



NHSBT Preparedness for a Mass Casualty Event

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- NHSBT is regarded as “The Blood Service”, but also provides tissues in emergencies (esp. Skin)
- Blood and blood components are provided from stock (we do not normally need emergency donors)
- NHSBT will move stock to ensure that a centre is reprovided
- Assumption that most emergency stock is required within the first 8 hours of an incident.
- NHSBT does recognise ongoing requirements for returns to theatre



Challenges – Major Incidents

- Hospitals over-order
- The public response to give blood
- The tendency to use O Negative blood (even when there is time to provide group compatible) – not just a numbers issue
- Logistics – crowds, lock-downs and cordons disrupt travel routes and access into hospitals (assistance required for blood services please)

Surely that won't happen...?

- Westminster Bridge - 22 March 2017
- WannaCry ransomware - 12 May 2017
- Manchester Arena - 22 May 2017
- London Bridge - 3 June 2017
- Grenfell Tower - 14 June 2017
- Finsbury Park Mosque - 19 June 2017
- Parson's Green Underground - 15 September 2017





Our Assumptions

- Government Planning assumptions for casualty numbers and the P1:P2:P3 ratio
- P1 and P2 will require blood support, P3 does not require blood support
- 3-fold over-ordering of red cells by hospitals
- Product use as described by Ramsey in “Blood component transfusions in mass casualty events” (Vox Sang 2017; 112:648–659)

Contingency planning?

- Response to an emergency (mass casualty event) is putting the blood in a van
- The planning is what makes it possible – but what other than stock numbers goes into our thinking?



Supply Chain

- NHSBT has over 3,500 contracts and 18,000 supply items.
- Where does it come from? How does it get here?
- Hurricane Irma – medical devices
- Up to date information, good contacts and working together.



IT Systems and Data

- Healthcare is becoming more IT dependent
- Can break, be attacked or infrastructure can fail
- How much data can you afford to lose?
- Defences, backup systems, recovery



Buildings and Infrastructure



- All of us are reliant on buildings, but take them for granted
- What do we do when we lose a building?
- NHSBT has (for most services) reprovisioning plans.

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Blood supply moved due to flooding in Bristol

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Blood supplies have been moved from the NHS Blood and Transplant centre in Bristol which was closed because of flooding on Monday.

The centre, which is on a business park in Filton, covers the Midlands, South West and part of the South East.

Other sites around the country have taken the stocks of blood and will continue to supply local hospitals.



The centre in Filton was closed because of flooding on Monday



Contingency

- Some of our resilience is in blood stock, but possibly more important is our planning in business as usual activity
- This helps us to continue our day-to-day service despite floods, supply failure, IT issues and many other events ... as well as supporting your response to major incidents.



Thank You

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