

HURRICANE IRENE STATUS UPDATE

Wednesday, 8/24/11 at 8:00 am

VAMC STATUS: The VAMC is under normal operations. The Emergency Operations Center was activated at 10:00 am on Tuesday, 8/23/11. Surgeries have been cancelled for Friday, 8/26/11. A decision on status of clinic operations is expected this morning.

CBOC STATUS: CBOCs are operating under normal conditions.

EMPLOYEE STATUS: All employees should report to work for their scheduled tours of duty. Employees should review facility and service line Hurricane Emergency Preparedness plans and make plans to ensure the safety of their families. For home and family safety planning, go to www.scemd.org for 2011 Hurricane Preparedness Guide.

PATIENT STATUS: Patient appointments will be held as scheduled on Wednesday, Aug. 24. In the event patient appointments are cancelled later this week, patients will be notified by the clinics.

HURRICANE STATUS: At 5:00 am the eye of Hurricane Irene was located near latitude 21.6N, longitude 72.9W. Irene is moving toward the west-northwest near 9 mph. A gradual turn toward the northwest is expected on Wednesday. The core of Irene will move across the southeastern and central Bahamas today and over the northwestern Bahamas on Thursday. Maximum sustained winds are near 110 mph with higher gusts. Irene is a Category 2 hurricane and is likely to become a major hurricane later today. Hurricane force winds extend outward up to 40 miles, and tropical storm force winds extend outward up to 205 miles.

