

SFHEC31

Manage major emergency situations



Overview

This standard covers the management of major emergency situations or incidents, including Major Incidents, through interacting with other services and co-ordinating the emergency health care provided.

Users of this standard will need to ensure that practice reflects up to date information and policies.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 undertake a thorough survey of the situation to determine existing or potential threats to the safety of yourself, any injured parties and others
- P2 activate warning devices to protect the vicinity of the incident
- P3 take steps to minimise the risks to bystanders
- P4 identify potentially hazardous items, individuals or environments and minimise the hazard where possible
- P5 continually monitor the situation, reporting and actioning changes as required to minimise risks
- P6 remove or protect the individual(s) from hazards or further injuries where possible
- P7 ensure that practitioners and others in the area wear appropriate personal protective equipment and adhere to agreed procedures for their protection
- P8 ensure your safety and that of individuals, practitioners and others such as family members or carers as appropriate to the situation.
- P9 establish priorities for action that are:
 - P9.1 clear
 - P9.2 justifiable on the basis of the information available to you at the time
 - P9.3 appropriate given the nature and scale of the situation/incident
- P10 determine accurately the existing care expertise within the immediate emergency team and its suitability to the needs of the situation
- P11 make an accurate and prompt assessment of the need for:
 - P11.1 specialised personnel
 - P11.2 specialised equipment
 - P11.3 additional personnel/equipment
- P12 request any specialised and/or additional personnel/equipment promptly and in line with relevant procedures
- P13 comply fully with Major Incident Plans when dealing with large scale incidents
- P14 report the circumstances of the situation/incident to the control/operation room in a clear, logical and concise manner
- P15 use agreed procedures for the exchange of information with others
- P16 correctly interpret safety/hazard signs and symbols when present, and report them to the appropriate authority
- P17 inform and advise others and specialised personnel fully of:
 - P17.1 any actions they may need to take to ensure the safety of yourself, the individual(s) involved in the situation/incident and others
 - P17.2 any actions you intend to take which may influence the way they carry out their role

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- P17.3 any actions you need to take for which their support is needed
- P18 provide instructions and directions in a clear and calm manner
- P19 make requests for assistance in accordance with Major Incident Plans
- P20 report changes to the situation or circumstances of the emergency immediately to those whom they may affect
- P21 establish and sustain effective liaison with the senior personnel of other organisations in attendance at the incident and agree lines of command with them
- P22 clear all unnecessary personnel and bystanders from the area
- P23 ensure your safety as appropriate to the situation

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

- K1 why it is important to explain your role, responsibilities and accountability to individuals, and obtain informed consent to the assessment process
- K2 why it is important to continually monitor a situation, reporting and acting on any changes appropriately
- K3 the meaning of standard safety/hazard signs and symbols
- K4 the processes you would go through in establishing priorities for action
- K5 the ABC principle when prioritising individuals
- K6 why it is important to make effective and systematic use of all the information available to you
- K7 the importance of making a thorough survey of a situation/incident
- K8 the types of hazards likely to be found at different sorts of situation/incident and how they can be minimised
- K9 the kinds of medical conditions with which individuals who have been involved in Major or complex incidents are likely to present and the priorities associated with these
- K10 the types of personal protective equipment available and their use
- K11 what factors should be taken into account in assessing the need for specialist or additional personnel/equipment
- K12 the scope of practice of specialised personnel
- K13 the operating features of specialised equipment
- K14 the warning devices that are available and how they should be operated
- K15 the importance of clear and appropriate communication at the scene of a situation/incident
- K16 the sort of circumstances in which you would need to inform and advise specialised personnel of actions you are to take and that they may need to take
- K17 the steps you can take to minimise hazards to bystanders
- K18 situations in which it would be important to remove or protect the individual(s) requiring treatment and how this should be undertaken
- K19 procedures to be followed in requesting specialised/additional resources
- K20 the processes followed to arrive at a justifiable conclusion as to the assignment of priorities to individuals, as a result of the symptoms they present with
- K21 the steps to take when the assessment of individual priority is beyond your experience and scope of responsibilities
- K22 how to ensure effective liaison between yourself and the senior personnel of other organisations
- K23 local Major Incident Plans and the roles and responsibilities of your organisation and others
- K24 the prioritisation protocols to be applied within Major Incident Plans and in relation to complex situations

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K25 how to interpret and apply legislation to the work being undertaken

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Additional Information

External Links

This standard links with the following dimension within the NHS Knowledge and Skills Framework (October 2004):

Dimension: HWB3 Protection of health and wellbeing

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