Prehospital Radiological Triage

**Version 1, July 2018**

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**Multi-Casualty Incident**

Radiation Detected - IND/Nuclear Weapon Suspected

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**Initial Triage**

- **Triage**
  - **YES** +High Dose Rate?
    - **NO**
      - **YES** Significant or Life-Threatening Injuries?
        - **NO**
          - **YES** **++Transport**

- **Ill/Injured Requiring EMS Treatment?**
  - **NO**
    - **YES** Move ill/injured to lower dose rate area

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**Secondary Triage**

- **Triage**
  - **NO**
    - **YES** Ill/Injured Requiring EMS Treatment?
      - **YES** Move ill/injured to lower dose rate area

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**Possible Acute Radiation Syndrome (ARS). Refer for more definitive care (e.g. nearest Field Treatment Site)**

- **Dose likely > 6 Gy**
- **Dose likely 2-4 Gy**

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**Radiological Triage Questions:**

1. Where was victim in relation to event?
2. How long was victim in that location?
3. Was victim sheltered? If so, what type of shelter? (basement, windows, etc.)
4. How long was victim in the shelter? How long were they in the open?
5. If victim exited area, what path was taken? What was the mode of transport?
6. Was there anyone else co-located with the victim?

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**EMS Activation**

- **+**Refer to local protocols for dose rate guidance and additional actions, such as administering Potassium Iodide (KI) to rescue teams prior to entering high fallout areas.

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**++**If medical condition and time permit:
- Remove clothes.
- Seal in bag and/or leave at scene.
- Cocoon patient (wrap in sheet).
- Survey for radiological contamination and obtain additional history.

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**Radiological Triage: Contaminated/Exposed**

- Refractory Vomiting?
  - **YES**
    - **NO**
      - **YES** Vomiting in <1 hour after event?
        - **NO**
          - **YES** Vomiting in 1-4 hours after event?
            - **NO**
              - **YES** Treat Medical/Trauma
                - **NO**
                  - **YES** Transfer Patient per Destination Guidelines

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**Refactory Vomiting?**

- **YES**
- **NO**

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**Vomiting in <1 hour after event?**

- **YES**
- **NO**

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**Vomiting in 1-4 hours after event?**

- **YES**
- **NO**

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**Combined injuries (e.g. >20% BSA burn, moderate trauma) will negatively impact triage category.**

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**Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education**

**Managed by ORAU for DOE**

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**Radiation Emergency Assistance Center/Training Site (REAC/TS)**

24-Hour Emergency Phone: 865-576-1005
Business Phone: 865-576-3131
orise.orau.gov/reacts

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