

Disaster First Aid Reality

When we are on our own injury response is predicated upon staffing, medical equipment and time to hospital.

Disaster Injury Frequency by Type

- Bleeding
- Fractures
- Lower Body Trauma
- Upper Body Trauma
- Concussion
- Wound Infection
- Shock
- Burn
- Dehydration
- Hypothermia
- Impalement
- Disease

Disaster Injury/Death Frequency

- Injury – 22/1000
- Death – 16/1000
- Loma Prieta – 90:1 Injuries to Death
- Northridge – 4.2:1 Injuries to Death

Crush victims' survival is 20% with IMMEDIATE care

Crush victims are likely to succumb without treatment after 4-6 hours

Arterial bleed out takes 30 seconds to 5 minutes

Consent for tourniquet

If we do not – you will die

If we do – you will probably lose your limb, but we may be able to save your life

Unconscious – you make the call

Damage below a tourniquet varies from 2 hours to 6 hours

2 hours – nerve damage, muscle and vascular injury, skin necrosis

6 hours – complete muscle damage requiring amputation

Field Injury Progress and Management

Green Tarp (Minor Injuries)

Yellow Tarp (Injuries That Need Attention)

Red Tarp (Severe Injuries)

Blue Tarp (Extend Care, Hospice)

Black Tarp (Morgue)