



**MCI = GREATEST GOOD FOR THE GREATEST NUMBER**

## **FIRST AMBULANCE CREW ON SCENE**

- Approach the incident with safety.
- Park the ambulance in a safe and upwind location.
- Wear all protective equipment (PPE) provided by ACTAS (e.g. safety glasses, gloves, safety vest and helmet).
- Assess the situation and send a situation report (SITREP) to the **Ambulance Commander** or the ACTAS Communications Centre (if the Ambulance Commander is not on scene):

**M – Message** (“I am notifying a major incident – standby for SITREP”)

**E – Exact location**

**T – Type of incident**

**H – Hazards** (present *and* potential)

**A – Access to the area**

**N – Number of casualties** (actual *or* estimated)

**E – Emergency services** (present *or* required)

- If greater than six (6) casualties, assume the roles of **Triage Officer** and **Transport Control Officer**.

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## AMBULANCE ROLES AT A MASS CASUALTY INCIDENT (MCI) – cont.



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### TRIAGE OFFICER

The Triage Officer role is undertaken by the **most clinically experienced Intensive Care Paramedic** on scene. They assume responsibility for casualty triage, collection and clinical management (patient care) at the incident site.

- Initiate Triage by quickly assessing, prioritising and labelling casualties (DRABC and move on).
- Direct and control supporting Paramedics to casualties.
- Maintain communications with the **Ambulance Commander**, **Transport Control Officer** and Paramedics.
- Co-ordinate support provided from allied emergency services and supporting agencies, in moving casualties from the incident site, to the Casualty Collecting and Treatment Area.
- At the Casualty Collecting Area, separate casualties into distinct priority classification groups, to facilitate evacuation, treatment and transport.
- Patients with life-threatening injuries / illness should not be left unattended, if at all possible.
- Undertake continuing Triage of all casualties, re-assessing the priority of treatment and transport.

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# AMBULANCE ROLES AT A MASS CASUALTY INCIDENT (MCI) – cont.



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## TRANSPORT CONTROL OFFICER (TCO)

The TCO assumes responsibility of the Casualty Collecting Area (CCA), casualty evacuation and transport at the incident site.

- Determine the most appropriate access and egress routes, and vehicle staging area for ambulance vehicles. Advise the ACTAS Communications Centre of these, for communication to other responding resources.
- In consultation with the **Triage Officer** and **Ambulance Commander** (if present), select a CCA in a safe, upwind environment.
- Select an Ambulance Marshalling Area, in a safe, upwind environment, in close proximity to the CCA.
- Ensure all arriving ambulances are correctly positioned, that keys are left in the vehicle ignition and that the vehicle is configured for two stretcher patients.
- Prevent congestion at the Ambulance Loading Point by ensuring that **ONLY ONE VEHICLE** is being loaded with casualties, at any one time.
- Record on the Casualty Movement Log, the number of casualties transported, their priority and destination and the ambulance vehicle identification number. Ensure that the corner label from the triage tag is removed prior to the casualty being loaded. *(This task may be delegated to a support officer, if available).*
- Maintain communications with the **Ambulance Commander** and the **Triage Officer**.

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## AMBULANCE ROLES AT A MASS CASUALTY INCIDENT (MCI) – cont.



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### **SUBSEQUENT AMBULANCE CREWS**

- Approach the incident with safety.
- If the transport control area is set up, position the ambulance or support vehicle correctly in the marshalling area, leaving the keys in the ignition.
- Once at the incident, *all warning devices should be switched off* unless otherwise directed.
- Wear all protective equipment provided by ACTAS (i.e. safety glasses, gloves, safety vest and helmet).
- Report to the **Ambulance Commander** on arrival for a SITREP and tasking. If the Ambulance Commander is not on scene, report to the **Triage Officer** for tasking.
- If Paramedics are tasked to transport casualties to hospital they will:
  - transport casualties to the hospital or medical centre nominated by the **Transport Control Officer**
  - advise the receiving emergency department, by radio, the number of casualties being transported and the priority classification
  - ensure that the receiving hospital or medical centre facilitates the QUICK TURN AROUND of ambulance and support vehicles.
- Report availability to the Ambulance Liaison Officer at hospital ED (if present), or ACTAS Communications Centre, for further tasking.