# 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



#### **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.

- 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

- 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

#### 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



#### Parking lot and street

Never turn you back on traffic
Don't assume a driver sees you or will stop for you



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



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



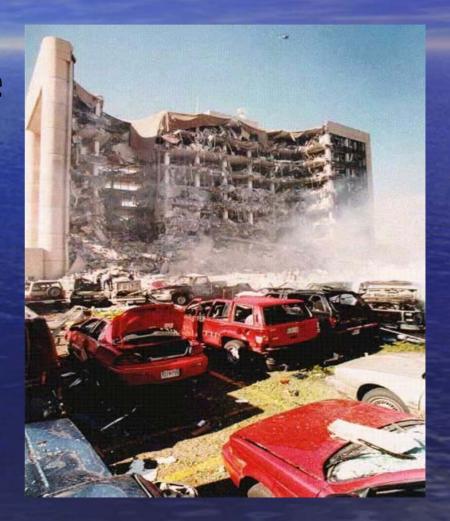
People are in shock, unpredictable
Animals could be loose and dangerous
HazMat situations may exist



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

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



 Air bags may be deployed during rescuer's presence

Use appropriate warning devices
 Do not turn your back on traffic



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



 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

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#### Help being prepared is available

- www.mass.gov/eohhs/massSupport
- www.mass.gov/dph
- www.securityinknowledge.org
- www.mass.gov/eops
- <u>www.redcross.org</u>
- \* www.region4a.org
- \* www.cdc.gov
- www.americanheart.org
- ✤ <u>www.fema.gov</u>
- www.mass.gov/mema
- 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