

Response to Mass Casualty

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INTRODUCTION:

Mass casualty incidence (MCI) is an event that overwhelms the healthcare system which exhausts manpower and resources in a short duration. Due to our hospitals locality being near two major windy highways Karak Highway and also the East Coast Expressway (LPT), we experience a huge numbers of MCI in a year.

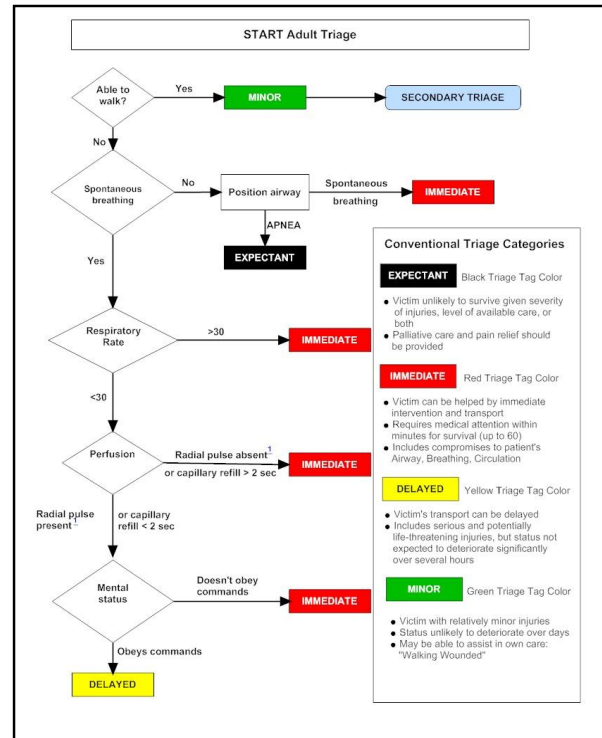
REPORT:

In the wee hours of 27th August, a four-vehicle freak accident on LPT involving 15 victims occurred, 4 demised, 11 others were brought over to our emergency department for further assessment. The night shift being the shift with the least among of healthcare workers, passive callers and the hospital director needed to be activated. Different departments man different zones in the ER, orthopedics being

There in lies the diagnostic dilemma of triage in a big volume of patient at once. Strategies applied in our centre were Sort, Assess, Life-Saving Interventions, Treatment, and/or Transport (SALT) triage and Simple Triage and Rapid Treatment (START). SALT algorithm being the more popular choice as it's an all hazard approach, has 4 medical interventions and has an additional triage color for victims with non-survivable injuries. START algorithm has more components and includes recommendations on urgency for transfer

Figure 1: START adult triage protocol

* further flowchart and algorithms will be included in the final poster



CONCLUSION:

Proper training and education of healthcare workers in response to MCI is crucial. Healthcare personnel will develop preparedness with a systematic and comprehensive response plan. It will also aid in distribution of available resources improving the outcomes of the victims.

REFERENCES:

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- Fink B., Rega P., Sexton M., & Wishner C. (2018). START versus SALT Triage: Which is Preferred by the 21st Century Health are Student? Prehospital and Disaster Medicine, 33(4), 381-386