

High Threat Considerations/Active Shooter Scenario

Aliases

None noted

Definitions

- **Hot Zone/Direct Threat Zone:** an area within the inner perimeter where active threat and active hazards exists.
- **Warm Zone/Indirect Threat Zone:** an area within the inner perimeter where security and safety measures are in place. This zone may have potential hazards, but no active hazards exist.

Patient Care Goals

1. Assess scene
2. Mitigating further harm
3. Accomplish mission with minimal additional injuries

Patient Presentation

Inclusion Criteria

High threat environment – when greater than normal conditions exist that could cause threat to clinician or patient

Exclusion Criteria

No significant threat exists to clinician or patient allowing for the performance of routine care

Patient Management

Assessment, Treatment, and Interventions

1. Hot Zone/Direct Threat care considerations:
 - a. Mitigate threat as able to minimize risk to patients and clinicians, move to a safer position and recognize that threats are dynamic and may be ongoing, requiring continuous assessment of threat
 - b. Defer in depth medical interventions if engaged in ongoing direct threat (e.g., active shooter, unstable building collapse, improvised explosive device, hazardous material threat)
 - c. Triage should be deferred to when no longer in a hot zone/direct threat care zone
 - d. Prioritization for extraction is based on resources available and the situation encountered
 - e. Encourage patients to provide self-first aid or instruct uninjured bystanders to provide aid
 - f. Consider hemorrhage control:
 - i. Tourniquet application is the primary “medical” intervention to be considered in Hot Zone/Direct Threat Zone. Tourniquet choice should be guided by expected ability to perform in the desired patient population (pediatrics)
 - ii. Consider instructing patient to apply direct pressure to the wound if no tourniquet available (or application is not feasible)
 - iii. Consider quickly placing or directing patient to be placed in position to protect airway, if not immediately moving patient