

The disaster plan should make provisions within the hospital for:

- __adequate basic utilities and supplies, including fuel, water, food, and essential medical and supportive materials
- __an efficient system of notifying and assigning personnel
- __unified medical command
- __conversion of all usable space in clearly defined areas for efficient triage of patients, observation of patients, and immediate provision of care
- __prompt patient transfer, when necessary, to the facility most appropriate for administering definitive care
- __a special disaster medical record, such as an appropriately designed tag, that accompanies the casualty during a transfer
- __procedures for the prompt discharge or transfer of patients who were hospitalized before the disaster occurred and can be moved without jeopardy
- __security to keep family members and curious persons from the triage area, as well as to protect plant and staff from hostile action
- __the establishment of a public information center and assignment of public relations liaison duties to a qualified individual or individuals

The hospital is responsible for informing the community of its capabilities and of its Limitations in the event of a community disaster. The extent of the hospital's resources should be made known to local police, rescue squads, and ambulance personnel. Advance arrangements with the communications media help to provide organized dissemination of information.