Maine CITE welcomes you to today's webinar!

Emergency Preparedness for AT Users

Jessi Wright, Maine CITE

The webinar will begin soon.

11/30/2022

Serving all ages and all abilities!

- Maine CITE and partners provide:
  - Information and assistance
  - Assistive technology training
  - Device demonstrations
  - Device short-term loans
  - Device reuse

- Partners include:
  - Spurwink ALLTECH
  - Pine Tree Society
  - Gallant Therapy Services
  - University of Maine Farmington

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UMA
UNIVERSITY OF MAINE AT AUGUSTA

Maine Department of Education

Disasters Happen

Emergency Preparedness for AT Users

Jessi Wright

Maine CITE
Assistive Technology for all ages and all abilities

Natural Disasters by the Numbers

- Kill an average of 45,000 people per year, globally
- From 2017 – 2021, the US averaged 17.8 weather and climate disaster events with damages exceeding $1 billion. (NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI))
- The US averaged 911 deaths per year due to disaster events during that time period. (NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI))
- People with disabilities are two to four times more likely to be injured or killed in a natural disaster. (The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies)

Be aware. Be prepared.

- Know your areas potential disaster situations
  - Flood
  - Fire
  - Tornados
  - Hurricanes
- Monitor severe weather/conditions
- Be proactive, not reactive

Assess Your Needs

- What do you require daily?
- What necessary devices require electricity?
- Are the items you need for your health and safety portable or are there portable options?
- Do you require transportation to evacuate?

Identify Resources

- Where is your local emergency shelter?
- Where can you access equipment/devices if needed?
- Who can assist you if needed?
- What transportation options are available?

Maine Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) provides additional resources and information.
www.maine.gov/mema

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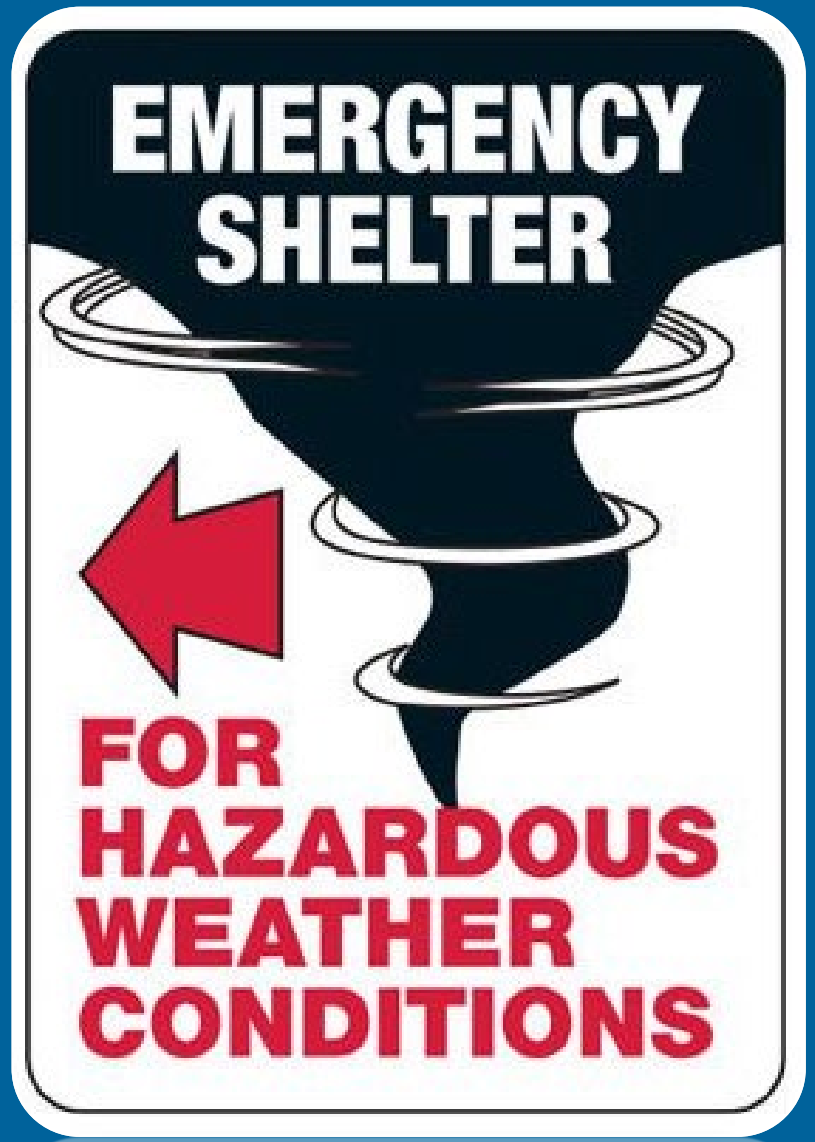
Find your safe place

- Does your area have a special needs or disability registry?
- Where is your emergency shelter location?
  - Community shelter
  - Friend or family member
  - Hotel



Does your safe space need accommodations?

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Can you:

- Easily enter the building?
- Access the bathroom and shower?

Do you require special equipment/accommodations at your safe space?

Go Bag

- Medications and medical devices
- Device chargers
- List of important phone numbers
- Important documents (including medical and service animal records)
- Service animal supplies
- Other first aid and emergency items
- Sensory items such as a weighted blanket

Accommodations on the Fly

Mobility

- Ramps
- Walkers
- Wheelchairs
- Shower Chairs

Daily Living

- Medication management system
- Shower chair
- Toilet elevator

Hearing

- Assisted listening devices
- Paper and pen
- Low tech communication boards

Vision

- Extra glasses
- Magnifiers
- Large Print information
- Devices for safety and/or mobility

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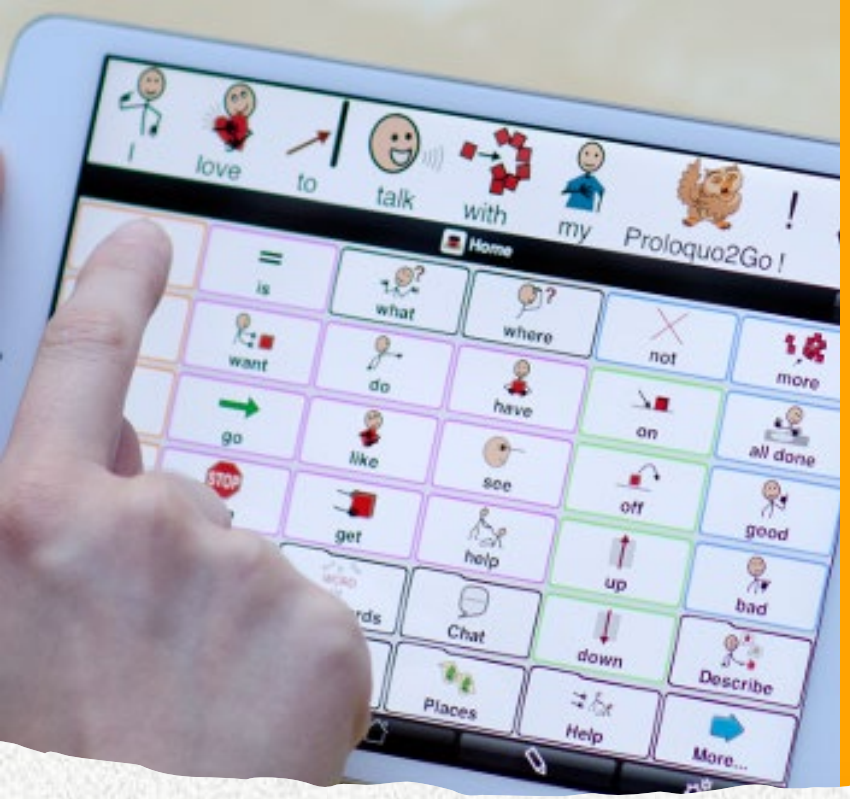
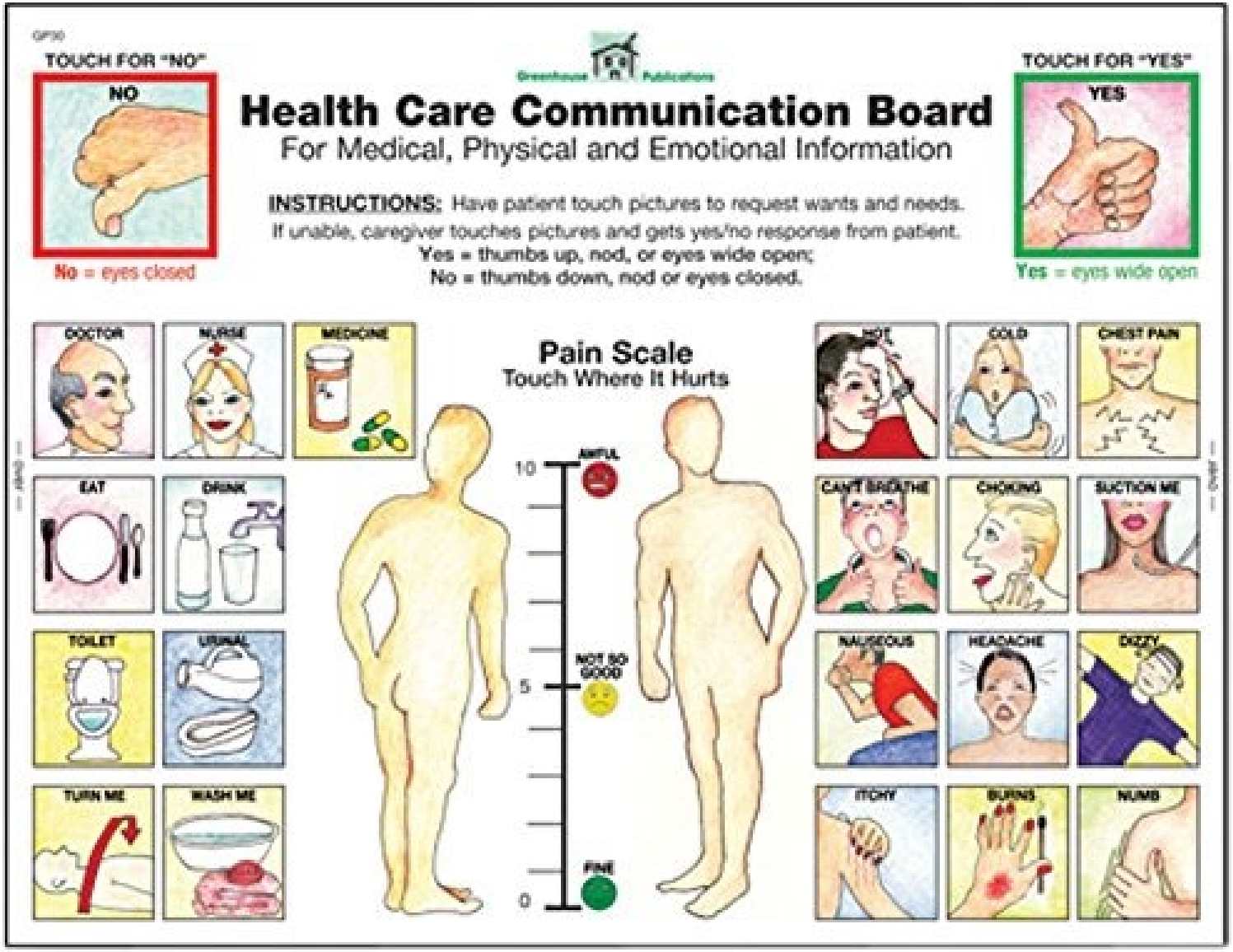


Communication

- Tablets with communication app(s)
- Low tech communication devices
- Low tech communication board


TOUCH FOR "NO"
NO
No = eyes closed
Health Care Communication Board
For Medical, Physical and Emotional Information
INSTRUCTIONS: Have patient touch pictures to request wants and needs.
If unable, caregiver touches pictures and gets yes/no response from patient.
Yes = thumbs up, nod, or eyes wide open;
No = thumbs down, nod or eyes closed.
TOUCH FOR "YES"
YES
Yes = eyes wide open
DOCTOR
NURSE
MEDICINE
EAT
DRINK
TOILET
URINAL
TURN ME
WASH ME
Pain Scale
Touch Where It Hurts
10
AWFUL
5
NOT SO GOOD
0
FINE
HOT
COLD
CHEST PAIN
CAN'T BREATHE
CHOKING
SUCTION ME
NAUSEOUS
HEADACHE
DIZZY
ITCHY
BURNS
NUMB

EZ PICTURE BOARD
AN INNOVATION IN PATIENT COMMUNICATION
I AM
short of breath
in pain
choking
feeling sick
hungry/thirsty
cold/hot
tired
dizzy
angry
afraid
frustrated
sad
I WANT
to be suctioned
lip moistened
water
ice
to be comforted
to sleep
tv/video/dvd
call light /remote
it quiet
lights off/on
to go home
to sit up
to lie down
to turn left/ right
head of bed up/down
get out of bed
I WANT TO SEE
doctor
nurse
family
chaplain
no
yes
STOP
pen/ paper
A B C D E F G H I
J K L M N O P Q R
S T U V W X Y Z .
' , ? !
SPACE
1 2 3
4 5 6
7 8 9
+ 0 -
Thank You
I Love You
For infection control purposes, please do not reuse this board between patients.

There was a disaster. Now what?

- Identify your critical needs.
- Identify resources to meet those needs.
- Contact your personal insurance provider.
- Work with your local and state emergency management agency.

www.maine.gov/mema

Resources

- Independent Living Center (Alpha One)
- Information about assistive devices and services (Maine CITE)
- Borrow a device (AT4Maine.org)
- Device reuse locations (Spurwink ALLTECH and community organizations)
- Disability Rights Maine

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Reach out! We are here to help!

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