information Preparedness: Checklist for Medical Librarians,” 3rd ed. NJHA www.njha.com/ep/bio-NJHAhandout.pdf

Emergency Preparedness for Health Sciences Librarians: Discussion Lists/Listservs



- **DISASTR-OUTREACH-LIB:** librarians etc. for disaster info outreach for all-hazards prep, mitigation, response, recovery. From NLM's Disaster Info. Mgt. Research Ctr - Sign up, view archives <https://list.nih.gov/archives/disastr-outreach-lib.html>
- ***mla-dplan*, MLA Disaster Plan Email Discussion List.** <http://ns1.mlahq.org/mailman/listinfo/mla-dplan>
- **FEMA and state specific**
<http://www.fema.gov/help/getemail.shtm>

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“ We can’t let complacency set in, and I think it has already. People want to go back to normal, people don’t want to think about this stuff. They would like it to just go away and it is not going to go away.”

**By: Mr. Sheirer, former director of NY Mayor’s Office of Emergency Mgt.
Source: *NY Times*, 5/21/02 p. A17.**



<http://www.njha.com/njresponse/>

What's New

Daily Message

N.J. Hospitals

Disaster Home

Web Archive

N.J. Hospitals Respond To Trade Center Disaster

NEW!

[September 11: New Jersey Hospitals Remember](#)

[A Proclamation From Gov. James McGreevey to NJHA Recognizing the Response by New Jersey's Hospitals on Sept. 11, 2001.](#) (.pdf file size 97KB)

Done

Internet

Start



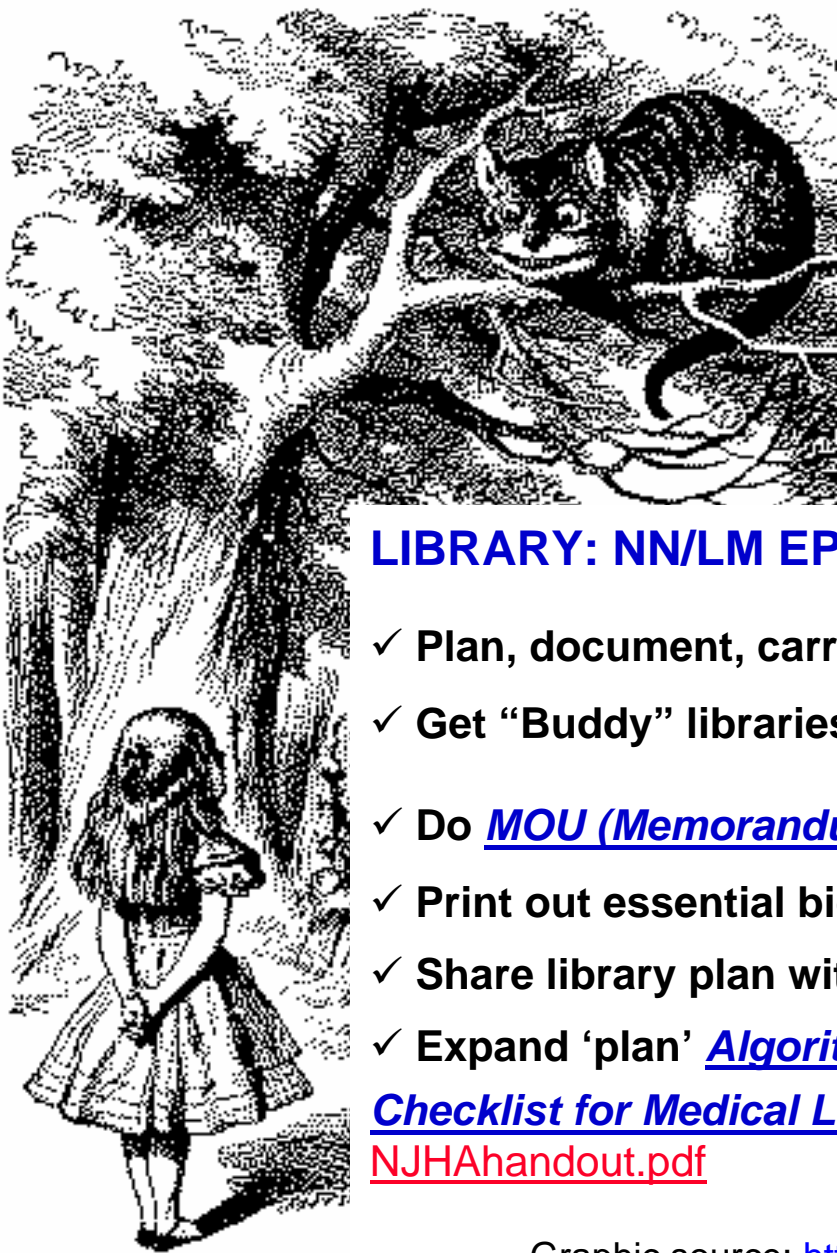
5:14 PM



NJHA's pandemic influenza online resource, PDFs for download. Please share with your hospital! This NJHA series, ***“Planning Today For a Pandemic Tomorrow”*** is a healthcare guide for pandemic flu planning with ten modules for: supplies, communications, HR, finance, psycho-social, ethics, legal/regulatory, operations and leadership topics for pandemic flu planning. <http://www.njha.com/paninf/index.aspx>



NEW JERSEY HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION



FOLLOW-UP ACTION PLAN: document ←

YOU – STAFF – FAMILY: www.redcross.org

✓ Fill out, carry “personal emergency contact card” ←

✓ Prep & store: “disaster supply kit” (home) and “go bag” (work)

LIBRARY: NN/LM EP Toolkit <http://nnlm.gov/ep/>

✓ Plan, document, carry 1-page “business continuity plan” ←

✓ Get “Buddy” libraries, local & one on different power grid

✓ Do MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) ← with Buddies

✓ Print out essential biomedical resources

✓ Share library plan with key hospital staff

✓ Expand ‘plan’ Algorithm for Disaster Information Preparedness:
Checklist for Medical Librarians ← NJHA Library www.njha.com/ep/bio-NJHAhandout.pdf

Graphic source: <http://www.cs.cmu.edu/People/rgs/alice-table.html>