

procedures used to establish an LZ and should be in full protective clothing with charged lines in place. Dusty areas should be wet down prior to helicopter arrival. Helicopters will communicate during landing, while on the ground and during take-off with a designated person at the incident (Helispot Manager) using an assigned frequency.

The primary communications frequencies for medical helicopters responding to a major medical incident will be 123.050 on Unicom. This frequency will be monitored by Northwest Medstar Communications Center which is staffed 24-7. Medstar Communications Center is responsible to coordinate:

- a. Changes in patient destination through the Disaster Medical Hospital Control.
- b. Patient reports to the receiving facility.
- c. Helipad availability.
- d. Serve as the communications link between aircraft crewmembers and the Disaster Medical Coordination Center (located at Deaconess Medical Center Emergency Room).

DISASTER MEDICAL COORDINATION CENTER (DMCC)

The role of the DMCC is to gather information from area hospitals and attempt to initially place patients at the facility most appropriately able to care for them in the most efficient amount of time. Additionally, the DMCC system aims to minimize secondary transfers. If the incident involves a communicable disease or other public health threat the medical director, in coordination with public health, will provide advice to the DMCC on distribution of multi-casualty patients.

Deaconess Medical Center is designated the DMCC in Spokane County. In the event Deaconess Hospital cannot fulfill the DMCC role, Holy Family Hospital will assume the lead DMCC role.

Upon notification of a MCI the designated DMCC has the following responsibilities:

- a. Notifies hospitals as necessary using WATrac and other communication systems as needed.
- b. Determines / updates the number of casualties by contacting the scene (if this information isn't provided in the initial notification).
- c. Initiates request for all hospitals to update current bed status using WATrac.
- d. Receives Facility Situation Reports from hospitals via WATrac or fax on an hourly basis, or requests more frequent updates.
- e. Coordinates patient destination from scene per local protocol using MCI Patient Triage Distribution List.
- f. Notifies Inland Northwest Blood Center as necessary.
- g. Coordinates with local / regional EOC / ECC, local health jurisdiction, etc. as necessary to ensure patient care.
- h. Coordinates with the specific county Medical Program Director (MPD) and the EOC / ECC if forward movement of patients is required or if additional resources are needed.
- i. In the event of a National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) disaster, coordinates with Harborview Medical Center, the west side DMCC.

COMMUNICATIONS

- a. Radio communications will be in accordance with Spokane County mutual aid radio procedures.
- b. The first arriving ambulance or ambulance supervisor equipped with HEAR radio capability will be designated the Medical Communications Coordinator (Med Com) and will contact the Disaster Medical Coordination Center on the HEAR channel (155.340).