

Scene Safety

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SCENE SAFETY

- Your Well-Being
- During any Incident or Hazard
 - Earthquakes, Floods, Hurricanes, Tornadoes, Pandemics, Terrorist Attacks, Snowstorms, Traffic Collisions, Everyday Life

Sizing-up a Scene

- Is the area/scene safe?
- If not, what resources are needed to make it safe?
- Perform your own scene size-up
- Constantly watch the scene
- Be concerned with:
 - ❖ Personal Safety
 - ❖ Co-worker Safety
 - ❖ Patient Safety
 - ❖ Bystander Safety

Scene Safety



While Deployed

- Always take proper Body Substance Isolation (BSI) precautions
 - ❖ Gloves
 - ❖ Mask
 - ❖ Goggles
- Other Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) may be necessary
 - ❖ Helmets/hats
 - ❖ Ear plugs
 - ❖ Boots

While Deployed

- Useful Items

- Water (Personal)
- Sunscreen, Bug Repellent, Alcohol Gel
- Bleach, disinfectant
- Hand & Toe Warmers
- Non-cotton clothing
- Disposable toothbrushes

Body Substance Isolation (BSI)

- All body substances can carry viruses and bacteria
- Body substances include:
 - ❖ Blood
 - ❖ Saliva
 - ❖ Any body fluids or contents

Body Substance Isolation (BSI)

- Patients' body substances need to be isolated from your body



Some Types of Scenes

- Emergency Dispensing Sites
 - (e.g. Flu Clinics)
- Medical Support Tents
- Natural Disasters
- Man-made Disasters/Terrorist Acts
- Roadside Emergencies/Vehicle Collisions

Emergency Dispensing Sites & Medical Tents



Emergency Dispensing Sites & Medical Tents

Flu Terms Defined

- ***Seasonal (or common) flu*** is a respiratory illness that can be transmitted person to person. Most people have some immunity, and a vaccine is available.
- ***Avian (or bird) flu*** is caused by influenza viruses that occur naturally among wild birds. The H5N1 variant is deadly to domestic fowl and can be transmitted from birds to humans. There is no human immunity and no vaccine is available.
- ***Pandemic flu*** is a human flu that causes a global outbreak, or pandemic, of serious illness. Because there is little natural immunity, the disease can spread easily from person to person. Currently, there is no pandemic flu.

Emergency Dispensing Sites & Medical Tents

- A pandemic will last longer than most Public Health Emergencies
- Number of Health-care providers and First Responders will be reduced
- Infected People don't belong with general population
- Cover nose and mouth when sneezing or coughing
- Throw out used tissues as soon as you can

Emergency Dispensing Sites & Medical Tents

- Wash your hands before (& after) eating, touching your eyes, nose or mouth
- Wash your hands after touching anyone else who is sneezing, coughing, blowing their nose or whose nose is running
- Don't share things like cigarettes, towels, lipstick and toys
- Don't share food, utensils or beverage containers



Emergency Dispensing Sites & Medical Tents

- Inside building

- ❖ Where are the designated entrances and exits?
- ❖ Know the quickest way out
- ❖ Keep an eye out for unstable people
- ❖ Practice good hygiene
- ❖ Secure all valuables



Emergency Dispensing Sites & Medical Tents

- Parking lot and street
 - ❖ Never turn you back on traffic
 - ❖ Don't assume a driver sees you or will stop for you



Natural Disasters

- Be ready to sustain your and your family
- Do not enter unstable/damaged buildings
- Be aware of your surroundings
- Dress appropriately



Natural Disasters

- Use the “Buddy System”: Travel with a partner
- Keep your fuel tank at least half full
- Use fanny packs instead of purses



Natural Disasters

- People are in shock, unpredictable
- Animals could be loose and dangerous
- HazMat situations may exist



Natural Disasters

- Do not try to walk or drive through flooded areas
- If your well is flooded, your tap water is probably unsafe
- If using a generator, use it properly
 - ❖ Beware of Carbon Monoxide
 - ❖ Don't backfeed utility system
 - ❖ Avoid overloading extension cords
 - ❖ Store gasoline safely

Terrorist Acts

- Initial Blast may be to attract first responders, then attack *them* in a second, larger blast
- Practice BSI and PPE



Terrorist Attacks

- May also be a Public Health Emergency
 - Biohazards
 - Anthrax
 - Smallpox
 - Chemical hazards
 - Nuclear hazards
 - Bombs

Roadside Emergencies

- Don't assume other drivers will see collision scene
- Be aware of HazMat situations
- Do not enter or approach an unstable vehicle



Roadside Emergencies

- Air bags may be deployed during rescuer's presence
- Use appropriate warning devices
- Do not turn your back on traffic



Roadside Emergencies

- If no apparent hazards, danger zone 50'
- If fuel spilled, danger zone 100'
- Vehicle on fire, danger zone 100'



Roadside Emergencies

- If wires down, stay one full span of wires from poles to which broken wires are attached



Be Prepared

- Take responsibility for yourself, your family and your pets
- Prepare a 72 hour kit
 - ❖ Food & Water
 - ❖ Bedding & Clothing
 - ❖ Fuel & Lighting
 - ❖ Personal Sanitation & Medication
 - ❖ Personal Documents & Money
- Have a family disaster and communications plan
- Know First Aid and CPR

Be Prepared

- Identify “pet friendly” hotels
- Have photos of family, know social security numbers, Dates of Birth etc
- Establish Out-of-State Points of Contact
 - ❖ Share the phone number & email address

Be Prepared

- Help being prepared is available
 - ❖ www.mass.gov/eohhs/massSupport
 - ❖ www.mass.gov/dph
 - ❖ www.securityinknowledge.org
 - ❖ www.mass.gov/eops
 - ❖ www.redcross.org
 - ❖ www.region4a.org
 - ❖ www.cdc.gov
 - ❖ www.americanheart.org
 - ❖ www.fema.gov
 - ❖ www.mass.gov/mema
 - ❖ www.nfpa.org
 - ❖ www.ready.gov
 - ❖ www.pandemicflu.gov
 - ❖ www.petswelcome.com

Stress and Anxiety

- Large amount of an area's population affected
- Things are suddenly different from what you've always known
- Resources are limited
- If necessary, seek professional help

Scene Safety

- In Summary

- ❖ Be Prepared
- ❖ Practice good hygiene
- ❖ Practice BSI & PPE
- ❖ Know potential dangers
- ❖ Avoid situations you are not equipped or trained to handle
- ❖ Be safe