

I concur with the AHA petition to allow hospital employee Amateur Radio operators to operate amateur radios during drills and exercises, so they can become proficient in the handling of message traffic (between the hospital and the health regional operations center, emergency management agency, other hospitals, or parent organization) in the event of an emergency. When a communications emergency/disaster occurs, the employee would be the first resource able to communicate with the outside world before non-employee amateur operators were able to respond and be on-site at the hospital. The best way to know if you can operate is by practicing in a drill or exercise before an emergency event occurs. This also trains management how to interface with Amateur Radio operators during emergencies.