

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**COMPACT DISC TRAINING AVAILABLE ON
“JOINT COMMISSION EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT STANDARDS FOR 2008:
USING AN ALL-HAZARDS APPROACH IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH”**

(December 10, 2007).....The National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems (NAPHS) is offering a two-hour compact disc (CD) training, **Joint Commission Emergency Management Standards for 2008: Using an All-Hazards Approach in Behavioral Health.**

As of January 1, 2008, The Joint Commission (JC) will require compliance with updated “Emergency Management Standards,” which take an all-hazards view of emergency management. The JC has concluded that organizations need to plan for combinations of escalating events – rather than a single emergency. The revised standards emphasize a scalable approach to help organizations manage the variety, intensity, and duration of the disasters that affect a single organization, multiple organizations, or an entire community.

To help psychiatric and addiction treatment settings adapt the JC standards to behavioral health, NAPHS is offering a special two-hour training on compact disc. Leaders from The Joint Commission’s Standards Interpretation Group provide examples of how the accrediting body envisions behavioral healthcare providers translating the standards to psychiatric and substance use treatment settings. Discussants from behavioral healthcare organizations that have weathered serious emergencies (from hurricanes to other types of disasters) share real-world lessons they have learned to better prepare their facilities, their staffs, and their patients and families for emergency situations. The CD – which should be used after reading a downloadable copy of “APPROVED: Revisions to Emergency Management Standards for Critical Access Hospitals, Hospitals, and Long Term Care” – is designed to help those in behavioral healthcare facilities who are responsible for emergency preparedness, including clinicians, administrators, and risk managers.

The faculty includes **Pat Adamski, R.N., M.S., M.B.A.**, director of Standards Interpretation, Division of Accreditation and Certification Operations, The Joint Commission, Oakbrook Terrace, IL, and **Jerry Gervais, C.H.F.M., C.H.S.P.**, engineer and associate director, Standards Interpretation Group, Division of Accreditation and Certification Operations, also with The Joint Commission. Also on the faculty are **Karen E. Johnson**, vice president, Clinical Services, Universal Health Services, Chicago, IL; NAPHS representative to The Joint Commission’s Hospital Professional and Technical Advisory Committee; and **Michael A. Ziemann, F.A.C.H.E.** administrator, Memorial Behavioral Health at Gulfport, Gulfport, MS. The moderator is NAPHS Director of Clinical and Regulatory Affairs **Kathleen McCann, R.N., Ph.D.**

HOW TO ORDER

The compact disc is \$250 (or \$175 for NAPHS members). An order form is available at www.naphs.org/emergencymgmt.html, or by calling 202/393-6700, ext. 106.

NAPHS advocates for behavioral health and represents provider systems that are committed to the delivery of responsive, accountable, and clinically effective prevention, treatment, and care for children, adolescents, adults, and older adults with mental and substance use disorders. Its members are behavioral healthcare provider organizations that own or manage more than 600 specialty psychiatric hospitals, general hospital psychiatric and addiction treatment units and behavioral healthcare divisions, residential treatment facilities, youth services organizations, and extensive outpatient networks. The association was founded in 1933.