

# **SA Health**

## **Emergency Management & Disaster Planning**

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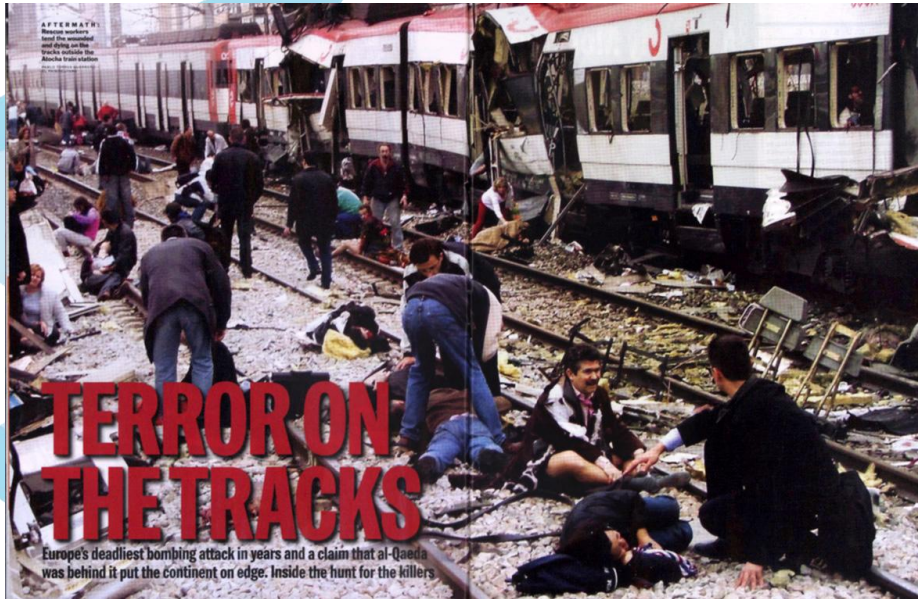


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# What is a Disaster?





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Lockerbie, 1988



## Health Major Incident Definition

- > **An incident where the number, severity, or type of live casualties, or by its location, requires extraordinary resources.**
- > **An incident that disrupts the health service.**
- > **An incident that presents a serious threat to the health of the community.**

# Major Incident Classification

- > Natural
- > Manmade
- > Simple
- > Compound
- > Compensated
- > Uncompensated



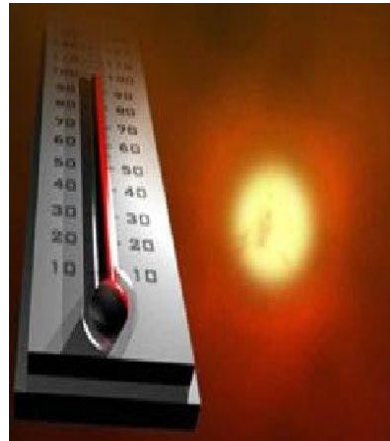


# What sort of incidents do we face in SA?

**Bushfire**



**Heatwave**



**Floods**



1918 Influenza: 20,000,000 died

**Human disease**



**Mass casualty**



**Explosion / Bombing**

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# A FOCUS ON RISK MANAGEMENT

**Planning / Mitigation**

**Prevention**

**Preparation**

**Response**

**Recovery**



# Health Plans

- > Human Disease Hazard Plan
- > Health & Medical Functional Service Plan
- > Public Health Emergency Management Plan
- > SA Health Extreme Heat Plan
- > SA Health CBRN Response Plan

# Expect the unexpected and be prepared

- Increased exposure to the unexpected
- Imperative to have 'live' plans
  - Exercise your plans – test, test, test!
- Sustainability
  - Build a system that will not collapse under pressure







## Aged Care

Since the beginning of this year, there have been five emergency events nationally that have led to the partial or complete evacuation of residents from a total of 42 aged care facilities, affecting almost 1700 residents.



# Aged Care

- > Extensive flooding across Eastern Australia, primarily in Queensland and Victoria (in January 2011) – 24 facilities evacuated;
- > Cyclone Yasi in Queensland (Thursday 3 February 2011) - 7 facilities evacuated;
- > Further flooding and storm damage in Victoria (Friday 4 February) - 9 facilities evacuated;
- > Bushfires in the south west of Western Australia, near Perth (Sunday 6 February 2011) – 1 facility evacuated;
- > Cyclone Carlos in the Northern Territory (Wednesday 16 February 2011) – 1 facility evacuated.



## Draft Revised Standards for Residential Aged Care (24 Feb 2011)

### **3.8 Emergency management**

Emergency and disaster management plans and systems are in place, tested, and linked to local emergency planning arrangements to minimise risk to residents, staff and visitors.





# Aged Care

It is the **approved provider's responsibility:**

- > to **prepare** and **have appropriate emergency management plans**;
- > to make **informed decisions**, including when to shelter in place (i.e. stay and defend), relocate / evacuate; and
- > to continue to **deliver appropriate care**.



## Areas to consider in your planning

- > Your own work area
- > Your organisation
- > Overall arrangements
- > Preparedness planning
  - Readiness to respond (exercising of your plans)
  - Knowledge
  - Business continuity arrangements
- > Communication
- > Coordination
- > Logistics

# Key Considerations for business continuity

Examples of considerations for pandemic influenza:

- Identification of essential services
- Multi skill staff
- Staggering work times
- Working from home
- **Consider the safety of your staff**
  - Seasonal flu vaccination – every year
  - During a pandemic - specific vaccine as it becomes available
  - Point of entry triage
  - Keep a database of who has been sick and recovered
  - Social distancing
  - Hand gels and hygiene education
  - Appropriate PPE
  - What sick pay will you provide?







# Key Issues Identified at H1N1 Pandemic Response Debrief

- Levels of risk for workers
- Consistency of messages
- Stakeholder communication channels for information exchange
- Information, advice and education



# Planning Considerations

Planning should include, but should not be limited to:

- > **Liaison with local emergency authorities for planning advice** and ensure that they are aware of your facilities, their size and location, and any particular needs;
- > Providing **contact details** of your facility and key personnel to the emergency services, and ensure that all key personnel have access to contact details for local emergency services;



## Planning Considerations cont.

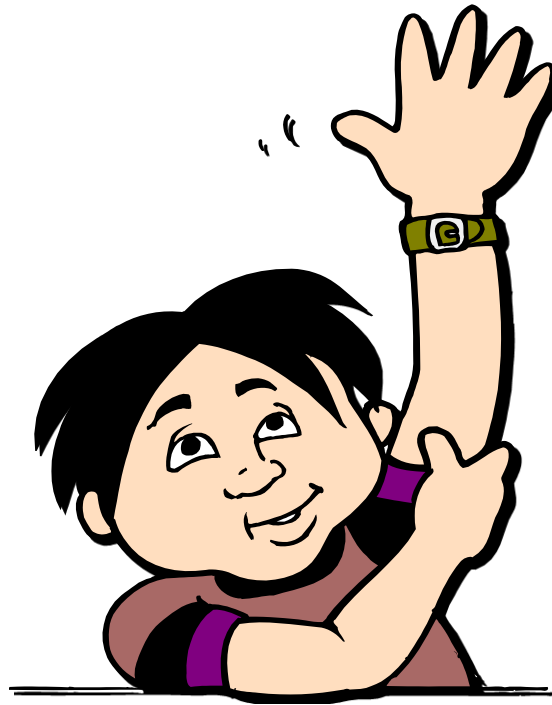
- > Ensure **key personnel are informed** and know when to activate emergency management plans, and make timely/informed decisions, which may culminate in the relocation or evacuation of the facility; and
- > Consider a **plan for post trauma counsel services** when required.





## Evacuation

- > The Emergency Services and other Gov't Agencies do not provide direction on relocation or evacuation.
- > Any decision to relocate or evacuate should be made in the context of the facility's emergency plan.



# Questions?



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