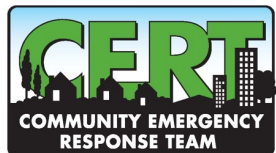


CERT Basic Training

Unit 4: Disaster Medical Operations – Part 2



FEMA

Unit 3 Review



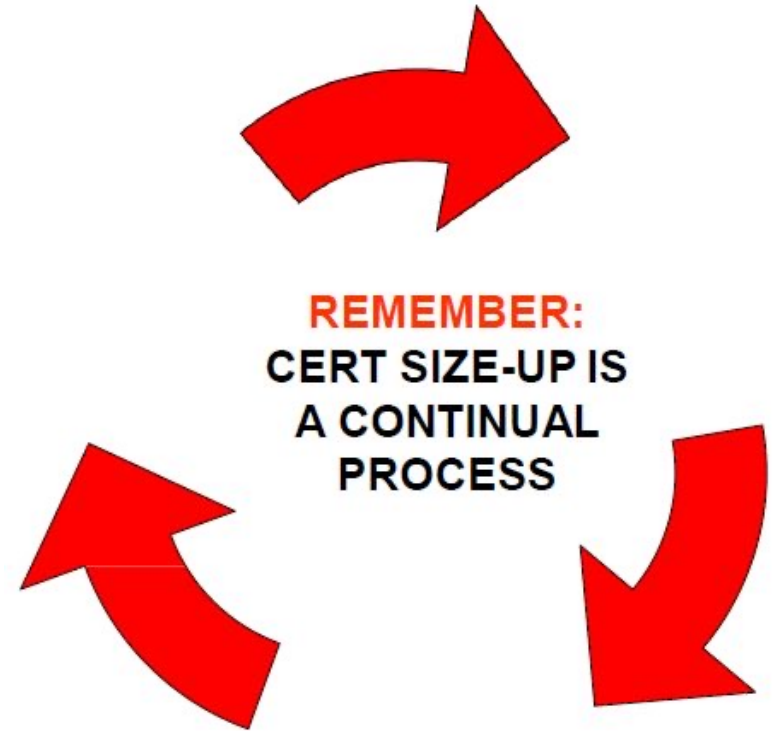
- Identify life-threatening conditions resulting from trauma
 - Airway blockage - **R**espiration
 - Severe bleeding - **P**erfusion
 - Low body temperature/shock – **M**ental Status
- Apply correct life saving techniques
- Provide basic first-aid care for non-life threatening injuries



CERT Size-up



- Gather Facts
- Assess Damage
- Consider Probabilities
- Assess Your Situation
- Establish Priorities
- Make Decisions
- Develop Plan of Action
- Take Action
- Evaluate Progress



Unit 4 Objectives



- Explain the role of the CERT volunteer during a mass casualty incident
- Describe the functions of disaster medical operations
- Describe how to set up survivor treatment areas
- Perform head-to-toe patient assessments
- Take appropriate sanitation and hygiene measures to protect public health

Mass Casualty Incidents



- Incidents in which the number of casualties overwhelms the local resources
 - Commuter train derailment
 - Multi-car accident
 - Bus accident
 - Building collapse
 - Natural disasters (e.g., earthquakes)

Role of First Responder Personnel



- During mass casualty events, first responder personnel will:
 - Establish command and control of the incident area
 - Conduct a scene size-up and set-up
 - Send walking wounded to a holding area to await treatment – minor injuries
 - Identify survivors who require life-saving interventions and treat them immediately - triage

Role of First Responder Personnel



- During mass casualty events, first responder personnel will also:
 - Identify deceased victims as well as survivors too severely injured to save
 - Manage medical transportation for survivors who require additional treatment
 - Secure the area to protect first responders, survivors, and evidence for law enforcement investigations
 - Remove debris and other safety or health threats

Role of CERT Volunteers



If First Responders Present:

- Put on PPE and any CERT affiliated gear
- Locate the nearest first responder and identify yourself/give them your local agency affiliation
- Ask how you may be of assistance
 - For your safety, first responders may ask you to leave the area.

PM 4-2



Role of CERT Volunteers



If No First Responders Present:

- Scene size-up
- Call 911
- Put on PPE and CERT Vest
- Perform triage and perform life-saving treatments
- Once responders arrive, provide them with detailed information. Ask how you may be of assistance.
 - Communication is key for supporting first responders

PM 4-2



Functions of Disaster Medical Operations



- Triage/Assessment
- Treatment
- Transport
- Morgue
- Supply



PM 4-4



Establish a Medical Treatment Area



- Select site and set up treatment area as soon as injured survivors are confirmed
- When determining best location(s) for treatment area, consider:
 - Safety of rescuers and survivors
 - Ease of access to resources



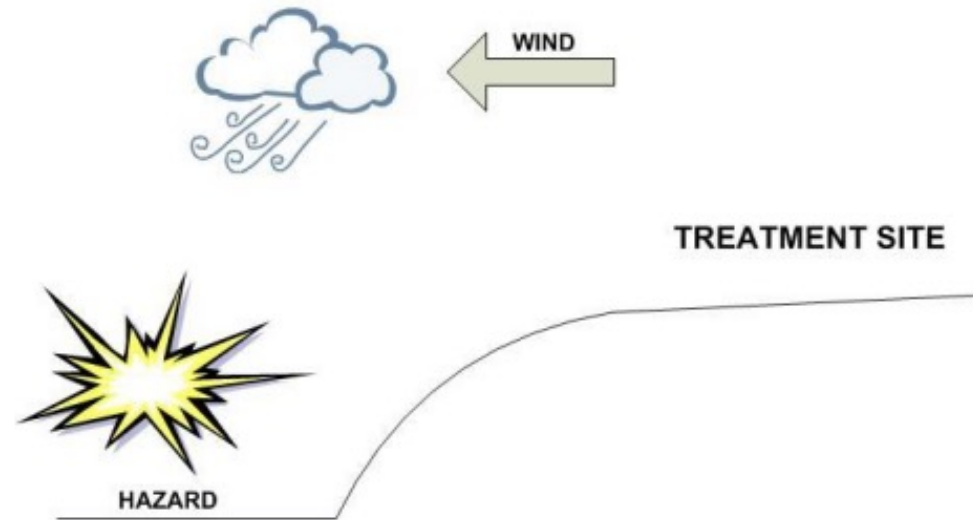
PM 4-5



Treatment Area Site Selection

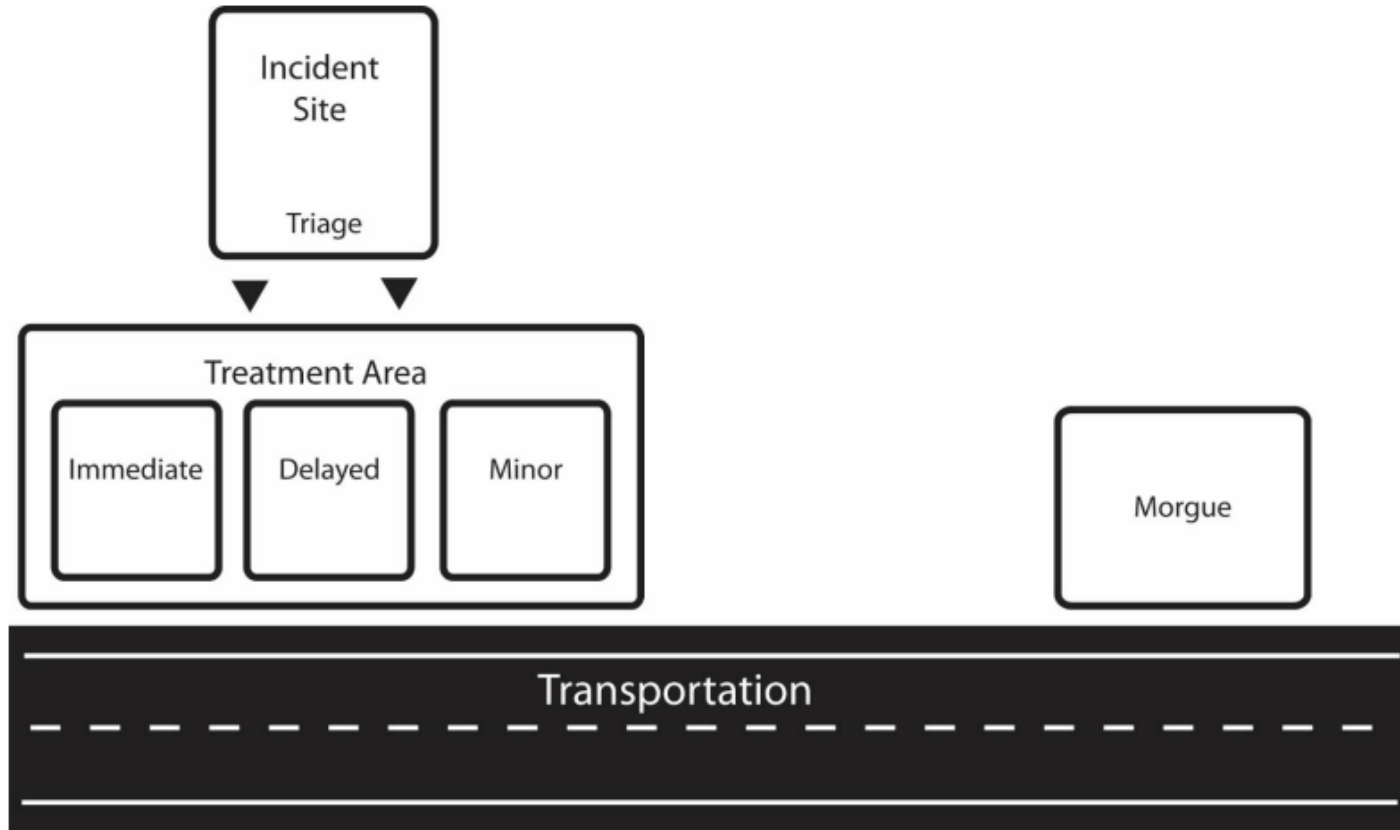


- The site selected should be:
 - In a safe area, free of hazards and debris
 - Upwind, uphill, and upstream (if possible) from hazard zone(s)
 - Accessible by transportation vehicles
 - Expandable



The treatment site should be uphill and upwind from the hazard.

Treatment Area Layout



Treatment Area Organization



- Assign treatment leader to each treatment area
- Document thoroughly
 - Available identifying information
 - Description (age, sex, body build, estimated height)
 - Clothing
 - Injuries
 - Treatment
 - Transfer location
 - 2 copies - with patient, for records



Head-to-Toe Assessment



- Objectives of head-to-toe assessment:
 - Determine extent of injuries
 - Determine type of treatment needed
 - Document injuries



PM 4-7

Head-to-Toe Assessment

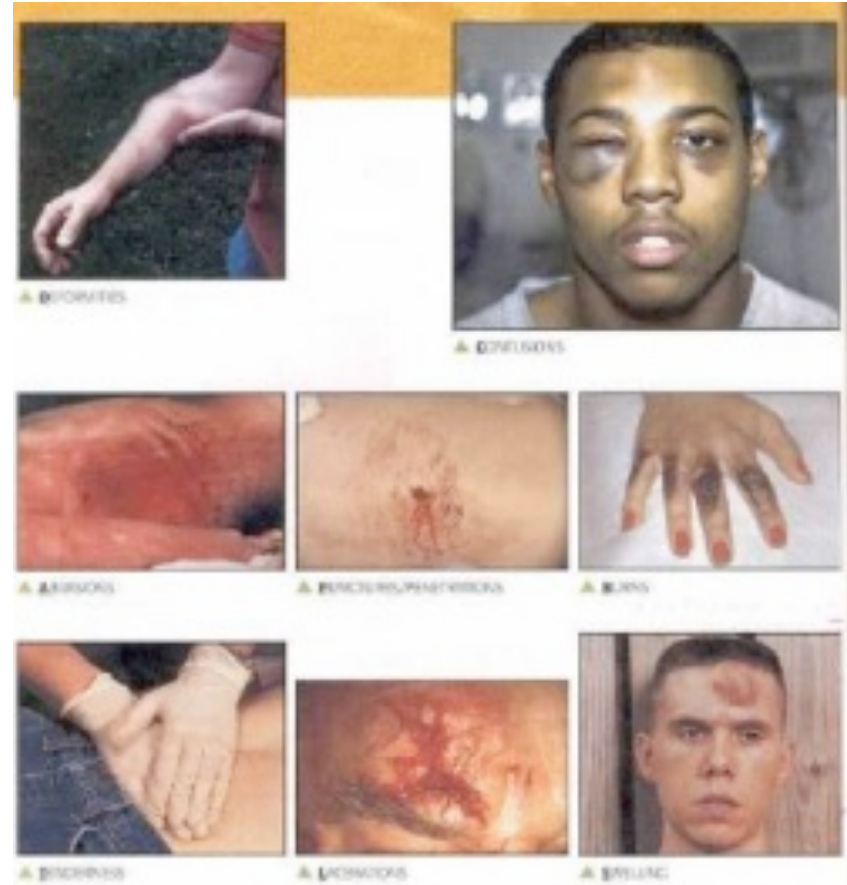


- Assess and treat life-threatening injuries first
- Light damage: Head-to-Toe in place
- Moderate damage: Move to treatment area first
- Assess and document everyone (immediate, delayed, minor)
- Both verbal and hands on

DCAP-BTLS



- Deformities
- Contusions (bruising)
- Abrasions (scrape)
- Punctures
- Burns
- Tenderness
- Lacerations (cut)
- Swelling



PM 4-8

Conducting Head-to-Toe Assessment



- Pay careful attention
- Look, listen, and feel
- Suspect a spinal injury in unconscious survivors and treat accordingly
- Check own hands for patient bleeding
- Check PMS (pulse, movement, sensation) in all extremities
- Look for medical identification

Order of Assessment



1. Head
2. Neck
3. Shoulders
4. Chest
5. Arms
6. Abdomen
7. Pelvis
8. Legs



Closed-Head, Neck, Spinal Injuries



- If injuries to the head or spine are suspected, **do no harm**
 - Minimize movement of head and neck
 - Keep spine in straight line
 - Stabilize head

Head-to-Toe Assessment

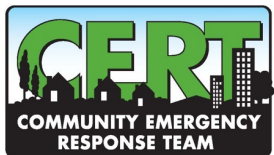


Exercise – Head-to-Toe Assessment



Approach Conscious Patient

Perform Head-to-Toe Assessment



Public Health Considerations



- Maintaining proper hygiene
- Maintaining proper sanitation
- Purifying water (if necessary)
- Preventing spread of disease



PM 4-11

Maintaining Hygiene



- Wash hands frequently
 - Or use alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Wear non-latex exam gloves
- Wear N95 mask and goggles
- Keep dressings sterile
- Wash areas that come in contact with body fluids
 - “If it is warm, wet, and not yours, don’t touch it!”



Maintain Sanitation



- Control disposal of bacterial sources
- Put waste products in plastic bags
 - Tie off bags and mark them as medical waste
- Bury human waste

Water Purification Methods



- Boil water for 1 minute - preferred
- Water purification tablets
- Non-perfumed liquid bleach
 - 12 drops per gallon
 - Stir, then wait 30 minutes
 - Check for the smell of chlorine
 - If no chlorine smell, add 12 more drops
 - Stir, then wait 30 minutes
 - Still no chlorine smell, throw it out!



Unit Summary



- Explain the role of the CERT volunteer during a mass casualty incident
- Describe the functions of disaster medical operations
- Describe how to set up survivor treatment areas
- Perform head-to-toe patient assessments
- Take appropriate sanitation and hygiene measures to protect public health