



American College of
Emergency Physicians®

ADVANCING EMERGENCY CARE 

POLICY STATEMENT

Approved June 2019

Support for National Disaster Medical System and Other Response Teams

Revised June 2019, June
2013 with current title,
October 2006

Originally approved March
1999 replacing CR056
approved September 1985
and CR019 approved
October 1991

The American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) believes that every community needs a comprehensive plan for immediate emergency medical care in case its medical care system is overwhelmed or rendered ineffective in a disaster. As a component of this plan, ACEP supports the National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) and encourages further development and funding of the program. ACEP also supports its members who participate in the Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT), Urban Search and Rescue (USAR teams, or other federal or state-sponsored medical teams. ACEP encourages entities such as health care facilities/systems and EMS services and employers such as medical practice groups to allow, encourage, and support their employees to participate.