Hospital Emergency Response Team
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What is H.E.R.T

- Hospital Emergency Response Team
- Multidisciplinary response to disasters, hospital emergencies and mass gathering events
- Involves multiple departments and sub-teams

Advantages of H.E.R.T

- Increased number of available responders by cross training most members
- Decreases the additional expectations of the ED staff during emergencies
- All hazards approach works in most situations
- Frequent team training allows for enhanced response to actual events
HOW TO “SELL” THE CONCEPT

• The Joint Commission Standards
• OSHA
• ASPR/HPP Grant funding requirements
• ENA Hazardous Material Position Statement
  • www.ena.org

2008 Hazardous Material Exposure ENA Position Statement

• Optimal Care best achieved by a systematic approach
• Recognition of clinical features and treatment regimes
• ED’s and associated Departments be prepared
• ED’s and hospitals shall plan and coordinate with community response partners

Core group

• Patient Decontamination Team
• Emergency Department Staff
• Radiation Safety
• Security
• Spill Response
• Local Fire Department
• Emergency Medical Services
• Law enforcement
H.E.R.T Truck

PA DOH Certified QRS Unit

- 10 cots, IV poles
- 4 oxygen cylinders
- Large amount of O₂ devices
- Lifepack 15 monitor
- Advanced Airway
- EZIO Available
- IV insertion supplies
- 4 cases of IV Solution
- Rehabilitation
  - 3 Power Misters
  - 10 x 20 EZ-UP Tent (1)
  - 10 x 10 EZ-UP Tents (3)
- Basic First Aid bags
- Burn supplies
- Trauma bandages
- OB kits
- Disposable blankets
- Linens
- Isolation PPE
- Ambulance litter
- Backboard, cervical collars
- Hospital radios
- EMS-Fire band Radio (pending)

H.E.R.T Truck

- Generator
- 2 sets of flood lights
- Rope
- Fire extinguisher
- Bull horn
- Hand tools
- Tent tie down kits
- Ratchet straps
- Hospital EP Plan, ERG, Niosh Manual
- Helmets, work gloves
H.E.R.T  T-1 AND T-2

- Trailer 1
  - Back up decontamination
  - Triage Tags (5,000)
  - N-95 masks, gloves, gowns
  - 2 sets of flood lights
  - 300 PAPR filters
- Trailer 2
  - Radiation response gear
  - 700 Doff-it kits
  - Helmets
  - Portable negative pressure
  - Cases of Decontamination gear (Suits, Boots, filters)

Patient Decontamination Team

- Cross Trained to Spill, Triage, medical care (within scope of practice), off site response
- Basic training...then CDP
- All hazards approach to chemical decontamination
- Gross, Secondary and Technical experts
- Continuing Education (mandatory)
- Exercises and competencies annually

http://cdp.dhs.gov/
Emergency Department

- Disaster triage
  - R.P.M.
  - S.T.A.R.T.
  - Jump S.T.A.R.T.
  - OSHA 1920.120
  - Level C protection
    - Education
    - Annual competency
    - Skills lab
  - Please include Physicians and extenders!

Radiation Safety Officer

- Review and edit Radiological Emergency Plan
- Validate monitoring equipment
- Train surveyors to operate in the warm zone
- Assist with exercise development
- Test the plan
- Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education

HTTP://ORISE.ORA.U.GOV/TRAINING/INDEX.HTM
Security

- Scene control
- Remote ETA monitoring
- Communications (disaster radios)
- Monitor State Emergency Radio
- IC training
- TAZER, pepper spray, handcuff trained
- CISM

Spill Team

- Haz mat Certified
  - Awareness
  - Operations
  - Technician
  - Cross train with Decon team

  - Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS)
  - NIOSH manual http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npg/

Environmental Services

- Spill
  - Control the scene
  - Activate spill response
  - Assist with logistics
  - Assist after spill is scene is stabilized and safe

  - Decontamination
    - Assist with scene preparation
    - Clean up tear down after exercises
Fire Department

- Assist with evacuation
- Perform gross decontamination
- Crowd control
- Scene safety
- Command post
- Communications

Education

- Outsourced
- In-house
Education: Out-sourced

- Private Contractor
- FEMA: http://training.fema.gov/IS/crslist.asp
- CDC: http://www.cdc.gov/
- CDP: https://cdp.dhs.gov/
- Oak Ridge: http://orise.orau.gov/reacts/

Education: In-house

- Emergency Preparedness Committee
- Spill Team Leader
- Decontamination Team Leader
- Radiation Safety Officer
- Emergency Department
- Nursing Education
- Security
- Subject Matter Experts

Decontamination Techniques

- Initial arrival
- Scene preparation and safety
- Gross decontamination
- Rapid triage RPM/START
- Life saving care in the ETA
- Secondary decontamination
- Post decontamination triage
- Technical decontamination
Emergent Medical Training

- S.T.A.R.T.
- Jump S.T.A.R.T.
- R.P.M.
- Intraosseous insertion
- Difficult Airway
- SCENE SAFETY
- Secondary Triage

Triage training

- Begin simple
  - Table top each sub-specialty
- Function Training
  - PPE
  - Minor spill
  - Triage 25 “patients”
  - Controlled ambulatory patient decontamination
  - Controlled 1 patient non-ambulatory decontamination
  - Team technical decontamination
  - Active Shooter threat
  - Evacuation
Exercises
- Build each exercise in complexity
- Important to not set-up the new teams for failure
- Make exercises fun and original
- Table top first to prepare the team
- MUST include a Safety Officer in all live exercises

Mass casualty Exercise

Decontamination Exercises
- 1-4 ambulatory patients: Decon Room
- 5-10 ambulatory: unsupported team
- 10-20 ambulatory and non-ambulatory patients
- Large scale with community responders
Full scale exercise

- Hospital Incident Command
- HERT
- ED Activation
- Fire
- Law enforcement (LE)
- EMS

Hospital Evacuation
ED Preparation

Incident Command
Planned Mass Gathering Response

- “WWII Weekend”: Hot/Humid/elderly
- 6-day County Fair: Rodeo/motorsports
- Hospital based running race
- National night out: multiple deployments

* Staffed by Physicians, PA, PHRN, RN