

## **DMATTERS**

**Vol 2. No. 9. September 1993**

### **Arby's Fund Raiser:**

The TADMAT will be participating in a fund raiser on October 2nd at all five Toledo area Arby's restaurants. Volunteers are needed to stand outside each restaurant during those times and hand out flyers describing what the TADMAT is. One of the registers in the restaurant will be designated for the TADMAT and a percentage of all receipts that come into the register will be donated by Arby's to the TADMAT. The Lutheran Brotherhood will match all funds collected (doubling our money). This fund raiser is important to generate money that can purchase equipment not provided by NDMS and to fund exercises and training sessions. Those interested in volunteering can sign up at the September TADMAT meeting or contact Carol Walker at ###-####.

### **October 9th, Toledo Express Airport Drill: LifeSaver '93**

The Toledo Express Airport Disaster Drill is slated for October 9th. There will be over 170 victims. Eighty Six agencies (including the TADMAT) will be participating. The drill will begin at 9 A.M. We will be staging at the National Guard Base. Our pre-staging arrangements are yet to be finalized. Drill organizers are expecting about 50 TADMAT members who will be performing field hospital duties. The scenario involves the crashing of a large passenger airplane and a small commuter plane on the tarmac. Expect our involvement to begin anywhere from 7:30A.M. October 9th, 1993 to about 12 to 1 P.M. that afternoon. Some of us may be involved in a debriefing shortly thereafter. Although Airport officials are supposed to be offering us lunch that day, I would suggest each of us carry a canteen of water plus some easily transportable high-energy food (chocolate, peanut butter, etc.) In addition, wear your TADMAT vests for identification. Medical items at the scene will include backboards, gauze and cotton wadding. We will assess each victim from laminated casualty cards on his/her person. We will indicate our treatment of each victim by writing on the back of these cards with marker pens (e.g. - "collar", "IV", "Chest Tube", "Splint", etc.) These will be reviewed by us. The TADMAT leadership at each of the hospitals will be responsible for contacting each of their members to determine what members will be participating in this exercise. It is important to have this information within the next one to two weeks so we can make arrangements for transportation to the airport. I envision us pre-staging at mch and then carpooling to the airport since space will be limited at the ANG base. More discussion about this drill will take place at the September meeting.

### **TADMAT is now Level-1**

The TADMAT is now considered by NDMS to be a "Readiness-I" team. NDMS has been given the mission to fully equip and make fully functional 20 teams throughout the USA. There are presently 60+ teams in the NDMS and the limited NDMS budget will not support them all at Readiness-I level. NDMS will be supporting these 20 Readiness-I teams to make them fully operational including training, drills & exercises and

equipment. All NDMS DMAT's will have response levels of I through IV. Readiness-I teams will be deployable within 12-24 hours and are fully staffed and trained with a standardized equipment and supply set. They will be self sustaining for no less than a 72 hour period. Readiness-II teams will be fully staffed and trained and are intended to replace or augment Readiness-I teams. Readiness-II teams have personal equipment but do not have all the Readiness-I supplies. Readiness-III teams are non-deployable, and are intended for limited missions such as patient reception at the local airport. Readiness-IV teams are those that have a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) executed and are in some stage of development but have no response capability. The TADMAT is very proud to be a Readiness-I team!

### **NDMS Announces Basic Load equipment list:**

NDMS announced the contents of the "DMAT Basic load" of equipment which they will be providing for the TADMAT and all Readiness-I teams. The Basic Load is valued at \$167,000 and should start arriving in Toledo in 3-4 weeks. This basic load includes pharmacy items, personal gear, team gear and medical equipment needed for deploying a Readiness-I team for a minimum of 72 hours. The pharmacy stock includes antibiotics, pain medications, tetanus, IV solutions and meds including a full list of ACLS medications. Personal gear will be maintained by the team. When deployed, these items can be provided to team members. These items include blue BDU's (battle dress uniform) including boots and a parka for 100 persons. A raincoat, gloves, eye goggles, mess kit, sleeping bag, canteens, etc. will be provided for 35 people. Water storage tanks, pumps and a solar water purification system is also included. A propane heated solar shower, food for 525 meals, tents for both staff and patients, generators, a couple field sinks & refrigerators, and 40 Rubbermaid storage containers will be included in the supplies. Additionally, two way radio equipment, a lifepack 10, pulse oximeters, a portable ventilator, thermometers and a 12 lead EKG machine will complete the supply list.

### **NDMS Conference moves to a different date:**

For the second year in a row, the annual NDMS conference has been disrupted by a natural disaster. In 1992 the NDMS conference in Oklahoma city was completely canceled on the 2nd day due to Hurricane Andrew slamming into the Southern Florida coast. At that time an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) was set up in Oklahoma City in the rooms that the conference lectures were to take place. This year, the annual conference was again disrupted when Hurricane Emily threatened Eastern coastal USA. Emily was carefully watched during the first few days by all who attended the conference. Two Florida DMAT's were on alert by request of the State of Florida, and the North Carolina DMAT was placed on alert soon after Emily took a turn Northward toward the Carolinas. The Ft. Wayne DMAT altered a scheduled equipment mobilization drill at the request of NDMS in order to strategically locate thier Semi-Truck of gear in Richmond, VA in the event the Ft. Wayne DMAT would also need to be mobilized. Thankfully, Emily's track took a northeastern turn missing the Outer Banks of North Carolina by under 50 miles. NDMS officials have decided to move the annual conference date to sometime between January and April of 1995 where it will not be threatened

so much by tropical weather. As a result of this move, there will be no 1994 NDMS conference.

### **The next meeting...**

The next TADMAT team meeting will include an update for all TADMAT members on the information presented during the NDMS '93 conference for the National Disaster Medical System. Topics to be covered will include "the DMAT Basic Load", Readiness-levels for DMATs, expectations for NDMS in the next few years and information about the 1993 Airport Disaster Drill on October 9th. All team members should make an extra effort to attend this important meeting. All are reminded that as the TADMAT increases its role as a Readiness-I team, deployments are even more likely. In filling team positions for deployment, the TADMAT executive committee will first choose those members that have shown their commitment to the team by attending meetings and drills regularly.

### **TADMAT Receives award at NDMS 1993 meeting:**

Kelly Burkholder-Allen and Churton Budd both attended the 1993 National Disaster Medical System conference in San Antonio, Texas. The conference was Titled "Shaping the Future of the NDMS". Many DMAT team leaders from the nations teams were in attendance as well as representatives from the Dept. of Defense, Veterans Administration, Public Health Service and Federal Emergency Management Agency. The new Director of the NDMS, RAdm Frank Young, MD was present at the conference as were various new NDMS administrators and office staff. The conference went well in spite of disruption and loss of attendance due to the threat of Hurricane Emily to the East Coast. Churton provided a lecture titled, "The Utility of Computer Electronic Mail for DMATs". Other lectures included description of the "DMAT basic load" (the minimal equipment list a DMAT will need for deployment). The Toledo Area Disaster Medical Assistance Team received an award from the Public Health Service for "aid rendered during Hurricane Andrew to reduce the suffering, morbidity and mortality of disaster victims in Southern Florida." As always, discussions between DMAT personnel after the lectures in the hallways and bars provided a great deal of networking potential and some serious organizational headway was made.

### **TADMAT gets telephone number and voice mail !!!**

The TADMAT now has a telephone number with voice mail. This number will act as a TADMAT information line. You can call this number at any time day or night to receive the latest information about the TADMAT. During times when the TADMAT is not on deployment or alert, the information line will list the next meeting dates for the team. When the team is placed on pre-alert or alert, the voice mail will list information about the nature of the disaster and potential developments that would lead to the team being activated. When the team is activated, the voice mail will include information for team members on where to meet to deploy and any late breaking information or activities that

must be performed prior to deployment with the team. TADMAT Informational Hotline = (419) 381-5163

### **Disaster Medicine Library**

Paul Rega, MD

It is important that the TADMAT office begin to develop a library on DISASTER MEDICINE. All members of the TADMAT are invited to send in to Dr. Paul Rega or Churton Budd any article or notice that you think is suitable. Topics could include communication, medicine, environmental events, austere living, snake and insect bites, hypothermia, crush injuries and of course disasters and disaster medicine. These items will be cataloged and the list will be made available to all TADMAT members. Members can request reprints from any of the items in the TADMAT library.