

I. General Considerations

- A. Terrorist incidents could involve nuclear, chemical, biological or other weapons of mass destruction.
 - B. EMS providers may be the first responders on the scene of a terrorist incident. Early identification of a possible terrorist event will be helpful to overall management. Any explosion, large scale illness, major incident at a public landmark, or other situation that is not easily explainable by the circumstances should be considered a terrorist incident until confirmed otherwise by law enforcement officials.
 - C. The safety of your personnel, other emergency responders and protection of the uninvolved public take precedence over the treatment of ill or injured persons.
 - D. Secondary devices may be placed with the intent of destroying emergency response resources and personnel. Consider parking and staging areas for vehicles and personnel carefully. Avoid staging all resources at a single site.
 - E. Establish unified command upon the arrival of fire, police and EMS agencies.
 - F. EMS should provide the earliest possible notification to the primary and other potential receiving hospitals. Report the nature of the scene and an estimated number of patients as the initial update.
 - G. Transport contaminated patients only after they have been decontaminated according to a process determined by the incident commander.
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II. Procedures**EMS First On Scene**

- A. If an incident is suspected as a terrorist event, treat it similarly to other HAZMAT scenes.
- B. Approach the scene safely and cautiously.
 - 1. Approach from upwind and uphill (if possible)
 - 2. Observe from a distance
- C. Identify if hazards are present.
- D. Secure the scene; deny entry to bystanders and untrained personnel.
- E. Establish incident command and identify a command post.
- F. Request additional assistance as needed.
- G. Update hospital(s) of the scene and estimated number of patients. Include the possibility of contaminated patients arriving by non-EMS means.
- H. Do not enter any areas or zones unless you are properly trained and equipped to do so.
- I. Transfer incident command to the senior fire or police official for the jurisdiction when they arrive.
- J. Identify the type of personal protective equipment necessary for EMS operations at this scene.

EMS Not First On Scene

- A. Report to the command post or staging area as directed.
- B. Obtain additional assistance as required.