



Resolution No. 420 - Natural Disaster Contingency Plan

ACTION TAKEN BY THE 2018 CONGRESS OF DELEGATES: REFERRED TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS



The Board of Directors referred this resolution to the Commission on Health of the Public and Science. Please address questions regarding the resolution to Bellinda Schoof, MHA, CPHQ at bschoof@aafp.org (<mailto:bschoof@aafp.org>).

Report as of 3/2019:

The Commission on Health of the Public and Science recommended, and the Board of Directors approved at its March 2019 meeting, that the resolution be reaffirmed as current policy.

The AAFP provides guidance in its robust "[AAFP Preparedness Guide for Disasters and Emergencies](https://www.aafp.org/patient-care/emergency/disasters.html)" (<https://www.aafp.org/patient-care/emergency/disasters.html>)" which includes links to articles in the Family Practice Management journal on medical emergencies during a disaster and what clinical items are recommended for an offsite necessity toolkit. Staff will ensure that the guide includes a link to state chapter contact information and that the guide is promoted to chapters via the AAFP ChexMix communications tool to chapter executives to highlight the need for members to engage with their chapters and state disaster preparedness efforts.

RESOLUTION NO. 420

Natural Disaster Contingency Plan

Introduced by the Puerto Rico Chapter

Referred to the Reference Committee on Health of The Public and Science

WHEREAS, Hurricane Maria caused devastation in Puerto Rico (PR) and the U.S. Virgin Islands on September 20, 2017, and

WHEREAS, the number of deaths related to Hurricane Maria in PR is more than 70 times the official estimate, and

WHEREAS, patient's mortality causes could have been prevented with access to the right resources, and

WHEREAS, PR and other U.S. territories, including the U.S. Virgin Islands and Guam, are exposed to natural disasters and are physically cut off from the mainland, and

WHEREAS, the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) supports preventive health measures and provided financial aid to the local chapter after the hurricane, and

WHEREAS, the distribution of available resources was interrupted due to lack of logistics, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP) help create a natural disaster contingency plan that involves the logistics of the continuation of primary care services during, before, and after a natural disaster in consortium with each AAFP chapter.

(Received 10/7/18)



ADD TO FAVORITES

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<https://www.aafp.org/about/governance/congress-delegates/2018/resolutions2/late-c.mem.html>

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