



Central County Fire Department (CCFD) Community Emergency Response Team Online CERT Course – Study Guide UNIT 4

Disaster Medical Operations 2 – Unit 4

Mass Casualty Incidents (MCI); professional responders will do the following:

- Establish command and control of the incident area
- Conduct a scene size-up and setup
- Send survivors to treatment area
- Identify and treat survivors with life-threatening injuries immediately
- Identify deceased victims as well as survivors who are too severely injured to save
- Manage medical transportation
- Secure the area to protect responders, survivors, and evidence
- Remove debris and other safety or health threats

CERT volunteers will do the following:

- Put on PPE
- Locate the nearest professional responder and identify yourself to them
- Communicate your CERT affiliate to them
- Ask how you can help; they may ask you to leave; if so, report to your CERT Team Leader
- If no professionals are available assess the situation, determine whether you can provide life-saving interventions and then report what has been done to the professionals when they arrive

Disaster Medical Operations

- Triage / assessment
- Treatment
- Transport
- Morgue
- Supply

Medical Treatment Area

- Decentralized
 - Many injured survivors at several locations
 - Central area is too far away
 - Medical treatment locations set up close to each damaged site
 - Depends on severity of damage, number of injuries / casualties, safety, accessibility of transportation, expandability

Centralized

- Established when there are few injured survivors at multiple sites
- Injured survivors can be logically moved to one central area
- Includes treatment areas and a morgue
- Provides effective use of limited resources

Determined by

- Severity of damage
- Number of injuries
- Safety of environment
- Accessible by transportation vehicles
- Expandable

Light Search and Rescue

- Assess damage to building or house: Light, Moderate, Heavy
- Head to Toe assessment – DCAPBTLS (deformities, contusions, abrasions, punctures / penetrations, burns, tenderness, lacerations, swelling)
- Head
- Neck
- Shoulders
- Chest
- Arms
- Abdomen
- Pelvis
- Legs
- Head to toe assessment Considerations Knowledge check – verbalize what you are doing; assess all survivors; look, listen and feel; ask permission

DCAPBTLS Knowledge check

- deformities, contusions, abrasions, burns, tenderness, lacerations, swelling
- Head to toe assessment Considerations Knowledge check – verbalize what you are doing; assess all survivors; look, listen and feel; ask permission

Order of Assessment Knowledge check: head, neck, shoulders, chest, arms, abdomen, pelvis, legs

Signs of closed head injury

- Change in consciousness, inability to move one or more body parts
- Severe pain or pressure in head, neck, back
- Tingling or numbness in extremities
- Difficulty breathing / seeing
- Heavy bleeding, bruising, deformity of head and spine
- Blood / fluid in nose / ears
- Bruising behind ears
- Bruising around eyes
- Uneven pupils
- Seizures
- Nausea / vomiting

Signs of closed-head, neck or spinal injury Knowledge check

- Change in consciousness, inability to move one or more body parts
- Severe pain or pressure in head, neck, back
- Tingling or numbness in extremities
- Difficulty breathing / seeing
- Heavy bleeding, bruising, deformity of head and spine
- Blood / fluid in nose / ears
- Bruising behind ears
- Bruising around eyes
- Uneven pupils
- Seizures
- Nausea / vomiting

Maintaining Hygiene

- Gloves, N95 mask, goggles
- Wash hands, use sanitizer
- Keep dressings sterile
- Wash areas that come in contact with body fluids
- Control disposal of bacterial sources
- Put waste in plastic bags
- Tie off bags and mark as medical waste
- Bury human waste
- If it is warm, wet and not yours, do not touch it

Purifying water

- Boil water for 1 minute
- Bleach – 8 drops per gallon (16 if dirty); let stand for 30 minutes
- Purification tablets

Water sanitation Knowledge check:

boil water for 1 minute, purification tablets, non-perfumed bleach

Test

1. Mass casualty – conduct size-up and provide lifesaving intervention if safe. Find a professional responder and identify yourself to them. Communicate any information you may have
2. Maintain sanitization – put waste in plastic bags; tie off bags and mark as “medical waste” and keep separate from other waste; control disposal of bacterial sources.
3. Closed head injury signs: change in consciousness, raccoon eyes, inability to move one or more body parts
4. First step in size-up: gathering information
5. True - Establish medical treatment area by selecting a site and treatment area as soon as survivors are confirmed
6. Maintain hygiene – wash hands, wear gloves
7. Consider for treatment area: it is free of hazards, the facilities have effective use of resources, transportation is accessible, it is expandable
8. Wait 30 minutes before using water purified with bleach
9. Closed head / neck spinal injuries – minimize movement, move only if in danger
10. True – for MCI – provide lifesaving interventions only if professional responders are not available



This study guide provided by the
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