## **Tornado**

#### **PROCEDURES**

According to the National Weather Service, tornadoes kill approximately 80 people and injure 1,500 more every year. Tornadoes are made even more dangerous because they can be so unpredictable; they can form at any time during the year and in any of the 50 states.

Tornadoes appear as dark, rotating, funnel-shaped clouds. Although they can occur at any time, they strike most often during late spring and summer, and then usually in the late afternoon. The area most frequently affected by tornadoes is the Midwest during the spring and summer months.



#### Tornado watch:

Indicates that tornado-producing storms may form soon. It covers a large area and is issued when weather conditions are favorable for tornadoes.

### **Tornado warning:**

Means an ongoing storm may be producing a tornado right now. It is issued when a tornado has been sighted or indicated by weather radar

No place is totally safe during a tornado, but there are some precautions you can take to increase your chances of surviving a tornado - see before and during Tornado checklist.

# **CHECKLIST**

# BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER A TORNADO

Date:

**Review conducted by:** 

Tornadoes are violent storms and one of the most destructive types of natural hazards. While there are reliable warning systems available, tornadoes can still develop with little to no warning, resulting in property damage, business losses and injuries. As such, it's important to take preventive action to minimize such risks from occurring.

Consider the following when preparing your business for before, during and after a tornado:

BEFORE THE STORM	YES	NO	N/A
Is there a written pre-emergency plan in place?			
Has a shelter-in-place location been identified?			
Are employees aware of their roles during an emergency?			
Have communication procedures been established?			
Is there an emergency notification system in place?			
Is there a system in place for knowing who is in the building?			
Have team leaders been appointed to communicate with and direct people in an emergency?			
Is there a list of external contacts-such as the police-readily available?			
Has emergency signage been created to direct Associates and Doctors, patients, and visitors to safe areas during an emergency?			
Are emergency supplies–including a battery-operated weather radio, first aid kit and flashlights and batteries–stocked?			
Are regular drills conducted to ensure Associates and Doctors know what to do during a tornado?			
Is there a process in place to regularly update Associates and Doctors contact information?			
Is outdoor equipment and furniture secure?			

Have vulnerable building areas, such as garage doors or roofing, been reinforced?			
Are facility shutdown, warning, and evacuation procedures in place?			
Is there a crisis communication plan in place for communicating with suppliers, vendors and the public following a disaster?			
Has a temporary work location been identified?			
Is there a process for backing up records, including insurance documents, legal contracts, tax returns and accounting statements?			
DURING THE STORM	YES	NO	N/A
Have outdoor equipment and furniture been moved inside?			
Have on-site Associates and Doctors and patients been instructed to shelter in place?			
Are occupants in a predesignated room, bathroom, or hallway on the lowest floor and away from corners, windows, doors, and exterior walls?			
Is everyone accounted for?			
Is there an emergency broadcast radio in use?			
AFTER THE STORM	YES	NO	N/A
Have the proper authorities confirmed the tornado has passed?			
Have all on-site Associates and Doctors and patients been checked for injuries?			
Have Associates and Doctors, suppliers, patients, and other stakeholders been updated on the situation?			
Risk Management to file an insurance claim			
Document losses with photos and videos.			
Track all costs associated with the claims process.			