

# COMPLEX COORDINATED ATTACK INCIDENT PLAYBOOK

**HAMPTON ROADS MMRS**

**(METROPOLITAN MEDICAL  
RESPONSE SYSTEM)**

**“IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE”**

**PENINSULAS EMS**

**COUNCIL &**

**TIDEWATER EMS**

**COUNCIL**

**HAMPTON ROADS MASS CASUALTY  
INCIDENT RESPONSE GUIDE**

**August 2024**

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# INTRODUCTION

## PURPOSE

The Hampton Roads Complex Coordinated Attack Incident Playbook was developed as an emergency medical services (EMS) resource that can be used to support planning for an active threat (e.g., active shooter) or mass casualty incident (MCI) occurring in more than one location or involving several jurisdictions. Much of the content included in this Playbook is based on best practice research and lessons learned analysis conducted by the U.S. Fire Administration, the American College of Surgeons, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and the Hartford Consensus Group.

This Playbook is intended to provide responders with critical information required to understand the unique aspects of a Complex Coordinated Attack (CCA) response, offer guidance to structure effective and agile response strategies, identify roles and responsibilities for response stakeholders, and provide tools to help Playbook users “on the fly” as they develop incident action plans for CCA response.

This Playbook includes checklists and guidance on expected actions to facilitate decision-making and coordination. First Responders should familiarize themselves with this Playbook before a CCA and before conducting training or exercise activities related to CCA response operations.

This Playbook should be used in preparation for response to a threatened or actual CCA incident requiring complex operational coordination and communications.

In preparation for any hazard to include a CCA, the following focus points were considered when developing this Playbook:

- **Awareness:** How are first-in emergency responders receiving information that a hazard is present? To what extent are existing scene safety sensors and situational awareness methods maintained by the Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD)/PSAP and EMS response community capable of providing information about an acute hazard?
- **Initial Actions:** Once emergency responders receive an initial dispatch, what initial actions are taken when a hazard (i.e., CCA) presents itself, especially those that require immediate action? Does the Plan provide protocol or action/procedure, especially as the scene may still be evolving? After the initial assessment of the on-scene hazard potential and factoring in the urgency necessary to address the hazard appropriately, what actions are required to deploy appropriate personnel, resources, and facilities should be notified and informed of the hazard?
- **Planning Considerations:** Smart and effective planning of the response to a CCA is essential, particularly when aspects or the full scope of the hazard’s disruptive potential are unknown. Proper and informed planning (proactive actions) is critical to the success of mitigation and response. Safety concerns dictate that all participating facilities, agencies, and stakeholders know what to expect from the others. This planning effort often requires a purposeful effort (reactive actions) to guide response activities specific to the roles and responsibilities of the responders. How can a Playbook rapidly assess and drive operational adjustments?
- **Operational Considerations:** Operations encompass all activities that involve mitigating the impact of, responding to, and recovering from a CCA and its primary or cascading disruptions. First Responders must make every effort to make the best possible decisions based on the collective understanding of the information available. When made proactively and when communicated to partners, deviations from the Plan must be acceptable and encouraged when

appropriate. This CCA Playbook focuses on such deviations, providing general guidance on actions (deviations) taken as a CCA evolves. This Playbook provides repeatable directions and aids in roles and responsibility actions, existing and adaptive capacities, and the ability to manage unique needs or create new capabilities without an existing framework or best practice.

## CCA RESPONSE CHALLENGES

Based on the CCA threat, jurisdictions may face the following specific challenges when addressing CCAs:

**Operational Coordination:** The complexity of a CCA requires responders to counter with a fully integrated and coordinated response.

**Incident Command:** The ability to rapidly transition from an ICS structure to a Unified Command to coordinate a joint response from multiple agencies.

**Area Command/Unified Area Command:** The ability to rapidly transition from ICS to an Area Command, with representatives from impacted jurisdictions comprising the command staff.

**Operational Communication:** The ability to ensure region-wide interoperability includes a multidisciplinary communications approach to address emerging lifesaving and life-sustaining operations.

**Public Information and Warning:** To possess updated regional systems capable of disseminating accurate crisis information and guidance to the public including instructions related to protective actions to avoid the effects of a CCA (e.g., shelter-in-place) or to avoid specific areas or infrastructure (e.g., public transit).

**Multiple Attack Locations:** One characteristic of a CCA is the occurrence of incidents at various locations sequentially or in quick succession. For example, identifying a second attack at an additional location signifies that the incident has expanded from a single-site incident (e.g., active shooter, arson) to a CCA.

**Self-Deployment/Self-Dispatch:** Emergency response units and off-duty individuals self-deploying and self-dispatching to the CCA without being called. Also included are interested bystanders videoing an incident and posting to social media. These may block emergency ingress/egress routes, delay responders gaining access to the site, loss of personnel accountability, and slow transport of critically injured personnel from the scene.

**Fatality Management Services:** A CCA may overwhelm available resources to address the timely and respectful recovery, identification, processing, and release of fatalities.

## PLANNING ASSUMPTIONS

This section presents assumptions, situations, and concepts applicable to CCAs.

**National Incident Management System (NIMS):** During a response to a CCA, all agencies and jurisdictions will operate under NIMS.

**Hazards and Vulnerabilities:** Agencies/Jurisdictions are aware of the specific hazards and vulnerabilities.

**Criminal Act:** A CCA will include a criminal act, making law enforcement the lead agency. Therefore, all responders entering the scene must be aware of evidence preservation and Law Enforcement investigative requirements.

**Covert vs. Overt Attack:** A CCA may not be apparent to responding organizations at individual incident sites (Covert Attack). An Overt Attack is when an attacker announces that an attack is imminent or has occurred.

**Information Sharing:** Agencies responding to a single incident that could be part of a CCA will share information and intelligence quickly to create a common operating picture.

**Multi-Jurisdictional:** A CCA in Hampton Roads may require coordination with adjacent regions and neighboring states.

**All-Call Dispatch:** All stakeholder agencies will participate in and support regional coordination efforts for CCA response.

**Regional Intelligence:** The resources needed to mitigate multiple simultaneous incidents depend on the incidents' size, complexity, and location; specialized resources are not located within Hampton Roads or the Commonwealth of Virginia.

**Mutual Aid:** Expected mutual aid resources may not be available or may be significantly delayed.

Resources from government agencies (local, state, and federal) and private-sector organizations may be available, but during a CCA may not be immediately available.

**State and Federal Response Resources:** Local agency resources will be more rapidly depleted during a CCA response than a single-site attack; extensive use of state and federal resources, including those obtained through mutual aid agreements, is anticipated.

## AUTHORITIES

The following policies, statutes, bylaws, regulations, executive orders, or directives pertain to powers, authorities, or requirements that affect or relate to emergency planning and disaster response in Hampton Roads.

### FEDERAL

- OSAC 2022-N-0020 Standard for Mass Fatality Incident Management
- Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act and Amendments
- Homeland Security Presidential Directives #5, Management of Domestic Incidents
- Homeland Security Presidential Directive #8, National Preparedness
- Title 44 of the Code of Federal Regulations
- United States Department of Homeland Security
- National Incident Management System (NIMS)
- National Response Framework (NRF)
- Emergency Management and Assistance, 44 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)
- Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response, 29 CFR 1910.120
- Federal Radiological Emergency Response Plan
- National Oil and Hazardous Substances Pollution Contingency Plan
- Target Capabilities List (TCL) 2.0
- Universal Task List (UTL) 2.0

## **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**

- Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Services and Disaster Law of 2000, as amended, Title 44, Chapter 3.2 Code of Virginia, §44-146.19 through §44-146.28, as amended.
- Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan, Virginia Department of Emergency Management, October 2021.

## **REFERENCES**

- ICS and NIMS Guidance from Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
- Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP)





## ACRONYMS

Acronym	Description
<b>AC</b>	Area Command
<b>AEP</b>	Ambulance Exchange Point
<b>AHJ</b>	Authority Having Jurisdiction
<b>AS/MCI</b>	Active Shooter/Mass Casualty Incident
<b>CBRNE</b>	Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive
<b>CCA</b>	Complex Coordinated Attack
<b>CCP</b>	Casualty Collection Point
<b>CP</b>	Command Post
<b>CRC</b>	Chief Regional Coordination
<b>CSALTT</b>	Capability, Size, Amount, Location, Type, Time
<b>CT</b>	Contact Team
<b>DECON</b>	Decontaminate
<b>DMSU</b>	Disaster Medical Support Unit
<b>EM</b>	Emergency Management/Emergency Manager
<b>EMS</b>	Emergency Medical Services
<b>EOP</b>	Emergency Operations Plan
<b>EOC</b>	Emergency Operations Center
<b>EPA</b>	Environmental Protection Agency
<b>EVHC</b>	Eastern Virginia Healthcare Coalition
<b>FAA</b>	Federal Aviation Administration
<b>FAC</b>	Family Assistance Center
<b>FD</b>	Fire Department
<b>FRA</b>	Federal Rail Administration
<b>GIS</b>	Geographic Information Systems
<b>HazMat</b>	Hazardous Materials
<b>IAP</b>	Incident Action Plan
<b>IC</b>	Incident Command or Incident Commander (depending on context)
<b>ICS</b>	Incident Command System
<b>ID</b>	Identification
<b>IV</b>	Intravenous
<b>JIC</b>	Joint Information Center

<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>LEO</b>	Law Enforcement Officer
<b>LZ</b>	Landing Zone
<b>MCI</b>	Mass Casualty Incident
<b>MCETU</b>	Mass Casualty Evacuation and Transportation Units
<b>MMRS</b>	Metropolitan Medical Response System
<b>MOA</b>	Memorandum of Agreement
<b>MOU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>NIMS</b>	National Incident Management System
<b>NRF</b>	National Response Framework
<b>NTSB</b>	National Transportation Safety Board
<b>PEMS</b>	Peninsulas Emergency Medical Services
<b>PIO</b>	Public Information Officer
<b>PPE</b>	Personal Protective Equipment
<b>PSAP</b>	Public Safety Answering Point
<b>REMO</b>	Regional Emergency Medical Organization
<b>RHCC</b>	Regional Healthcare Coordinating Center
<b>RTF</b>	Rescue Task Force
<b>SALT</b>	Sort, Assess, Life-saving interventions, Treatment and/or Transport Triage
<b>SAU</b>	Situational Awareness Unit
<b>TBI</b>	Traumatic Brain Injury
<b>TBSA</b>	Total Body Surface Area
<b>TEMS</b>	Tidewater Emergency Medical Services
<b>THREAT</b>	Threat suppression, Hemorrhage control, Rapid Extrication to safety, Assessment by medical providers, Transport to definitive care
<b>UC</b>	Unified Command or Unified Commander
<b>VDEM</b>	Virginia Department of Emergency Management
<b>VDH</b>	Virginia Department of Health
<b>VEOC</b>	Virginia Emergency Operations Center
<b>VEST</b>	Virginia Emergency Support Team
<b>VFC</b>	Virginia Fusion Center
<b>VSP</b>	Virginia State Police

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# CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS (CONOPS)

## MAXIMIZING SURVIVAL

Local fire/EMS agencies must make extraordinary efforts and direct pre-planned coordination with Law Enforcement to respond to CCA incidents. This coordination is crucial for rapid rescues, life-saving measures, and operational risk mitigation. It is imperative that local and regional policies are established before a CCA occurs, ensuring a coordinated and integrated approach to planning, preparation, response, treatment and care.

The American College of Surgeons and the Federal Bureau of Investigation have determined the best avenue for survivability in a CCA are responders capable of rapidly controlling hemorrhage as a core requirement in response to CCA. Experience has shown that the number one cause of preventable death in victims of penetrating trauma is hemorrhage. Well-documented clinical evidence supports the assertion. This practical recommendation includes the critical actions contained in the acronym **THREAT**:

- **T** – Threat suppression
- **H** – Hemorrhage control
- **RE** – Rapid Extrication to safety
- **A** – Assessment by medical providers
- **T** – Transport to definitive care

The THREAT concepts are simple, basic and proven. According to the American College of Surgeons, life-threatening bleeding from extremity wounds is best controlled by the use of tourniquets. Internal bleeding resulting from penetrating wounds to the chest and trunk is best addressed through expedited transportation to a hospital setting.

## CCA TRIGGER POINTS AND INITIAL CHECKLIST

An effective CCA response depends upon early recognition that a CCA is underway. Early recognition of a CCA will be critical to effective information analysis and dissemination, resource management and allocation, and the protection of other potential attack sites.

The following CCA Component Checklist breaks down the key elements of a CCA. It can greatly aid responders and intelligence analysts in the early identification of a larger incident. If multiple elements of this checklist manifest during a response, it could indicate a CCA in progress. In such cases, the Checklist guides the implementation of appropriate response actions until a CCA can be ruled out.

Normal/Monitoring Security Posture	CCA Activity Possible	CCA Threat Activity Exists	CCA Expected Action Against Personnel/Facilities	CCA Action Occurring/Imminent to Locations
VEST/VEOC Status: Green	VEST/VEOC Status: Yellow	VEST/VEOC Status: Yellow	VEST/VEOC Status: Orange	VEST/VEOC Status: Red
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> All stakeholders monitoring and sharing information as needed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> All preceding AND</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Increase security at any major public events</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Increase monitoring during major public events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> All preceding AND</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Initiate CCA Checklist and assign to Operations Section Chief</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Increase Law Enforcement presence</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Increase cybersecurity monitoring</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Implement Public Warning "See Something, Say Something"</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Monitor for threats/manifestos via all media and social media</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Monitor local known cells and hate groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> All preceding AND</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Activate Unified Command (City-County/State)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Establish JIC and contact all major media</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Increase critical infrastructure security, government facilities, and hospitals                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public works increases critical infrastructure monitoring (e.g., water/wastewater testing for contamination)</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> All medical facilities on alert                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Level 1 Trauma Centers relocate routine patients to clear bed space</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> FD/EMS assists hospitals and establishes emergency communications plan with all medical resources</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Schools enforce lockdown status</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Standby for FAC Activation                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin planning potential sites</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Conduct GIS plume mapping at potential targets (CBRNE)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Activate/preposition CBRNE testing teams</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Activate/preposition HazMat and Hospital DECON teams</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Plan/establish ingress/egress routes for responders</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Activate partner MOU/MOAs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> All preceding AND</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Activate Unified Command (City/County/State/Federal)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Lockdown public mass transit and implement checkpoints along major roadways. Essential vehicles only                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air</li> <li>• Rail</li> <li>• Bus</li> <li>• Taxis/Ride sharing services</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Implement Emergency Vehicle Ingress/Egress route plan</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Implement "Single Message" Media/Social Media                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activate hashtag plan</li> <li>• Disaster name</li> <li>• Non-emergency needs</li> <li>• Requesting emergency assistance</li> </ul> </li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Establish FAC</li> </ul>

## ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES CHECKLISTS

### LAW ENFORCEMENT

- In any incident involving an act of violence, EMS providers must understand the actions that Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs) may employ.
- On-scene LEOs will make the determination that the incident involves an active shooter or other ongoing acts of violence.
- The first responding LEO will form a Contact Team (CT) and proceed to locate and isolate the suspect(s).
- The CT is to engage the suspect(s) to limit the possibility of injury or death to victims.
- LEOs must maintain a safe perimeter or corridor to support EMS personnel on scene.
- Law Enforcement will take command of the incident and establish an initial Command Post (CP) until a higher-ranking LEO arrives.
- The ranking LEO should immediately enter Unified Command with the highest-ranking on-scene EMS personnel.

### UNIFIED COMMAND

- Upon announcement of the establishment of the Unified Command, all various agency command personnel shall report to the CP.
- The CP shall be established in a safe location, preferably in the Cold Zone or a remote location.
- Law Enforcement should designate the need for a Unified Command; in most cases, an EMS Supervisor will function as EMS Command.

### EMS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- In all cases, the first arriving EMS personnel will collect as much information as possible and rapidly communicate that information to additional responding units.
- The first arriving EMS unit should contact the on-scene Law Enforcement Incident Commander, enter the Unified Command, and confirm the location of the Command Post.
- EMS personnel will don the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) level and maintain a high level of situational awareness.
- All EMS personnel must prepare to engage in Rescue Task Force (RTF) assignments or MCI-related duties.
- If an RTF is necessary, EMS personnel will complete a face-to-face briefing with the LEO group leader to ensure both groups understand the objective and direction of movement.
- During this phase of the operation, all EMS personnel must follow the direction and commands of Law Enforcement.
- The goal of the RTF is to safely move casualties to a Casualty Collection Point (CCP), render lifesaving medical aid, and rapidly extract victims from further potential harm.

## RTF TEAM MEMBERS

- Ensure the EMS component of the RTF team has radio communications with Command.
- Establish the most optimal location for a Casualty Collection Point(s).
- The preferred area is clear of hallways/doorways, easily secured by law enforcement and has good egress for casualty extraction via an Ambulance Exchange Point (AEP).
- If the law enforcement personnel are unable to extract or move the injured to a CCP, then the RTF will need to search and locate casualties in the Warm Zone and relocate them to the CCP.
- Additional RTF groups shall be deployed as needed.
- All personnel operating in the Warm Zone should maintain a high level of situational awareness and anticipate having to hide behind areas of cover and concealment.
- As casualties are encountered, RTF members will conduct triage efforts using the SALT triage system and determine extraction priorities.
- Routinely provide EMS command with updated reports consisting of:
  - Number of patients
  - Types of injuries (penetrating, blast or blunt force)
  - Location of patients
  - Resources needed for care
  - Resources needed for extrication
- Provide treatment of immediate life-threatening injuries (such as profuse uncontrolled hemorrhage, airway compromise and tension pneumothorax).
- The primary goal of an RTF is to rapidly access and remove the patient(s), not to linger and provide care.
- Coordinate with EMS Command to implement the safe extraction of casualties from the CCP to the treatment/patient loading area using an AEP.

## EMS COMMAND

- Make contact with the Law Enforcement Commander.
- Determine conditions such as Hot Zone, Warm Zone, and Cold Zone boundaries and confirm the CP is in the Cold Zone.
- Relay potential threats such as fires and explosives to responding units.
- Develop an Incident Action Plan (IAP).
- Deploy resources to complete objectives such as delegating Rescue Task Force EMS personnel.
- Communicate with operating RTF groups to determine the number and status of patients.
- Estimate the number of injured and declare a Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) if applicable.
- Request resources as needed and determine safe avenues of ingress/egress.

- Request a Regional Emergency Medical Organization (REMO) physician to the scene.
- Consider assigning a Transport Officer and provide a location for a patient loading area.
- Consider assigning a Treatment Officer and provide a location for a treatment area.
- Consider assigning a Staging Officer and provide a location for available resources.
- Consider delegating an EMS Operations Officer to assist the EMS Commander by off-loading critical tasks and assisting in support operations.
- Consider deployment of a Provider Wellness Team or Peer and Crisis Support Services for responders.

## TRANSPORT OFFICER

- Don an identifying vest.
- Obtain Hot, Warm and Cold Zone boundaries.
- Establish ambulance staging and patient loading areas in the Cold Zone.
- Communicate with EMS Command to determine:
  - Number of CCPs
  - Locations
  - Number of patients
- Provide pre-arrival instructions to responding ambulances to ensure a safe and expeditious response.
- Attempt to load patients onto ambulances as efficiently as possible.
- Transporting a Green category patient with a Yellow or Red category patient may assist in delivering patients to the most appropriate level of care. This should not supersede good operational judgment.
- Coordinate the movement of patients out of the treatment area and transport them to hospitals.
- Determine appropriate destination based on:
  - Patient severity
  - Hospital travel times
  - Number of casualties to be evacuated
- Maintain a Transport Log that includes:
  - Patient name (or assigned ID)
  - Patient priority
  - Transporting unit
  - Hospital destinations
- Consider assigning this task to one person to manage and maintain for accuracy.

## TREATMENT OFFICER

- Don an identifying vest.

- Establish a treatment area near the ambulance loading area.
- Request additional personnel/equipment and establish treatment groups.
- Supervise the continued assessment, treatment, and re-triaging of patients.
- Coordinate with the Transport Officer to move patients off the scene quickly and efficiently.

## STAGING OFFICER

- Don an identifying vest.
- Establish an area where readily available ambulances, supplies, and personnel can be positioned for rapid deployment.
- Function as a liaison between the Transport Officer and staged resources.

## INITIAL NOTIFICATIONS

Initial notifications that a CCA may develop are critical for real-time information analysis, operational coordination, and effective resource management. The Incident Commander (or their designee) will notify the PSAP. Initial Dispatch/PSAP notification actions are illustrated below:

### Dispatch/PSAP Initial Notifications Checklist

- Dispatch/PSAP
  - Local Emergency Responders (Law Enforcement, Fire/EMS) and Mutual Aid Partners
  - Local Emergency Management
    - Local Leadership/Local EOC Activation
  - Area hospitals
    - VDH
    - Eastern Virginia Healthcare Coalition (EVHC)/Regional Healthcare Coordinating Center (RHCC) Activation
  - VDEM Situational Awareness Unit (SAU) and Chief Regional Coordinator (CRC)
    - Commonwealth Leadership/VEOC Activation
  - Virginia State Police/Virginia Fusion Center (VFC)
- Additional Notifications (depending on type of attack):
- FBI Norfolk Ops Center (when active threat/active shooter incident is verified)
  - Federal Aviation Administration/National Transportation Safety Board (FAA/NTSB) for incidents involving downed aircraft.
  - Federal Rail Administration/NTSB (FRA/NTSB) for incidents involving railroads.
  - Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for hazardous materials releases

### CCA Roles and Responsibilities Matrix

The following matrix denotes primary (P) and supporting (S) roles and responsibilities during a CCA. Note: roles and responsibilities will shift as the CCA evolves.

Agencies	Local EM	Local Fire	Local EMS	Local Law Enforcement	VDEM	VDEM	HCC	VSP	VDH	Others
Operational Coordination	P	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
Intelligence Gathering	S	S		P			S	S		
Public Information and Warning	P	S		S	S	S		S	S	
Mass Search and Rescue Operations	S	P	S	S				S		
On-Scene Security Protection and Law Enforcement	S			P				S		
Operational Communications	P	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	
Public Health	S								P	
Healthcare	S	S	S				P		S	
Emergency Medical Services	S	S	P				S		S	
Situational Awareness	P	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	

<b>CCA, Active Shooter and Mass Casualty Incident Check List</b>			
<b>X</b>	<b>#</b>	<b>Responsible Party</b>	<b>Item</b>
			<b>Pre-incident</b>
	1	EMA/AHJ	Multiple victim incident EOP completed
			<b>Incident</b>
	2	LOG	CP established
	3	LOG	CP secured
	4	LOG	U/C and communications method established and communicated to all personnel and communications center
	5	U/C	UC/LE establishes goals and overall strategy. Emphasize Rapid Triage, Treatment and Extrication – SALT Triage
	6	U/C	ICS established; command and general staff positions established
	7	OPS	Establish staging manager and staging areas
	8	U/C PIO	PIO staffed, JIC considered
	9	OPS	Fire, medical, and/or rescue branches or groups established in operations
	10	EMS	Establish casualty collection points, evacuation routes and LZs
	11	OPS	Size-up and determine resource requirement
	12	UC/LOG	Request required resources
	13	U/C	Notify hospitals to activate MCI plans
	14	OPS	Develop operational plan
	15	PLN	Start IAP process
	16	OPS	Aviation division established by air assets planned or airspace control required
	17	OPS	Safe, hard cover staging area established (multiples for discipline or geographically)
	18	LOG/ALL	Personnel have readily identifiable ID
	19	U/C	Duress code provided to all responders
	20	U/C	Plan approved by AHJ
	21	OPS	Accountability for victims and civilians involved — established
	22	EMS	Medical branch/group begins rapid triage, treatment (include hemorrhage control), and transportation portals and sites
	23	EMS	Account for persons triaged, treated and/or transported (record and track locations)
	24	PLN	Provide for rotation and maintenance of on-scene personnel
	25	LOG	Provide refueling, battery charging, and replenishment of expendable materials
	26	PLN	Demobilization plan in place
	27	PLN	After action report process established
	28	PLN	ICS evaluation report plan in place
	29	PLN	Debriefing personnel planned
	30	LOG	Critical stress debrief action planned
	31	PLN	Personnel released
			<b>Post-incident</b>
	32	PLN	After action report prepared
	33	PLN	After action report completed
	34	U/C	After action report submitted to AHJ
	35	PLN	Improvement plan established
	36	PLN	Plan updates processed
	37	AHJ	Plan updates promulgated

## FIRST UNIT ON SCENE CHECKLIST

**Mission/Tasks:** The first unit on the scene gives visual size-up, assumes and announces command, confirms incident location, and then performs the **5-S**:

**SAFETY assessment:** Assess the scene observing for:

- Electrical hazards.
- Flammable liquids.
- Hazardous Materials
- Other life-threatening situations.
- Be aware of the potential for secondary explosive devices.

**SIZE UP the scene:** How big and how bad is it? Survey incident scene for:

- Type and/or cause of incident.
- Approximate number of patients.
- Severity level of injuries (either Major or Minor).
- Area involved, including problems with scene access.

**END information:**

- Contact dispatch/PSAP with your size-up information and declare a CCA.
- Request additional resources.
- Notify the closest hospital/emergency department of the incident.

**SET UP the scene for management of the casualties:**

- Establish staging.
- Identify access and egress routes.
- Identify adequate work areas for Triage, Treatment, and Transportation.

**SALT (Sort, Assess, Lifesaving Interventions, Treatment and/or Transport)**

- Begin where you are.
- Ask anyone who can walk to move to a designated area.
- Use surveyor's tape to mark patients.
- Move quickly from patient to patient.
- Maintain patient count.
- Provide only minimal treatment.
- Keep moving!

**Remember ... Establish COMMAND, SAFETY, SURVEY, SEND, SET UP AND SALT TRIAGE**

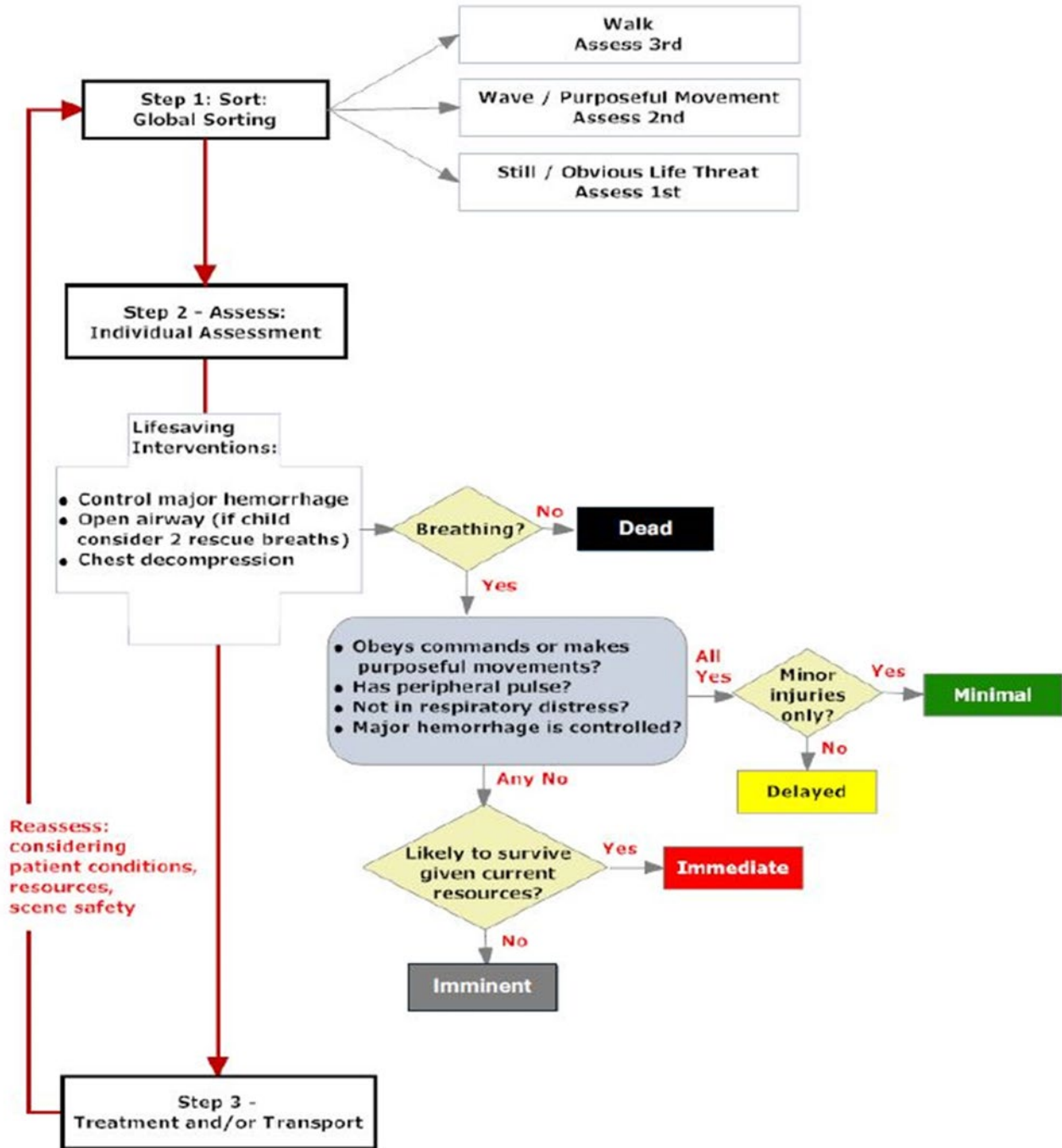


Figure 1. SALT (Sort, Assess, Life-Saving Interventions, Treatment and/or Transport) Triage<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <https://chemm.hhs.gov/salttriage.htm>

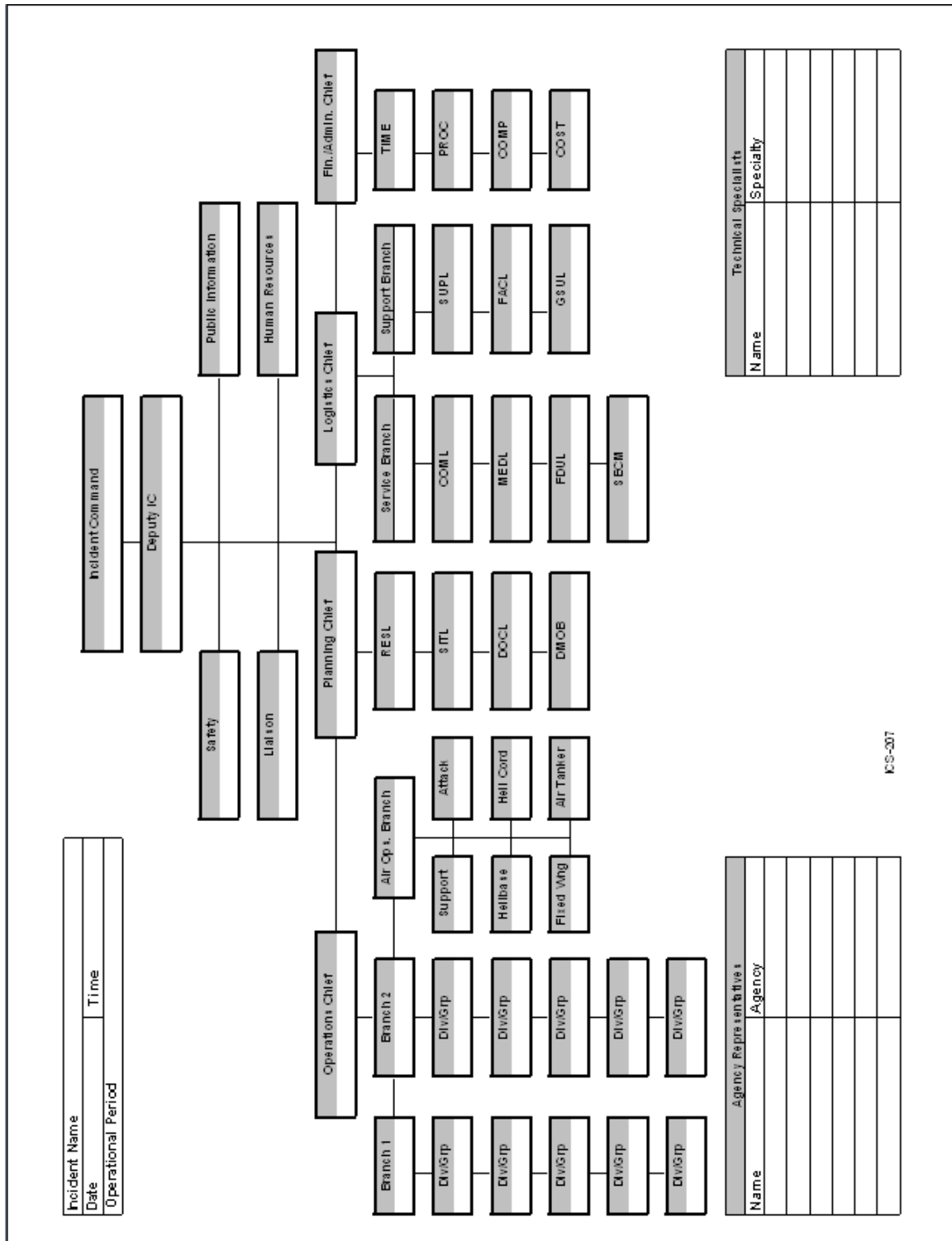
## INCIDENT COMMAND CHECKLIST

**Mission:** Responsible for the overall management and coordination of personnel and resources responding to the incident.

**Tasks:**

- Assumes command and announces the name and title to the communications center.
- Don an identifying vest and establish a visible command post.
- Initiate, maintain and control communications. Consider additional tactical channels to accommodate suppression operations, medical operations, staging, etc.
- Conduct a scene size-up.
- Estimate the number of patients.
- Declare a CCA.
- Notify the closest hospital/emergency department to the CCA.
- Request additional resources as appropriate.
- Assign an IC aide (if needed).
- Assign critical EMS ICS positions:
  - Medical Group Supervisor/Branch Director
  - Triage Officer
  - Treatment Unit Leader
  - Transportation Group Supervisor
- Assign a personnel accountability officer.
- Assign a Safety Officer.
- Establish a Staging Area and assign a Staging Officer.

**INCIDENT ORGANIZATION CHART (ICS 207)**



## MEDICAL GROUP SUPERVISOR/MEDICAL DIRECTOR CHECKLIST

**MISSION:** To ensure supervision and coordination is provided for extrication, triage, treatment, and transportation of all patients.

**Tasks:**

- Report and provide frequent updates to the INCIDENT COMMANDER or OPERATIONS SECTION CHIEF. The Medical role may be assumed by the Incident Commander on small incidents.
- Don an identifying vest.
- Position Medical Group in a visible area.
- Assume responsibility for MEDICAL GROUP/BRANCH.
- Coordinate, direct and manage all MEDICAL GROUP/BRANCH operations.
- Assign Medical Group/Unit Leaders, including Triage, Treatment, Transportation, etc., as necessary.
- Use the Multi-Casualty Branch Worksheet/Position (ICS-MC-305) to document assignments.
- Identify and request resources. Consider using local and regional mutual aid resources, such as the RHCC. Refer to the Hampton Roads Mass Casualty Incident Response Guide, Annex B, available resources.
- Maintain accountability for all personnel assigned to this group/branch.
- Monitor safety and welfare of group personnel.
- Consider responder rehabilitation.
- Consider Provider Wellness and Peer and Crisis Support Services.
- Establish and maintain accountability for all victims/patients.
- Assign a Staging Officer.
- Maintain the Unit Log (ICS Form 214).





## TRIAGE UNIT LEADER CHECKLIST

**Mission:** To assess and sort casualties to appropriately establish priorities for treatment and transportation.

**Tasks:**

- Report and provide updates to INCIDENT COMMANDER (or MEDICAL GROUP SUPERVISOR/MEDICAL BRANCH DIRECTOR)
- Don an identifying vest.
- Position Medical Group in a visible area.
- If the patients are in imminent danger, move all patients out of the INCIDENT AREA before establishing TRIAGE.
- Establish a controlled pathway from the incident site to the treatment area.
- Direct walking wounded to a designated treatment area.
- If SALT Triage is not yet completed by the first arriving crews, appoint triage teams to perform using triage ribbons.
- Obtain an accurate count of all victims by triage category (Red/Yellow/Gray/Green/Black) and report the count to the MEDICAL GROUP SUPERVISOR/MEDICAL BRANCH DIRECTOR.
- Coordinate the transfer of patients to Treatment Unit Leader.
- Affix a triage tag to each patient upon entry into the Treatment Area.
- Appoint "porters" to transport patients via backboards to the Treatment Area. At hazardous materials incidents requiring patient decontamination, a team must be assigned to move patients from the Warm Zone/Decontamination line to the Cold Zone Treatment Area.
- Maintain communications with the MEDICAL GROUP SUPERVISOR/MEDICAL BRANCH DIRECTOR, and other units as needed.
- Work with the Treatment Unit Leader to account for all victims who were initially triaged to ensure all living patients have been moved to the Treatment Area.
- Incident Benchmark:** Announce over the radio when the initial triage of victims is complete.

Treatment Area Patient Count						
	RED	YELLOW	GRAY	GREEN	BLACK	TOTAL # PATIENTS
Patient Care Area						
No. of Patients Present						
No. of Patients Sent to Transportation Area						
Total Number of Patients						

## TREATMENT UNIT LEADER CHECKLIST

**Mission:** Provide patient counts, triage and treatment, as well as track patients.

- Report and provide updates to the INCIDENT COMMANDER (or MEDICAL GROUP SUPERVISOR/MEDICAL BRANCH DIRECTOR)
- Don an identifying vest and locate in a visible position.
- Appoint Treatment Area Managers for the Red, Yellow and Green patient care areas.
- Establish a TREATMENT AREA large enough to accommodate all patients allowing a 3-foot clearance on all sides of each patient.
- Re-triage each patient and affix a triage tag to each patient upon entry into the Treatment Area and establish and maintain a patient accountability system.
- Appoint a MEDICAL SUPPLY COORDINATOR (if needed).
- Working with the Treatment Area Managers, determine the transportation priority and most appropriate transport method for each patient.

Treatment Area Patient Count						
	RED	YELLOW	GRAY	GREEN	BLACK	TOTAL # PATIENTS
Patient Care Area						
No. of Patients Present						
No. of Patients Sent to Transportation Area						
Total Number of Patients						

## TRIAGE TREATMENT AREA MANAGERS CHECKLIST

**Mission:** Provide patient counts, triage, and treatment to patients awaiting transportation.

- Report and provide updates to the TREATMENT UNIT LEADER.
- Don an identifying vest.
  - Establish a TREATMENT AREA large enough to accommodate all patients allowing for a 3-foot clearance on all sides of each patient.
  - Clearly identify your treatment area with the appropriate colored flag, tarp, and/or chemical light.
  - Ensure patients are re-triaged upon entry to the treatment area using Secondary Triage and ensure a triage tag is applied to each patient.
- Maintain accountability of all patients in your treatment area.
- Determine the transportation priority and the most appropriate transport method for each patient.
- Report the transportation priority of patients and recommended transport method for each patient to the Treatment Unit Leader.
- Continually reassess each patient’s condition and triage status.
- Request the establishment of special patient care teams (e.g., IV team, bandaging team,etc.) as necessary to support the care of patients.
- Request additional personnel as needed to provide the care for patients.
- Provide palliative care for catastrophically injured (Gray) patients until resources allow for their transportation to a hospital.
- Coordinate the relocation of any patient who dies in the treatment area to the IncidentMorgue (Black Tagged). Leave all medical devices in place.

Treatment Area Patient Count						
Victim Location	RED	YELLOW	GRAY	GREEN	BLACK	Total # of Patients By Location
<b>Total Number of Patients by Triage Category</b>						

## SECONDARY TRIAGE DECISIONS

Most secondary triage decisions in a CCA are based on clinical experience and judgment. Review the following:

### IMMEDIATE (RED TAGGED)

- Life-threatening injuries/illnesses.
- Risk of asphyxiation or shock is present or imminent.
- High probability of survival if treated and transported immediately.
- Can be stabilized without requiring constant care or elaborate treatment.

### DELAYED (YELLOW TAGGED)

- Potentially life-threatening injuries/illnesses.
- Severely debilitating injuries/illnesses.
- Can withstand a slight delay in treatment and transportation.

### IMMINENT (GRAY TAGGED)

- Not dead, but not expected to survive given the injuries and current circumstances.
- Traumatic Brain Injury with an exposed brain.
- 90% total body surface area burns.
- These patients may be later re-triaged and re-classified if resources change.

### MINOR (GREEN TAGGED)

- Non-life-threatening injuries.
- Patients who require a minimum of care with minimal risk of deterioration.

### DECEASED (BLACK TAGGED)

- Expired en route to or in the Treatment Area.
- Unresponsive with no circulation; cardiac arrest.

## INCIDENT MORGUE AREA MANAGER CHECKLIST (BLACK TAGGED)

**Mission:** To establish and maintain an incident morgue area for deceased persons who expired en route to, or in the Treatment Area.

- Report to the TREATMENT UNIT LEADER.
- Don an identifying vest.
- Verify with the TREATMENT UNIT LEADER that the closest Office of the Chief Medical Examiner has been notified of deceased persons:
  - Norfolk Office: (757) 683-8366
  - Richmond Office: (804) 786-3174
- Establish a secure morgue area separate from the TREATMENT AREA, and accessible to vehicles (i.e., emergency vehicles, law enforcement).
- With the assistance of Law Enforcement, secure the area from all unauthorized personnel and provide security to the morgue area.
- Reassess each patient upon entry to the Incident Morgue/Black Tagged Patient Care Area to confirm death. Annotate the patient assessment on the triage tag. If the patient does not have a triage tag, attach a completed triage tag to the patient.
- Leave all medical interventions in place (i.e., IVs, bandages, etc.)
- Cover patient(s) with sheets or enclose remains in disaster pouches or similar body bags.
- Ensure no human or animal remains are moved from the incident site prior to the arrival and approval of the Medical Examiner/Chief Law Enforcement Officer.
- Coordinate activities with the Medical Examiner's Office, funeral directors, and law enforcement as necessary.
- Maintain accountability of all victims received in the treatment area using the MASS CASUALTY INCIDENT PATIENT TRACKING FORM (ICS-MC-306).

**MCI PATIENT TRACKING FORM (ICS-MC-306)**

#	Triage Tag #	Priority R/Y/G	Patient's Primary Injuries	Unit Transporting Pt to E.D./Hospital	Time Left Scene	Patient Destination
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						
9						
10						
11						
12						
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14						
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22						
23						
24						
25						

## MEDICAL SUPPLY COORDINATOR CHECKLIST

**Mission:** Acquire, distribute and maintain the status of medical equipment and supplies.

- Report and provide updates to the MEDICAL GROUP SUPERVISOR/MEDICAL BRANCH DIRECTOR)
- Don an identifying vest.
- Locate medical supplies in a central position in the Treatment Area using caution not to block access and egress to and from the Treatment Area.
- Maintain an inventory list of equipment, supplies, and Disaster Medical Support Units (DMSUs)/MCI Trailers received and distributed. Provide receipts upon request.
- Continually assess status of medical supplies and equipment. Request additional supplies and equipment through the Medical Group Supervisor/Medical Branch Director as needed.
- Distribute medical supplies and equipment to the patient care areas.
- Request personnel to assist in the collection and distribution of supplies and equipment. Consider a need to have a vehicle(s) to transport supplies and equipment.
- Do NOT strip ambulances of medical supplies and equipment unless absolutely needed to manage the initial phase of the incident.
- Establish a perimeter around the medical supply area to assist in controlling the distribution of supplies and equipment.
- Use the **CSALTT** acronym to request resources:

**C – Capability**

**S – Size**

**A – Amount**

**L – Location**

**T – Type**

**T - Time**

## TRANSPORTATION GROUP SUPERVISOR/UNIT LEADER CHECKLIST

**Mission:** Track and distribute patients to medical facilities by assigning the mode of transportation and destination for each patient.

**Tasks:**

- Report and provide updates to the INCIDENT COMMANDER (MEDICAL GROUP SUPERVISOR/MEDICAL BRANCH DIRECTOR.)
- Don an identifying vest.
- Position Medical Group in a visible area.
- Verify the Staging Area location.
- Collaborate with the Treatment Unit Leader to determine patient transportation priorities, Closest Emergency Department, and patient destinations using the ICS-MC-308 form.
- Communicate transportation resource needs to the MEDICAL GROUP SUPERVISOR/BRANCH DIRECTOR.
- Appoint a MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR and establish communication with the closest Emergency Department.
- Appoint a TRANSPORT RECORDER.
- Track each patient by their triage tag number using the MCI Patient Tracking Form (ICS-MC-306).
- Appoint TRANSPORT LOADERS.
- Inform transport crews of their destination. Tell crews to return to the Staging Area after their patients are turned over at the hospital unless otherwise directed.
- Remind ambulance crews not to contact the receiving facility unless there is significant deterioration in the patient's condition, or they need physician's orders.
- Maintain close communications with INCIDENT COMMAND or MEDICALGROUP/BRANCH, TREATMENT, GROUND and AIR OPERATIONS.
- Once the last patient has been transported, and before demobilization, work with the Transport Recorder, Transport Loader, Medical Communications Coordinator and the Closest Emergency Department to **account for 100% of the patients/victims.**
- Incident Benchmark: Announce over the radio and notify the Closest Emergency Department when all patients have been transported from the scene.

### PATIENT COUNT AND DISTRIBUTION WORKSHEET (ICS-MC-308)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Incident Name / Location: \_\_\_\_\_

On-Scene Location	Number of Patients Reported By Triage Category					Total Number of Victims
	Red (Immediate)	Yellow (Delayed)	Gray (Imminent)	Green (Minimal)	Black (Deceased)	

Available Transport Units					

Patient Distribution														
E.D. or HospitalName														
Capacity (R/Y/G)														
No. of Pts Sent														
E.D. or Hospital Name														
Capacity (R/Y/G)														
No. of Pts Sent														

## TRANSPORT RECORDER CHECKLIST

**Mission:** To assist in ensuring proper documentation of victim/patient and unit movements.

**Tasks:**

- Report to TRANSPORTATION GROUP SUPERVISOR/UNIT LEADER.
- Don an identifying vest.
- Position yourself at the assigned patient egress point in the TRANSPORT area.
- Document patient transport information on triage tag and collect tag stubs.
- Complete an entry on the triage tag and the Multi-Casualty Recorder Worksheet (ICS-MC-306) for each patient leaving the Transportation Area. Complete, then remove and save the tear-off portion of the triage tag.
- Deliver triage tag Transportation Record to MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS/TRANSPORTATION as directed.

**MCI PATIENT TRACKING FORM (ICS-MC-306)**

#	Triage Tag #	Priority R/Y/G	Patient's Primary Injuries	Unit Transporting Pt to E.D./Hospital	Time Left Scene	Patient Destination
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
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## TRANSPORT LOADER CHECKLIST

**Mission:** Ensure patients are safely loaded into the assigned ground ambulance, air ambulance, or other vehicle, and verify vehicle destination and travel directions.

**Tasks:**

- Report to TRANSPORTATION GROUP SUPERVISOR/UNIT LEADER.
- Don an identifying vest.
- Ensure patients selected for transportation are:
  - Ready for transport
  - Safely loaded aboard the ambulance or other vehicle designated by TRANSPORTATION GROUP SUPERVISOR/UNIT LEADER
- Provide the following information to ambulance personnel:
  - Inform crews of the destination hospital/Emergency Department.
  - Provide travel directions to the receiving hospital/Emergency Department (available in the Hampton Roads Mass Casualty Incident Response Guide, Annex E). Live directions to southside hospitals can be found on the TEMS Protocol App.
  - Remind ambulance crews that they do not need to contact receiving facility unless there is significant deterioration in the patient's condition or if they need physician's orders.
  - Remind crews to return to the Staging Area upon completion of their assignment unless otherwise directed.
- Ensure all patients being loaded have triage tags attached and the transport stub has been removed.
- Maintain close communications with TRANSPORTATION GROUP SUPERVISOR/UNIT LEADER and TRANSPORT RECORDER.

## MEDICAL COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR CHECKLIST

**Mission:** To maintain and coordinate medical communications at the incident scene between TRANSPORT GROUP SUPERVISOR/UNIT LEADER and the Closest Emergency Department.

**Tasks:**

- Report to TRANSPORT GROUP SUPERVISOR/UNIT LEADER.
- Don an identifying vest.
- Remain in close proximity to the TRANSPORT and TREATMENT areas.
- Assist the TRANSPORTATION GROUP SUPERVISOR/UNIT LEADER with documentation.

## EMS ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Transportation of patients during an incident will be conducted by licensed prehospital EMS agencies guided by the Incident Commander or designee. In accordance with local plans and policies, units and personnel involved in mutual aid response to a CCA will be dispatched through the responding agency's dispatch/PSAP.

In accordance with local plans, each prehospital agency will operate under their Operational Medical Director's (OMD) purview using their agency's protocols. Accepted Virginia Prehospital Patient Care Report and/or the Virginia Triage Tag will be used for documentation.

Any agency or other entity responding to a CCA will be responsible for maintaining all medical and operational documentation. Documentation, both operational and medical, will be made readily available to the Incident Commander, or their designee.

- **Local Emergency Medical Services** primarily will be responsible for:

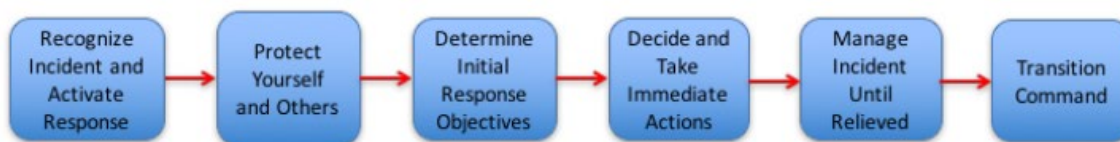


Figure 2. Initial Response Process for Chemical HAZMAT Incident

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL OPERATIONS CHECKLIST

The emergency medical response operations component of this Playbook addresses key operational details central to successful delivery of emergency medical care not otherwise covered. Emergency medical operations are detail-oriented by nature, many of the items detailed are essential to appropriate medical care at a well-planned event.

Local Emergency Medical Services will primarily be responsible for the following:

- Provision of initial medical care to address immediate threats to life or limb.
- Triage and initial stabilization for the systematic evaluation and categorization of victims.
- Transportation of patients to the trauma center or hospital.
- Participating in a Rescue Task Force (if applicable).
- Coordinate deployment of personnel, equipment, supplies and other resources necessary to implement regional plans and programs for an emergency medical response during an incident, when requested by local emergency management.
- Assist with locating and coordinating deployment of EMS resources. Provide incident management assistance and/or support as requested for emergency operations.
- Submission of state-required records and reports.