



Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NHCP Shake Out Earthquake Drill



CAMP PENDLETON, Calif --- Naval Hospital Camp Pendleton is sponsoring an earthquake drill on 17 October 2017 at 10:17 a.m. in support of the Great Shake Out. The Great Shake Out includes regionally organized campaigns linked together as a worldwide preparedness movement that spans over 70 countries and involving more than 50 million people in earthquake safety activities of various types. Most participants simply practice how to “Drop, Cover, and Hold On” though many choose to do more such as conducting fire drills, evacuations, and safety equipment demonstrations. Drop, Cover, and Hold On is the recommended safety action immediately when shaking is felt. DROP where you are, onto your hands and knees. This position protects you from being knocked down and also allows you to stay low and crawl to shelter if nearby. COVER your head and neck with one arm and hand. If a sturdy table or desk is nearby, crawl underneath it for shelter. If no

shelter is nearby, crawl next to an interior wall (away from windows). Stay on your knees; bend over to protect vital organs HOLD ON until shaking stops. Under shelter: hold on to it with one hand; be ready to move with your shelter if it shifts. No shelter: hold on to your head and neck with both arms and hands. This exercise will provide NHCP participants with an opportunity to assess capabilities, plans, policies, and procedures. The drill will focus on decision-making, coordination, and integration with other organizations during an earthquake. The expected outcome of the exercise is for all NHCP staff to “Drop, Cover, and Hold On” when the announcement is given. When the announcement is given that all shaking has stopped, all personnel are to check their areas for safety and begin preparations for an evacuation. This is where our exercise will stop. Departmental Evaluators will conduct a 30 minute training session on earthquake preparedness for the individual as well as for hospital preparedness activities. NHCP is also asking that our visiting patients, if able, participate in the exercise as well. Providers will be given information to discuss with their patients as they are being seen between the 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. hour.

For more information on this exercise, please contact our MTF Emergency Manager Mr. Mikel Alford at 760-725-1369 or by email at mikel.e.alford.civ@mail.mil.