

MAJOR INCIDENT AWARENESS

Lynn Hyatt – Head of Emergency
preparedness & Resilience

Melanie Brown – Emergency Planning
Liaison Officer



Emergency preparedness – what does this mean?

- Ensuring the hospital is prepared for any emergency that may arise such as:
- Major Incidents
 - Road Traffic Accidents
 - Railway accidents
 - Terrorist incidents
 - Natural disasters



- Business continuity Incidents

- Utilities failure
- Flood
- IT failure
- Phone system

- Resilience

Ensuring that plans are in place to deal with an emergency and to minimise or reduce the risk as much as is reasonably practicable.



Supporting plans that are required

- Heatwave plan
- Cold weather plan
- Fuel plan
- Lockdown plan
- Bomb threat plan
- Pandemic Flu plan
- VIP plan
- CBRN plan



What is a Major Incident?

An occurrence arising with little, or no warning, that presents a serious threat to the health of the community, disruption to the service, or causes (or is likely to cause) such numbers of LIVE casualties as to require special arrangements to be made in the Trust.



MASS CASUALTY

Definition of a mass casualty event:

A disastrous single or simultaneous event(s) or other circumstances where a normal major incident response of several NHS organisations must be augmented by extraordinary measures in order to maintain an effective suitable and sustainable response



Levels of emergency planning in NHS

Level 1

Major – number of casualties – 10's

Individual Trusts handle the incident within current and long established Major Incident plans

Level 2

Mass – number of casualties – 100's

Larger scale incidents with possibility of involving the closure and evacuation of major health facility or persistent disruption over many days. Collective mutual aid response required from neighbouring Trusts

Level 3

Catastrophic – number of casualties – 1,000's



Special arrangements in the Trust

- Command and control centre will be set up
- Relevant staff will be called in
- Call out of all staff in Emergency Department
- Call out of staff in some other areas, if required, e.g. burns, Critical care, theatres
- Automated call out system
- Decanting of patients
- Earlier discharge if necessary
- Suspension of some normal services may be required



How does this affect the Volunteers?

- The Volunteer managers will be called via the automated call out system
- The volunteer managers will then do a cascade call out to the volunteers
- The volunteers will be required to direct staff and relatives to the areas they need to be
- They will also man the relatives area with Senior Nurses and Chaplains to provide comfort for anxious relatives

