

THE SCOTTISH TRAUMA NETWORK

MAJOR INCIDENTS WITH MASS CASUALTIES GROUP

Bulletin Number 2: May 2018

The Major Incidents with Mass Casualties (MI/MC) Group met for the second time on 30 April. It continued to address the substantive issues that will inform the new MI/MC national plan for health and social care services when it is produced early autumn.

Prioritised actions

Pre-Hospital Care and Casualty Distribution were two of the priorities identified for action in the initial phase of work.

A Pre-Hospital Medical Care Model has now been agreed. Developed by Scottish Ambulance Service in collaboration with territorial NHS Boards, this 'at scene' intervention will be a key element of the new plan as it will effectively support the triage and evacuation of casualties to appropriate trauma services.

A workshop will be held on 24 July for territorial NHS Boards to support implementation of a new approach to distributing large numbers of severely injured casualties quickly from the scene of incident to trauma services.

Work on the third 'initial priority' i.e. responding effectively to the health and social care needs of children, is underway.

Focus on preparedness

Key issues and lessons emerging from recent major incidents with mass casualties and fatalities, such as the Kerslake Report (27 March 2018), the Grenfell Fire and the Salisbury Poisoning are informing discussions and developments in relation to health and social care capabilities. A modelling exercise commissioned by the Group highlighted NHSScotland's capacity and preparedness for a potential surge in demand for blood stocks following incidents of varying types and scale. Preparedness for certain types of chemical attack, and the potential challenges, were also considered.

Recognising the importance of effective strategic national coordination during large scale major incidents, the role and function of NHSScotland's Strategic Health Group (SHG) is being reviewed in the light of experience and to consider how Health and Social Care Partnerships might be involved in future bearing in mind the important role they will have in a major incident. The SHG brings together all NHSScotland Chief Executives in times of crisis to coordinate the health service's response and to make the best use of resources.

Other current workstreams are focussing on communications and the role of NHS24.

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