MULTIPLE CASUALTY INCIDENTS
Any emergency that involves multiple victims and overwhelms first responding units

- Multiple vehicles
- Earthquakes
- Floods
- Large explosions
- Building collapses
MULTIPLE-CASUALTY INCIDENTS REQUIRE THE RESOURCES OF MANY AGENCIES.
MCI

Low-Impact Incidents

• Manageable by local emergency personnel

High-Impact Incidents

• Stresses local EMS, fire, and police resources

Disaster, Terrorism Incidents

• Overwhelms regional emergency response resources
INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM

- Model tool for command, control, coordination of resources at emergency incidents of all sizes.

- Procedures for organizing personnel, facilities, equipment, and communications
INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incident Commander</th>
<th>Modules in Incident Command System</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Responsible for all aspects of an</td>
<td>• Command</td>
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<tr>
<td>emergency response</td>
<td>• Operations</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Planning</td>
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<td>• Logistics</td>
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<td>• Finance</td>
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</table>
The Medical Branch

- Branch of ICS
- Designates and coordinates three functional areas or groups
  - Triage
  - Treatment
  - Transport
Triage Group

- Determines location of triage areas
- Conducts primary triage and ensures all patients are assessed and sorted using local triage protocol
- The triage group leader communicates resource requirements to the medical group supervisor.
- Communicates with treatment group leader to allow for movement of patients into treatment area for prehospital care
Treatment Group

- Determines treatment group location
- Coordinates with triage group to move patients from triage to treatment areas
- Maintains communications with medical group supervisor
- Reassesses patients
  - Conducting secondary triage to match patients with resources
    - Staging order for transport
    - Treatment needs
- Directs movement to transport group
INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM

Transport Group

- Coordinates transportation of victims to appropriate facilities for treatment
- Manages patient movement and accountability from scene to hospitals
- Works with treatment group to establish adequately sized, easily identifiable patient loading area
- Designates ambulance staging division
- Maintains communication with medical group supervisor
Medical Staging

- Designates easily located site for resources to stage near incident area
- Determines whether several staging divisions required
- Determines whether staging will need to be relocated as situation evolves
- Communicates resource status to command
You are first on scene of a MVC involving 20 patients who have been ejected into the median after a bus overturned.

- Should you immediately begin triage?
- Do you have other immediate responsibilities?
Method of sorting patients for care and transport based on severity of injuries or illnesses

Used in hospital emergency departments, battlefields, emergencies when there are multiple victims and limited medical resources
**DISCUSSION**

EMRs
- First on scene
- Must be able to triage patients and initiate care rapidly

Serious medical or trauma related problems should be transported quickly.
- Heart attack
- Shock
- Major injuries
- Heat stroke
START Triage System

- Simple Triage And Rapid Treatment
- Based on rapid assessment of patients using three criteria
  - Respirations
  - Perfusion
  - Mental status
- 60 seconds or less per patient
- Do not begin treatment during triage.
Patients classified into one of four categories and tagged with denoted color-coded tag indicator

- **Immediate (red)**
- **Delayed (yellow)**
- **Minor (green)**
- **Deceased (black)**
START TRIAGE SYSTEM
START TRIAGE ALGORITHM

Can you walk?
- YES: Minor
- NO: Breathing?
  - YES: Respirations <30 per minute?
    - YES: Circulation cap refill <2 sec?
      - YES: Mental status follows commands?
        - YES: Immediate
        - NO: Delayed
    - NO: Immediate
  - NO: Open airway breathing?
    - YES: Immediate
    - NO: Deceased
Primary triage
- When patient is first identified and triaged

Secondary triage
- When patient is relocated to treatment area, they will immediately be re-triaged by treatment team.
<table>
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<tr>
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<td>Manageable by local emergency personnel</td>
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Specialized pediatric triage system designed for patients from one to eight years of age. Assessment categories for JumpSTART system are the same as for START system.

- Respirations
- Perfusion (peripheral pulses)
- Mental status (AVPU)
Be aware of your mental and physical stress levels.

Critical Incident Stress Debriefing (CISD)
While rare, Multiple-Casualty Incidents (MCIs) can easily overwhelm first responding units at scene.

First units quickly request additional resources and begin to establish command over incident.
**SUMMARY**

**Incident Command System (Incident Management System)**

Tool used to manage overall control of large scenes involving many resources and multiple agencies

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**Triage**

| Sorting of patients based on severity of injuries or illnesses | Goal is to save as many patients as possible using available resources. |
Triage Categories

- Immediate
  - Most critical but salvageable patients
- Delayed
  - Less critical but still in need of care
- Minor
  - Ambulatory at scene
- Deceased
  - No signs of life
SUMMARY

- START System
  - Simple Triage And Rapid Treatment
  - Uses respirations, perfusion, and mental status assessments to categorize patients into one of four treatment categories

- JumpSTART
  - Variation of START Triage System designed specifically for pediatric patients
  - Takes into account unique needs and presentation of pediatric patients