


Session 3 – Lesson Five A
Mass Casualty Triage

Applied Learning Exercise



Scenario



- Upscale shopping center
- Suspicious car
- Explosion and gunfire erupt
- You and local paramedic are nearby and uninjured

What issues need to be addressed?

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Situational Awareness

Needs > resources = ____? What can I do?	Detection
Who is in charge?	Incident Management
Immediate considerations and actions?	Safety and Security
Explosions? Gunman? Contamination?	Assessing Hazards
What do I have? What is needed and who has it?	Support

Can I now perform triage and treatment?

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Scenario Update



911 Operator informs you:

- Do NOT hang up phone
- Two ambulances (MICU) are nearby but in traffic
- Police car has first aid and safety equipment in trunk

What is the next step?

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Global Sorting Outcomes

Walk	2 patients
Wave	3 patients
Still	7 patients

Who needs to know this information?

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SALT Triage Step 2: Individual Assessment

LSI *

- Control major hemorrhage
- Open airway (if child, consider 2 rescue breaths)
- Chest decompression
- Autoinjector antidotes

Breathing?

No → **Dead**

Yes →

- Obeys commands or makes purposeful movement?
- Has peripheral pulse?
- Not in respiratory distress?
- Major hemorrhage in control?

No →

Likely to survive given current resources?

No → **Expectant**

Yes → **Immediate**

All Yes → **Minor injuries only?**

Yes → **Minimal**

No → **Delayed**

*LSI = lifesaving interventions

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Still

24-year-old woman

Lying face down in a pool of blood
RR 0
Extensive head and face trauma

Lifesaving intervention

Control major hemorrhage
Open airway
Decompress chest
Autoinject antidote

"ID-ME"

Immediate
Delayed
Minimal
Expectant
Dead

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Still

40-year-old man

Contusions on head and face
Gaspings, rapid, and shallow breathing
Left chest distended and immobile

Lifesaving intervention

Control major hemorrhage
Open airway
Decompress chest
Autoinject antidote

"ID-ME"

Immediate
Delayed
Minimal
Expectant
Dead

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Still

19-year-old man

Appears in severe pain, cannot hear you
Rapid symmetric breathing
Near amputation above R knee, bleeding

Lifesaving intervention

Control major hemorrhage
Open airway
Decompress chest
Autoinject antidote

"ID-ME"

Immediate
Delayed
Minimal
Expectant
Dead

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Still

48-year-old woman

Unresponsive
Normal breathing and radial pulse present
Obvious injury to her head

Lifesaving intervention

Control major hemorrhage
Open airway
Decompress chest
Autoinject antidote

"ID-ME"

Immediate
Delayed
Minimal
Expectant
Dead

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Still

55-year-old man

Unresponsive with contusions on head/face
Snoring sounds with breathing
Deformity of left arm noted

Lifesaving intervention

Control major hemorrhage
Open airway
Decompress chest
Autoinject antidote

"ID-ME"

Immediate
Delayed
Minimal
Expectant
Dead

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Still

10-year-old girl

Head trauma with protruding brain matter
Slow, deep respirations
Mother holding her on lap in damaged car

Lifesaving intervention

Control major hemorrhage
Open airway
Decompress chest
Autoinject antidote

"ID-ME"

Immediate
Delayed
Minimal
Expectant
Dead

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Still

38-year-old man

Unresponsive with GSW to head and neck
Gurgling respiratory sounds
Wearing a ballistic vest

Lifesaving intervention

Control major hemorrhage
Open airway
Decompress chest
Autoinject antidote

"ID-ME"

Immediate
Delayed
Minimal
Expectant
Dead

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Wave

28-year-old man

Grimacing in pain saying "I can't breathe"
Holding R anterior chest near apparent GSW
Right chest distended and immobile

Lifesaving intervention

Control major hemorrhage
Open airway
Decompress chest
Autoinject antidote

"ID-ME"

Immediate
Delayed
Minimal
Expectant
Dead

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Wave

17-year-old woman

Sitting on curb, uninjured, hoarse voice
Face is swollen, loud expiratory wheezing
Points to a dead wasp on the ground nearby

Lifesaving intervention

Control major hemorrhage
Open airway
Decompress chest
Autoinject antidote

"ID-ME"

Immediate
Delayed
Minimal
Expectant
Dead

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Wave

63-year-old woman

Fell while running after explosion
Gross deformity of left ankle
Contusions and bruising on both arms

"ID-ME"

Immediate

Delayed

Minimal

Expectant

Dead

Lifesaving intervention

Control major hemorrhage
Open airway
Decompress chest
Autoinject antidote

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Walk

33-year-old woman

Crying inconsolably, holding 10-year-old child in car
Superficial abrasions to arm and scalp
Demands you take her daughter to hospital

"ID-ME"

Immediate

Delayed

Minimal

Expectant

Dead

Lifesaving intervention

Control major hemorrhage
Open airway
Decompress chest
Autoinject antidote

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Walk

36-year-old man

Laceration to right hand, bone and tendon visible
Bleeding controlled, shirt used as bandage
Wants to stay and help you

"ID-ME"

Immediate

Delayed

Minimal

Expectant

Dead

Lifesaving intervention

Control major hemorrhage
Open airway
Decompress chest
Autoinject antidote

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SITREP:
Triage Status Report

Immediate	
Delayed	
Minimal	
Expectant	
Dead	

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SITREP:
Triage Status Report

Immediate	5
40-year-old, M, right chest trauma	
48-year-old, F, head injury	
55-year-old, M, head injury	
17-year-old, severe allergic reaction	
28-year-old, M, GSW right chest	

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SITREP:
Triage Status Report

Delayed	3
19-year-old, M, leg amputation	
63-year-old, F, left ankle injury	
36-year-old, M, laceration right hand	

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SITREP:
Triage Status Report

Minimal	1
33-year-old, F, superficial abrasions	

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SITREP:
Triage Status Report

Expectant	1
10-year-old, F, severe head injury	


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SITREP:
Triage Status Report

Dead	2
24-year-old, F, severe head injury, RR-0	
38-year-old, M, GSW head and neck, RR-0	

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Scenario Update



EMS and law enforcement on scene:

- Ask if you are injured
- Briefly discuss the SITREP findings with you
- Request that you have a seat in a nearby police car

What are your thoughts now?

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SALT Triage After-Action Review

- The purpose of SALT triage is to identify those most likely to survive
- Global sorting identifies where lifesaving interventions will be most needed
- Lifesaving interventions (LSI) should always be done before triage category assignment
- Available resources will influence triage category assignment

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