

Triage

Rob Veilluex, EMS Director, Teton
County Ambulance

Objectives

- To give a brief overview of the Start Triage system.
- To be able to place patients in the four categories of the Start Triage system
- To utilize available resources appropriately to initiate transport needs based on the categories given to each patient

Start Triage

- What is Start Triage?
 - Simple triage and rapid treatment (START)
 - It is a method used by first responders to quickly classify victims during a Mass casualty incident (MCI) based on the severity of their injury.

The four Categories

- Immediate = Red
- Delayed = Yellow
- Walking wounded / Minor = Green
- Deceased / expectant = Black

Category Green Criteria

- Minor injuries
- Able to walk
- Able to follow commands
- Able to self help

Category Black Criteria

- No Respirations after head tilt
- Unable to maintain airway without assistance
- This can be the most difficult because we want to save everyone.

Category Red Criteria

- Breathing but unconscious
- Respirations: > 30
- Perfusion:
 - Cap Refill > 2 sec.
 - No radial pulse
 - Control bleeding.
- Mental Status: Can't follow simple commands

Category Yellow Criteria

- Respirations: < 30
- Perfusion: Cap refill < 2 sec
- Mental status: Can follow simple commands

Small Group Exercise

- Break up in Small groups
- Will give brief description of incident
- Will put up patient slide for 30 seconds
- Categorize patient from information given (individually) using Handouts and visual aids.
- Small group will then decide How to transport with the given resources.

Incident Briefing

- Two Vehicle accident- Driver fell asleep at the wheel. Collided with another vehicle and a tree.
- Initial response is one Ambulance with two crew members.

Available Resources

- 1 Ground ambulance (initial response) that can possibly take 2 patients.
- 1 Air ambulance that can take 1 patient
- 3 additional EMS providers that show up on scene in POV's with jump kits.

Incident Briefing

- Two Vehicle accident- Driver fell asleep at the wheel. Collided with another vehicle and a tree.
- Initial response is one Ambulance with two crew members.

Patient 1

- 38 year old male driver, not seat belted. Ejected, and hit the tree. Head and face injuries. Blood in airway.
 - Respirations: 28
 - Perfusion: <2 with radial pulse
 - Mental status: follows simple commands

Patient 2

- 35 year old female passenger with seat belt on. Tree branch came through the windshield and hit her in the chest.
 - Respirations: 32
 - Perfusion: <2
 - Mental status Cannot follow simple commands

Patient 3

- 68 year old female in the back seat. Belted in. No obvious injuries, but complains of chest pain and SOB.
 - Respirations: 26
 - Perfusion: < 2 with radial pulse
 - Mental status Follows simple command

Patient 4

- 12 year old female belted in the back seat. Right shoulder hit the car door and window. Screaming in pain. Frightened and crying.
 - Respirations: 24
 - Perfusion: <2 with radial pulse
 - Mental Status Follows simple commands

Patient 5

- 10 year old male in the center of the back seat. Belted in. Shaking and salivating. Becoming mentally confused. No obvious injuries.
 - Respirations: 18
 - Perfusion: <2 with radial pulse
 - Mental status: Cannot follow simple commands

Patient 6

- 7 year old male unrestrained in the 3rd seat. Ejected from car and found lying face down on the ground. Not moving.
 - Respirations: No Respirations after head tilt
 - Perfusion: No Radial pulse
 - Mental status: Unconscious

Secondary Patient Info

- 38 year old male – Facial fractures making airway control difficult.
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- 35 year old female – Sucking chest wound with airway compromise.
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- 68 year old female – History of angina. Cannot find her NTG.
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- 12 year old female – Anxious about her parents. Pain continues.
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- 10 year old male - Insulin dependent diabetic. Just took his insulin, but has not eaten.
-
- 7 year old male - Open head injury. No respirations

Group work time

- Five minutes
- Next slide answer slide for categorized patients.

Discussion

Answers for categories

- Patient 1 = Yellow
- Patient 2 = Red
- Patient 3 = Green/Yellow
- Patient 4 = Yellow
- Patient 5 = Red
- Patient 6 = Black

Conclusion

- Remember this is only an introduction or a refresher.
- Practice with your fellow EMS providers at your local agencies.
- Thank you for your time.