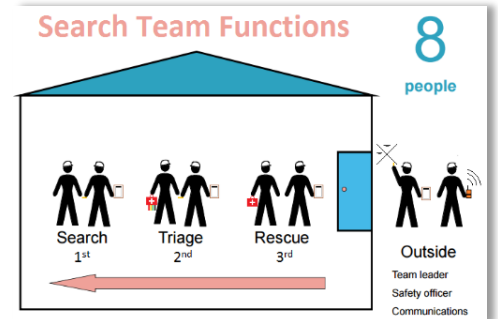


Light Search, Triage, and Rescue

Pre-plan

1. Organize your team

- __ State goals (safely check for potential hazards; locate, evaluate, & evacuate injured; record, report all)
- __ Assign ideally 8 roles: 2 Search, 2 Triage, 2 Rescue, 2 Outside (Team Lead (TL) & communications)
- __ Check PPEs, get anticipated supplies. Continually communicate with team & command center:
- __ Set radio channels; team ID; reference labels for structures: A, B...
- __ Decide on team signals (e.g., whistles); agree on timed check-ins
- __ Have a plan and flexibly stick to it. (Also continually re-evaluate)



Before Entering

1. Is it necessary to enter?

2. Outside Size-up, and classify the building:

Light damage- safe to enter

(Superficial or cosmetic damage, broken windows, fallen/ cracked plaster or chimney; minor damage to contents)

Medium damage- only enter to save a life; limit time inside; evacuate injured quickly

(Greater exterior & contents damage, but not leaning and still attached to foundation)

Heavy damage- do NOT enter, cordon off, safely call out to discover survivors, report all to TL

(Extensive general damage, partial/ total structural collapse, tilting or off foundation, &/or fire, flooding, hazards)

Entering

- __ Knock, call out. Use forcible entry only with strong reason- Hidden key? Open window?
- __ Feel the door for heat (back of hand, bottom to top), check for smoke, smell
- __ Mark half of "X" on door-handle side of entry, visible from street: write Team ID, date, time of entry. (these are common markings; follow local protocols)
- __ Brace door with foot, shoulder when opening, against potential leaning objects.
- __ Prop your door open; leave a light at the entrance as an exit reference point.
- __ Loudly call out your ID, & "If you can walk, come to my voice!" Listen for a response.
- __ If people come out: ask for information, utilize them, or secure their safety, tag & document them
- __ Announce loudly "CERT team is coming in!" Team's scribe records searchers' names & entry time.

1.
Team ID

2..
Date &
Time
In:
Out:

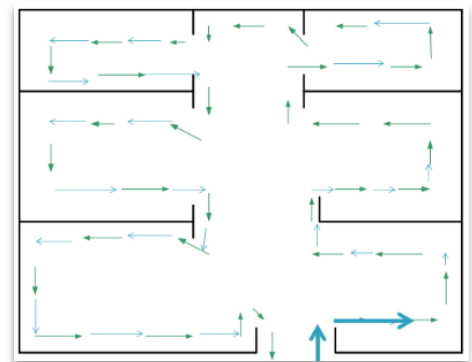
Light Search

1. Use a methodical system:

- __ Right or Left handed "Box" search pattern along walls*; & e.g., upstairs, then down
- __ Buddies stay within sight of each other (touching, if low visibility).
- __ Look up, down, under, left, right, over, as you go.
- __ Search areas of possible entrapment, and child/ pet hiding: (in closets, tubs, under desks, beds, toppled shelves).

2. While searching:

- __ Move carefully while testing the floor with each step
- __ Continuously call out and LISTEN for a response or movement
- __ Anticipate aftershocks, fire, or other dangers
- __ Always look for the nearest possible way out
- __ Continually communicate with your buddy. Use whistle as needed.



*[Right-handed Search Pattern](#)

3. When you come across hazards or survivors:

- __ Write down location & keep count
- __ Assure survivors- “We know you’re here, we will alert help for you”

4. Focus on your task. (Greatest good for greatest number)

- __ Complete your search and get out
- __ Share findings with Team, & record Hazards to the Right of the entry “X” lines

Triage

1. Before going in:

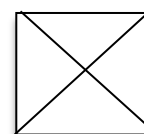
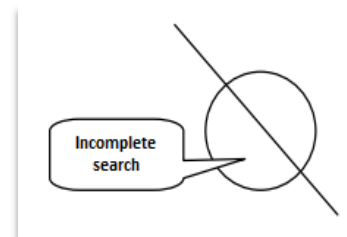
- __ PPE’s, esp. glove supply & documenting tools; check Triage Kit contents
- __ Buddies divide tasks: evaluator, scribe, handling supplies, comms, etc.
- __ Take along any survivors who can safely assist

2. Quickly assess & tag survivors:

- __ Start where you stand, upon arrival
- __ Identify survivor & tag with status (Minor, Delayed, Immediate, Deceased), using Respirations/Perfusion/Mental state. 30-60 seconds per survivor
- __ Track number in each status category. Note location of new Hazards. (Helpful if it doesn’t delay scribe: note a quick descriptor, e.g., ‘infant’, ‘blond male, blue shirt’; location of survivors, esp. if hidden; time)

3. Focus on your task:

- __ Only rapid life-saving treatment, as necessary
- __ Complete Triage and get out
- __ Share your findings: number survivors in each status. Also any location notes; hazards
- __ Report numbers, needs, intended next steps to TL, who reports to Operations/command post



[Do Not Enter](#)

Rescue

1. Before going in:

- __ Have Rescue/ Medical supplies ready; know destination for survivors
- __ Collect information from the Triage team. Tell TL/ scribe you’re going in.

2. Remove survivors from the scene only if necessary for safety or treatment

- __ Splint before moving a survivor; stabilize impaled objects
- __ Leave and do not touch those you find deceased. (may cover face)

3. Treat &/or rescue ‘Immediate’ survivors first; ‘Delayed’ next.

- __ When scene is dangerous, rescue those easiest first (“Greatest good...”)

Outside Team

1. Ensure safety of team members

2. Update Operations Chief as necessary, reporting status, completion

3. Update the “X” markings:

- __ At top: Team ID. On the left: Date and Time Entered
- __ On the right: Hazards and Actions Taken (such as areas searched)
- __ Complete the “X” when all CERT team members leave:
- __ At the top: Date and Time whole team Exited
- __ On the bottom: Number of Persons still inside

4. Track ‘walking wounded’ left outside

4/2023

