

Peri-Operative Mass Casualty Incident Planning in a Pediatric Trauma Center

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Abstract Background Information: This project in our peri-operative level one pediatric trauma center was initiated to enhance the readiness of the Pre-op/PACU and OR staff in the event of a mass casualty incident (MCI). Influxes of surgical patients from an MCI are unpredictable and challenging to manage without proper preparation and organization of the peri-operative team.

Objectives of Project: The goal of this project was to improve overall knowledge and confidence of the peri-operative staff in the event of an MCI that would involve an influx of pediatric surgical patients that would exceed the normal operating room capacity.

Process of Implementation: The peri-operative coordinator and manager along with our Anesthesia providers collaborated to develop a new Surgical Suite Emergency Management plan, a large working MCI white board as well as an updated and real time trialed disaster call list.

Statement of Successful Practice: The peri-operative staff participated in three successful MCI drills in which multiple patients from the emergency department needed immediate surgical intervention, two successful trials of the disaster call list after normal operating hours and a formal emergency plan published in our policy data base.

Implications for Advancing the Practice of Perianesthesia Nursing: This targeted approach to MCI practice and education increases the peri-operative staff's knowledge and readiness in the event of an MCI.