



## Case Study: Tornado

October, 2024

### Oklahoma

- Around Sulpher, Oklahoma, April 29, 2024
- Destruction footage [video](#) and Facebook employee interviews [video](#)
- Multiple tornados occurred, injuring at least 100 and killing 4; one town alone had 30 injuries
- Injuries reported included people cut or struck by debris
- An EF 4 tornado hit Mercy hospital in Marietta around 11:30 pm
  - Two patients were in the ER, eight patients were inpatient
  - All ten patients were transferred out after the storm
  - The hospital and clinic were shut down afterward, as it wasn't safe for patient care
  - The hospital employs around 150 people
- The storms washed out roads and caused loss of power for over 40,000 residents

### Potential Impacts:

- Shut down entire hospital
- Numerous transfers needed at once
- Staff injuries, creating staffing shortages
- Potential HAZMAT implications
- Patient/family/staff fears
- Patient tracking to transfer locations
- Continuity of operation planning

### Preparedness:

- Develop a strong Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP)
- Review evacuation plans
- Review storm emergency plans

### Sources:

- [Tornado Closes 1 Hospital, Injures 100 People](#)
- [At Least 100 Injured, 4 Dead, Hospital Damaged After Tornadoes Hit Oklahoma Towns](#)
- [Mercy Health Love County Hospital in Marietta Closed After Being Struck by a Tornado](#)
- [Mercy Health Love County Facebook](#)

### Resources:

- ASPR TRACIE: [Continuity of Operations/Business Continuity Planning](#)