

### **Severe Weather (Cyclone) Policy**

The Top End of the Northern Territory experiences the cyclone season between November and April all coastal and some inland communities may be affected by cyclones. Many communities may also be affected by flooding caused by severe weather other than a cyclone the policy will be implemented in that circumstance.

Below is a section of NTGPE's Severe Weather Policy which outlines that student will be evacuated from their placement location in the event of a cyclone warning being declared for the placement location. Evacuation is not negotiable.

#### **12.0 Medical Students**

In the event of a cyclone warning or other severe weather event being announced with the probability of affecting a placement location, all medical students who are on placement in the affected area will be instructed to evacuate by the RUSC Coordinator because of the unpredictable nature of cyclones.

Once the instruction to evacuate is given, RUSC Program students are required to evacuate their placement either to Darwin or their home university. This is not negotiable.

The RUSC Coordinator will provide affected students with evacuation details relating to their travel and accommodation during the evacuation period.

The RUSC Coordinator in conjunction with the student, the placement clinic and NTGPE management will determine if the student is eligible to return to their placement location following the severe weather event and act accordingly.

In the rare situation where the severe weather event appeared before suitable arrangements for evacuation could be made, the students will be required to follow the evacuation procedures of the Clinic they were placed at.

Margaret Vigants  
Medical Student Placement Coordinator