

Vocabulary

make an announcement ogłosić, zgłosić
sustain an injury doznać urazu
a response to the announcement/emergency call przyjęcie zgłoszenia
to immobilize unieruchomić
threat zagrożenie
label a victim zakwalifikować
poszkodowanego do odpowiedniej grupy w segregacji, ustalić stan jego/jej zdrowia

Gather the information and pool your knowledge together to discuss and characterize the specificity of MCI-related emergencies.

B. Case Studies

Case 1

Task 1

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Listen to the caller (C) requesting medical assistance. Discuss how many ambulances you will need, what injuries you might expect, of what severity, what equipment and what materials are likely to be used.

What information do you think the ambulance crew will get?

Task 2

Discuss how you will proceed and how you will organize your work on arrival at the scene.

Task 3

Read the conversation between two paramedics, a policeman and two victims. Decide whether the statements which follow are true or false.

A: What's the situation like?

P: Getting better. We're still fighting or chasing some hooligans. Give us a few minutes yet. I'll let you know when you can get in. For now you can take care of the people who are getting out on their own and might need help.

A: OK (*to his colleagues*) Looks like we are setting up a casualty collection point. Jack, yell and ask people to come to us for medical aid.

J: (*over a loud speaker*) Attention, please. Anybody requiring medical assistance, please, come to the casualty collection point.

A: (*to a man with a nosebleed, blue eye and a bleeding in the temporal area who comes swaggering, leaning on a friend's arm*) Let me see. How did it happen? Did you fall or were you hit?

V1: I was hit, more than once. I'm not one of them. I just got in the way.

A: I'll disinfect the wound, it will be a bit painful so be ready, and dress it. (*examining the victim's pupils*) Can you see me? Do you feel dizzy?

V1: I can see you but not quite clearly. And you seem to be swaying?

A: You've got a blow in the head. Just lie down for a while and relax. Don't go away. You'll feel better in a while. And I'd like to have another look at you before you go.

J: (*to a man who's been dragged to the CCP by two other men*) Sir, can you hear me? What has happened? (*as the victim seems to have lost his consciousness, one of his colleagues answers*)

M: We're trying to move away when the fighting broke out but our pal was not lucky. He was pushed by somebody running and tumbled down a few rows. We returned and picked him up when the fighting moved on. He was breathing but he was unconscious. We actually carried him all the way here. He's not going to die, is he? What shall we tell his wife?

J: Help me put him down here, on his back. His airway is clear. He's breathing.

M: His leg. It looks strange.

J: Yes. It must be broken. Has your friend got any documents?

M: Yes.

J: Leave them where they are. We'll take care of him.

M: Thank you. We'll see if we can help others.

Wzrost: 100 cm

numb zdrętwiały
limp wiotki
ruptured pęknięty, rozerwany
suffer an injury doznać obrażenia

J: Not a bad idea.

V2: (*comes staggering, holding his left shoulder, with evident pain on his face*) Can you help me? I'm in terrible pain.

Something's got wrong with my upper frame, the shoulder, especially the left one. My left arm's also sort of numb and limp. I can't raise it, not really.

A: Can you tell me how it happened?

V2: I was pushing my way to get out. I must have got hit a few times, also against the railing. At one point I had to hold to the railing to resist the mob pushing. I was lucky not to be trodden on. Some must have been, those who fell.

A: How about breathing?

V2: I can draw breath. But I can't take a deep breath without feeling some kind of pain.

A: Is the pain in your shoulders very bad?

V2: When I don't move, I just feel discomfort but my left arm looks and feels strange.

A: You need to be taken to hospital. The shoulder might be dislocated, tendons ruptured perhaps. We'll immobilize you so that you won't be uncomfortable in transport. Just don't worry. And no sudden movements.

P: You can move in now. Take stretchers. I've seen a few people just lying there.

1. When the paramedics get to the scene, they encounter chaos and panic.
2. Paramedics rush into the stadium to help victims.
3. Paramedics make an announcement following the PAM.
4. There is a response to the announcement.
5. Victim One can be classified as Priority 1.
6. Victim One may have suffered an injury to the head.

7. After a moment of relaxation Victim One should/can be sent home.

8. Victim Two can be classified as Priority 3.

9. Victim Two might have sustained an injury to the nervous system.

10. The MOI described by Victim Two suggests what injuries he might have suffered.

Task 4

Imagine that the situation you encountered on arrival is really serious and you need to make it known to the ACTR. Simulate the call.

Task 5

Read the conversation once again, pick up information on the two victims. Report their condition to a doctor arriving at the scene.

Task 6

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Listen and complete the dialogue between two paramedics.

P1: Seems like quite a large number of

P2: I suggest we get down to work and them. Here are the I'll take the right side of the sector and you the left one.

(*after a few minutes*)

P1: What's the situation on your side? Anybody in need of medical care?

P2: Definitely. Over here to the Nine victims requiring immediate evacuation!

I may be but I wouldn't like to risk anybody's life. Others are Priority and They can wait. I told them to stay put, keep calm. I'm

going back to take care of whatever I can to them enough for being..... And in your sector?

P1: One - no respiration, no response. Looks like a to me. Nothing we can do. A number of people with, broken extremities, dislocations,, bruises,, broken noses. Mostly Priority 2 and 3. But there're Priority 1 victims. One man seems to have a which must have By the time I got to him he'd already a lot of blood. I immobilized the leg and Jack's with him giving him oxygen. And another guy. He's, his respiration is and No external bleeding but it looks like his trunk has been I wouldn't exclude broken or, or So much after survey. I hope we've identified all people with life-threatening injuries.

P2: Anybody with injuries?

P1: In some cases you can't tell. I've told who are alert and communicative to move as little as possible. Now I guess we should make a and start the broken extremities.

P2: All the victims are, aren't they? So let's do the yellow tags one by one.

Task 7

Read and discuss the statements which follow against the situation which emerges from the dialogues above.

1. Rescuers should wait for the police or other forces to complete their job before they move in.
2. Paramedics should move in pairs throughout the rescue action.
3. Setting up a CRP was a good idea.
4. Labelling the victims first instead of giving them medical help one by one is a waste of time.

5. Paramedics should attempt to restore respiration and circulation to all victims in the first place.
6. Overtriage is better than undertriage.
7. An injury to the thigh may but need not be dangerous.
8. Absence of external bleeding or injuries does not necessarily mean absence of a threat to a victim's life.

Task 8

- A. Describe how a victim with a broken thigh and bleeding from the area is taken care of.
- B. Discuss what equipment the paramedics will need to assist the victims labelled yellow and green.
- C. Finally, arrange a simulation of the situation presented in the dialogues, assign roles, make your performance as true to life as possible, remembering that you are highly-qualified and fast-acting professionals.

Case 2

Task 9

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It is 1 a.m. There has been an explosion, probably a gas explosion, in a 6-floor residential building. A fire broke out, parts of the building have collapsed. You are a member of the ambulance crews called to the scene.

Listen to the conversation between two paramedics. Decide whether the statements which follow are true (T) or false (F). Explain your position.

1. The ACTR receives the call around noon.
2. The number of victims may not be high because most of the residents must have been at work.

3. The paramedics have only theoretical knowledge about fire victims.
4. Burns are the only type of injury they will be treating.
5. Old buildings are more exposed to fire and more dangerous once it breaks out.
6. When they arrive at the scene the whole building is on fire.

Task 10

Imagine what types of victims, with what injuries or problems you are likely to find in the case of such an incident. What will you need to help them? Will there be a need for advanced medical care and immediate evacuation to hospital?

Task 11

Discuss how you will behave, who you will contact, who you will cooperate with, how you will manage the rescue action on your part, how long rescuers will stay on the site.

Task 12

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There is havoc. Fire fighters are fighting down the fire trying to prevent it from spreading to the whole building. There seems to be nobody alive on the upper floors which are ablaze. There are a lot of people simply watching and a few who are trying to help the victims.

Listen to the dialogue and decide whether the statements below are true (T) or false (F).

1. Firemen were late to intervene.
2. Some people may have failed to escape from the building.
3. All people who jumped out from the burning house are alive.
4. The paramedics began by making a segregation of victims.

5. The man who jumped from the third floor window is unconscious.
6. The man's burns are severe and cover a major part of his body.
7. All victims must have inhaled a lot of smoke.
8. Both the man and his son sustained burns.
9. The man feels excessively warm.
10. The man's son will not need any medical help.

Task 13

- Discuss how you would handle the first victim. Simulate the action.
- Discuss how you would handle the second victim. Simulate the action.
- Discuss the two victims in terms of the possible injuries they must have suffered.
- Discuss what other injuries the paramedics might have had to treat.

C. More Cases

Read the descriptions of mass-casualty incidents below.

Case 1

There was a railroad collision in a densely populated area, in which a tank railroad car carrying toxic and highly inflammable liquid was involved. The other train involved was a local passenger train. The liquid leaked out.

Case 2

Toxic gas escaped from a chemical plant situated very close to a town due to a breakdown of some filtering installation. It spread quickly over the area.