Today’s Schedule

- EMS Function in ICS
- EMS at an MCI
- SMART Tag System
Multiple or Mass Casualty

- **Multiple**—one more patient than immediately available resources can manage
- **Mass**—catastrophic event
  - 9/11
  - Hurricane Katrina
  - Ice Storm of 1998
  - Sports Function at your School
EMS Function in ICS

- Incident Command System
  - EMS Control Officer
  - Fire Officer
  - Police Officer
  - Primary Triage Officer
  - Secondary Triage Officer
  - Treatment Officer
  - Loading Officer
CSCATT at an MCI

- Command & Control
- Safety
- Communication
- Assessment
- Triage
- Treatment
- Transport
EMS In An MCI

- Initial Problem-Casualties out-weight resources at initial response
- Objective-effective scene management & optimum use of resources
- Avoid Crainal-Rectal Syndrome at all costs
THE GOLDEN HOUR

We know that:

“The critical trauma patient has only 60 minutes from the time of injury to reach definitive surgical care, or the odds of a successful recovery diminish dramatically.”

Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support, Second Edition, Patient Assessment and Management,
The Golden Hour

You have a finite amount of time to find the balance if you are going to produce the maximum no. of survivors from the incident.
AIM

Your aim at any multiple casualty incident should be to produce the largest number of survivors
“Large scale triage is the hardest job anyone in pre-hospital care will ever do.”

AJ Heightman, Mass Casualty Incident Management
A practical approach to solving complex operational dilemmas
Triage

Why?

To get the right patient in the right place at the right time
Triage

How?

By a dynamic system which is:

Quick
Safe
Reproducible
Triage Coding

Each case is given a priority colour code depending on the level of treatment required:
Primary Triage

- Patients rapidly assessed
- Life-threatening conditions corrected
- Airway
- Bleeding
- Shock
Primary Triage Officer

- Assigned by EMS Control Officer
- Primary Triage Vest
- Rapidly & continuously assessing patients
- Identifying life-threatening conditions
- Assigning & directing care for patients with life-threatening conditions
- Monitoring changes in conditions of patients
Primary Triage Officer

- Three questions
- To what degree is the condition life-threatening
- Will interventions save a life
- Impact on resources
Primary Triage Officer

- Three critical conditions managed during Primary Triage: ABS
  - Airway
  - Bleeding
  - Shock
- CPR not performed
Primary Triage Officer

- Difficulty or not breathing
  - Open airway
- Blood flowing from wound
  - Instruct another patient to apply direct pressure
- progressing into shock
  - If not contraindicated elevate extremities and cover patient
Primary Triage Officer

- Is patient responsive
- Is bleeding found
- Signs or symptoms of shock
Primary Triage Officer

- Appointed by & reports to EMS Control Officer
- Circulates among patients
- Identifies life-threatening conditions: ABS
- Directs others to manage ABS
- Continues to circulate among patents
- Relieved by EMS Control Officer
TRIAGE of Children

Unfortunately children are involved in multiple casualty incidents.

Typically they get over prioritised.
TRIAGE of Children

Triage systems based on adult physiology will not provide accurate triage.

The over prioritizing of children will take valuable resources away from more seriously injured adults.
TRIAGE of Children

There is only ONE evidence based method for triaging children.

The Smart Pediatric Tape gives you a rapid system which helps maximize resources on scene.
Smart Tape

- Similar to Broselow Tape
- Alert & moving all limbs or walking - Green, Priority 3
- If not Green - then use Smart Tape
- Lay Smart Tape as flat as possible
- If between two sections - use section for LONGER child
- Infants under 50cm are unlikely to be out of hospital - Red, Priority 1
Secondary Triage

- Patients sorted for evacuation to Treatment Area
- Four Categories:
  - Red
  - Yellow
  - Green
  - Black
Secondary Triage Officer

- Assigned by EMS Control Officer
- Secondary Triage Vest
- Identify & correct life-threatening conditions
- Classifies patient for further treatment
- Applies Triage Tags
- Reports number/type tags to EMS Control Officer
Secondary Triage Officer

- **Category 1-Red**
  - Major blood loss
  - Multiple system injuries
  - Severe respiratory distress
  - Serious head injuries
Secondary Triage Officer

- **Category 2-Yellow**
  - Do not require immediate transport
  - Non-life or limb-threatening injuries
  - Dislocations
  - Lacerations
  - Non-shock injuries
Secondary Triage Officer

- Category 3-Green
  - Minor or no injuries
  - Small abrasions & bruises
  - Separate from Red & Yellow Tagged
Secondary Triage Officer

- **Category 0-Black**
  - CPR not indicated with limited resources
  - Left where found at scene-if possible
Secondary Triage Officer

- Patient in cardiac arrest before critical needs of group met
- Will patient need ambulance transport
- Will delay in transport jeopardize life or limb
Secondary Triage Officer

- Care at MCI is BASIC
  - Bleeding control
  - Airway management
  - Shock management followed by
  - Immobilization on backboards
  - Classification with Triage Tags
Secondary Triage Officer

- Appointed by & reports to EMS Control Officer
- Identify & correct ABS
- Classifies & Tags patients
- Provides number and category of patients to EMS Control Officer
Treatment Officer

- Appointed by & reports to EMS Control Officer
- Supervises patient care
- Communicates with receiving hospitals-in some systems
- Monitors & requests additional supplies
- Prioritizes patients for transport
- Communicates with Transport Officer
- Updates EMS Control Officer
Treatment Officer

- Treatment Area
  - One Check-In point-towards MCI scene
  - One Exit-Point-towards loading area
  - 6 ft. between patients
- Red (A/B if needed) and Yellow
- Green Area nearby
Treatment Officer

- Triages all patients again
  - Retags if necessary-up or down
  - Uses A/B if lacking resources
- Care rendered documented on Triage Tag
Loading/Transport Officer

- Appointed by & reports to EMS Control Officer
- Sets up Loading Area
  - Adjacent to Treatment Area-Red Tags
  - Multiple vehicles
  - Minimize “backing up”
  - Exhaust fumes
Loading/Transport Officer

- Sorts patients for loading priority
  - Red A/B, Yellow, Green, Black
- Assigns patients to ambulances
  - Paramedic, Intermediate, Basic
- Assigns ambulances to hospitals—include directions
- Communicates with Treatment Officer
Loading/Transport Officer

- Communicates with hospitals:
  - Tag color
  - Last 4 digits of tag number
  - Sex & age of patient
  - Major injury/problems
  - Estimated time of arrival
Loading/Transport Officer

- Completes report on patients loaded/transported
  - Tag color
  - Last 4 digits of tag number
  - Hospital destination
  - Transporting service
  - Time of departure
- Updates EMS Control Officer
Loading/Transport Officer

- Balance resources to patients
  - How does transport of one patient affect the rest
  - Use limited resources to assist the greatest number of patients
Supplies

- Vests for EMS Officers
  - EMS Control
  - Primary Triage
  - Secondary Triage
  - Treatment
  - Loading/Transport
Supplies

- Broselow Tape
- Sunscreen
- Biohazard bags w/twist ties
- Trash bags w/twist ties
- Clip boards/Pencils
- 2 each 100 ft. colored extension cords:
  - Red/Yellow/Green
- Camera
Smart Incident Command System

- Developed in Europe
Questions

- Thank you
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