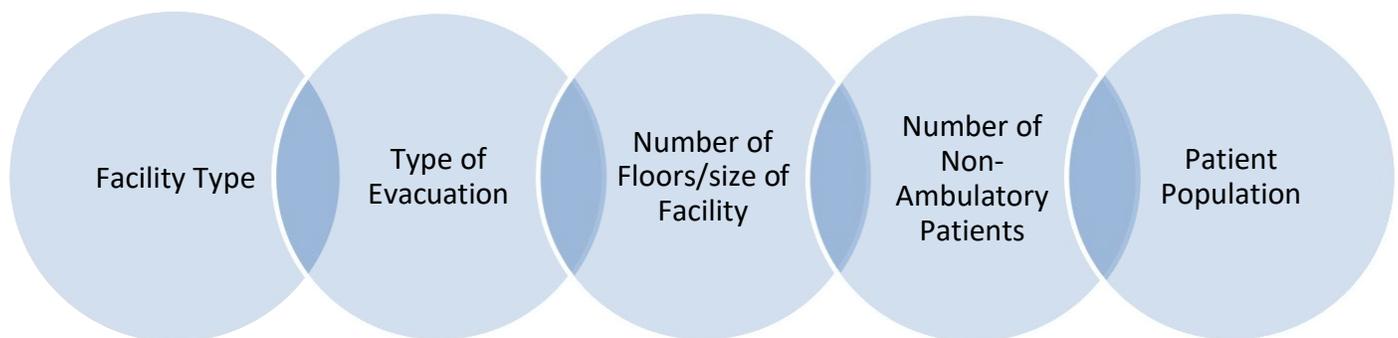


Michigan Minimum Level of Evacuation Equipment

Several variables are present when evaluating a facility's readiness to evacuate, including the facility type (hospital vs. long-term care facility), type of evacuation (short or long term), the overall size of the facility (number of floors), the number of non-ambulatory patients, and the diversity of patient population (pediatric, bariatric, neonatal patients). Not only is it important to have established a minimum number of evacuation equipment, but facilities must identify the personnel required to assist with evacuation. Each facility is unique with available staff, and it is a consideration that should be included as part of establishing evacuation plans. Below are some suggestions, based on some of the variables, which facilities may utilize to establish a minimum level of readiness for evacuation. Facilities are responsible for ensuring their own adequate evacuation equipment.

Use facility-specific data including average daily census and patient non-ambulatory rates by unit, facility floor, and layout (fire breaks, protocol evacuation exits, hall runs, etc.). These factors, along with evacuation protocols, will determine how much equipment will be needed to properly evacuate the facility.¹

Variables for Evacuation



Suggested Evacuation Equipment

Evacuation where evacuees are lying down and require several support people:

- Mega Movers (requires several people to carry one person)
- Stretchers (person evacuated while lying down and requires several support people per evacuation trip)
- Evacuation sheets or mattresses (person evacuated while lying down and requires several support people per evacuation trip)
- Evacuation sleds (person evacuated while lying down and requires several people to carry a person)
- Bariatric sleds (similar to evacuation sleds but for bariatric persons)
- Pediatric sleds (pediatric sleds can carry one to multiple pediatric patients with various types of equipment)

Evacuation where evacuees are sitting and require one or two support person per evacuation:

- Wheelchairs (requires someone to push and not conducive if lots of steps involved)
- Stair chairs (requires someone to push and useful when steps are involved)

¹ Pandolfo, Joe, "Comprehensive Planning for Emergency Evacuation of Healthcare Facilities," Patient Safety and Quality Healthcare October 13, 2014, Web 06 January 2020.