

# SMART TAG

## Triage System

### Hospital Education



Seattle, WA, March 4, 2001 -- Scattered brick is all that remains of a First Ave. fabric store's wall.

Photo by Kevin Galvin/ FEMA News Photo

# New SMART Triage Tag



- New field triage cards will be showing up at your door
- You will see a plastic envelope with a colored card in the front
- Triage insures the right patient gets to the right hospital for the patient's needs

# Triage Process

- Patients are distributed based on baseline patient capacity at each facility or by current updated capacity
- REMSA is responsible for dispersing patients; the first 6 most critical go to the Trauma Center



# Hospital Baseline Numbers

(Numbers that can be handled according to the  
District Board of Health MCI Plan)

- Renown Regional Medical Center Main  
10 reds, 20 yellows, 50 greens
- Renown Med. Ctr. South Meadows  
3 reds, 4 yellows, 10 greens
- Northern Nevada Medical Center  
3 reds, 7 yellows, 10 greens
- St. Mary's Regional Medical Center  
6 reds, 10 yellows, 20 greens
- VA (Sierra NV Health Care System)  
3 reds, 7 yellows, 10 greens
- Incline Village Community Hospital  
3 yellows

# Initial Process for Assigning Triage Category

- Based on respirations, perfusion, and mental status
- Appropriate color is selected based on assessment criteria
- Color code appears face-up in the tag's plastic envelope
- If condition changes tag can be updated by changing folded color in plastic sleeve



# SMART Triage Tags

- IMMEDIATE (Red) – Critical; life threatening; likely to survive if care is received within thirty minutes (30).
- DELAYED (Yellow) – Serious; may be life threatening; likely to survive if care is received in thirty minutes (30) to several hours.
- MINOR (Green) – Not considered life threatening; care may be delayed hours or days; this group may be referred to as the walking wounded.
- DECEASED – Mortally wounded or clinically dead are not transported from the scene. They are marked with a black tag by scene personnel.

# Secondary Triage Priorities in Treatment Areas (Red) Immediate

- Airway problems of any type
- Most types of chest wounds
- Deteriorating vital signs
- Suspected internal hemorrhage
- Severe uncontrolled external bleeding
- Head injuries with decreasing level of consciousness
- Partial and full-thickness burns of 20%-60% of body surface
- Medical conditions with deteriorating vital signs, altered level of consciousness, or severe breathing problems



**PRIORITY 1**

# Second Priority (Yellow) Delayed

**PRIORITY 2**

- Open fractures
- Multiple fractures
- Spine injuries
- Large lacerations
- Partial and full-thickness burns of 10%-20% of body surface
- Medical conditions manifested by abnormal vital signs or severe pain consistent with a life threatening condition
- Injuries or conditions involving circulatory compromise to an extremity

# Third Priority (Green) Minor

- Minor burns
- Closed fractures
- Sprains and strains
- Minor lacerations
- Abrasions and contusions



**PRIORITY 3**

# Deceased or Expectant (Black)



DEAD

- Obviously dead
- Probable fatal injuries, such as severely crushed heads or full-thickness burns of 80-100% of body surface
- Cardiac arrests



# Triage Tag Glasgow Coma Scale

<b>Eye opening :</b>						
Spontaneous	4					
To voice	3					
To pain	2					
None	1					
<b>Verbal response :</b>		+	+	+	+	+
Orientated	5					
Confused	4					
Inappropriate words	3					
Incomprehensible words	2					
No response	1					
<b>Motor response :</b>		+	+	+	+	+
Obeys commands	6					
Localizes	5					
Pain withdraws	4					
Pain flexion	3					
Pain extension	2	=	=	=	=	=
No response	1					
<b>Glasgow Coma Scale Total :</b>						
<b>Total Glasgow Coma Scale</b>		13 - 15	4			
		9 - 12	3			
		6 - 8	2			
		4 - 5	1			
		3	0	+	+	+
<b>Respiratory Rate</b>		10 - 29	4			
		more than 29	3			
		6 - 9	2			
		1 - 5	1			
		0	0	+	+	+
<b>Systolic BP</b>		90 or more	4			
		76 - 89	3			
		50 - 75	2			
		1 - 49	1			
		0	0	=	=	=
<b>12 =</b>	<b>PRIORITY 3</b>	<b>Total :</b>				
<b>11 =</b>	<b>PRIORITY 2</b>	<b>Time :</b>				
<b>10 or less</b>	<b>PRIORITY 1</b>		:	:	:	:



# Hazardous Disasters

(New part of tag system)



# Contamination Exposure Cards

- Recognize the separate decontamination cards in addition to the color coded triage tags
- Know the type of exposure:
  - Chemical exposure
  - Radiological exposure
  - Biological Agent exposure
  - Infectious disease
  - Decontamination done at the scene

# Decon Card Showing Contamination Type

 **SMART EQUIPMENT**  
SMART INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM  
[www.tsgassociates.net](http://www.tsgassociates.net)

**CONTAMINATED** 

Auto Injector Type Used :   1  2  3  4

**AGENT(S)** -----

Tick Box :



Chemical



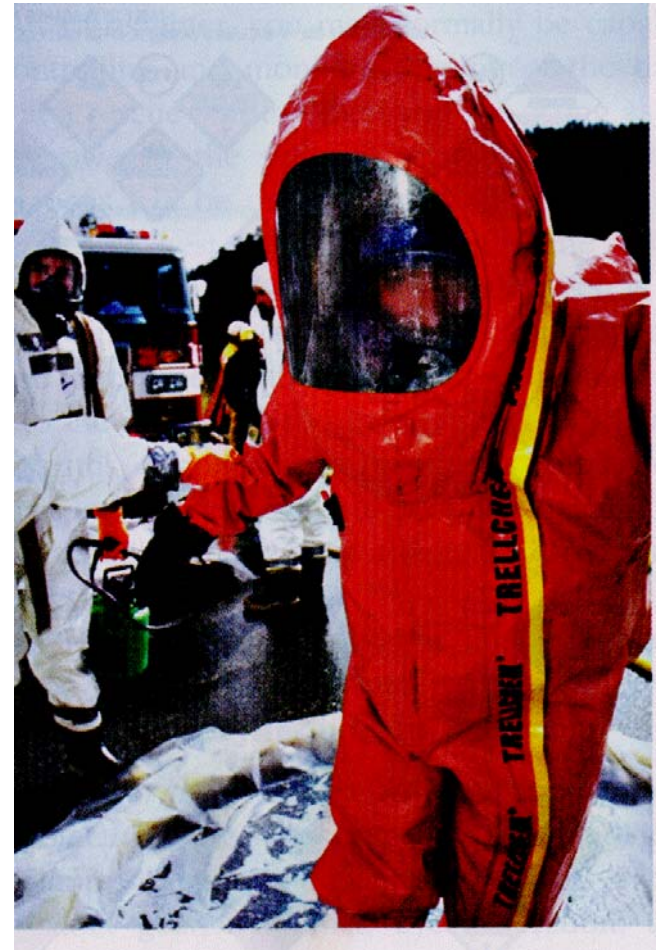
Biological



Radiological

Fill in details on relevant panel when time allows

© TSG Associates Ltd 2004/5 Design Patent Pending



# Chemical Agent Information

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## CHEMICAL AGENT

AGENT(S) \_\_\_\_\_

Characteristics

- |   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non Persistent Nerve | <input type="checkbox"/> Choking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Persistent Nerve     | <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blister              |                                  |

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Signs / Symptoms

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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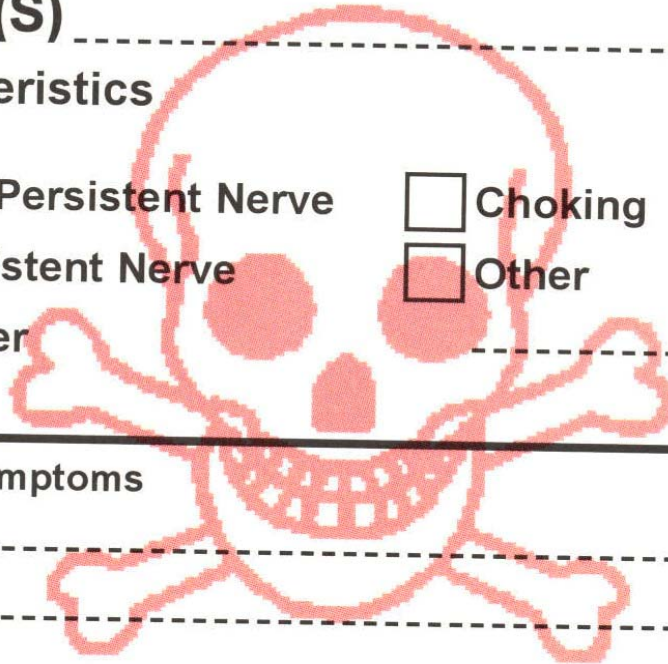
Treatment

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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# Biological Agent Information



## BIOLOGICAL AGENT

AGENT(S) \_\_\_\_\_

Characteristics

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Infectious

Non-Infectious

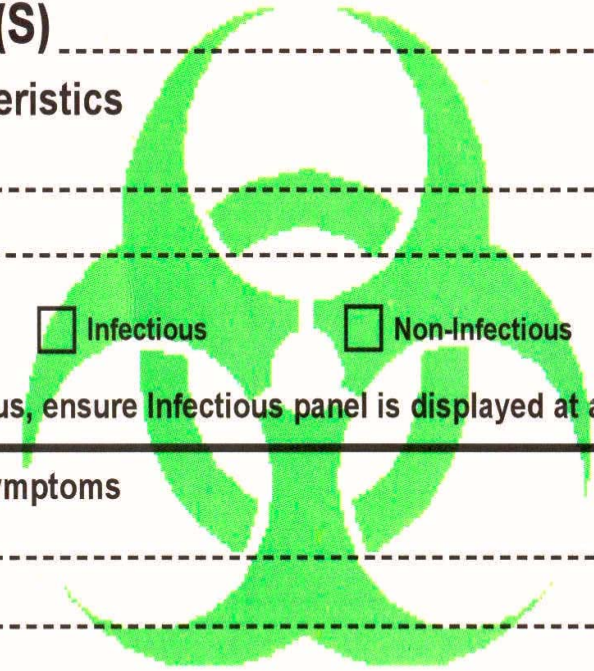
If Infectious, ensure Infectious panel is displayed at all times

Signs / Symptoms

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Treatment

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Radiological Agent Information

## RADIOLOGICAL AGENT

Type :      ALPHA      BETA      GAMMA

Dose Estimation Method & Estimated Dose

Clinical

Dosimeter

mSv @ --- : ---

mSv @ --- : ---

Contamination State

Internal

External

---

Signs / Symptoms

-----  
-----

---

Treatment

-----  
-----  
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# Method of Decontamination

## DECONTAMINATION

Patient Number
Copy From Triage Tag

By Whom :    Fire            EMS            Hospital    -----

Where :        On Scene        Hospital    -----

Method :       Primary            Secondary    -----

TIME :        \_\_\_ : \_\_\_        \_\_\_ : \_\_\_        \_\_\_ : \_\_\_

Solution :        Wet                    Dry            -----

TIME :        \_\_\_ : \_\_\_        \_\_\_ : \_\_\_        \_\_\_ : \_\_\_

Open Wounds Covered with Dressing @    \_\_\_ : \_\_\_

# Infectious Disease Information



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**AGENT(S)** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Fill in details on Biological panel when time allows

# Things to Remember

- Triage is a dynamic process and ever changing throughout the treatment process
- Know triage categories and priorities by color
- Triage category can be upgraded or downgraded as treatment progresses, putting the revised color of the tag in the front
- Recognize separate decontamination cards for hazardous material and treatment prior to arrival
- All tags have a patient number with bar code
- **Place the patient number on the medical record for tracking and/or investigation purposes**
- Understand your role in a Multi-Casualty Incident