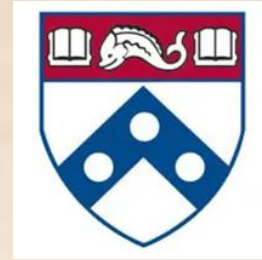


A Festive Day Gone Far Astray :

*What Did I Take Away from the October 7th
Massacre Day?*



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The Context: *Al-Aqsa Flood*

- On 7 October 2023, Hamas launched attack against southern Israel, starting with massive rocket barrage
- 1,143 killed: 767 civilians, 376 security personnel
- 3400 civilians, soldiers injured
- Largest MCI in Israel's history
- 3rd deadliest terror attack in world since 1970
- Controlling for population, death toll 13 x Sept 11th

The Attack

- > 3000 Gazans breached security fence at dozens of sites
- Armed with AK-47s, RPGs, anti-tank missiles, knives, and *body cams*
- Targeted nearby towns, kibbutzim, Israel Defense Forces bases





Found on dead fighters: "Kill as many people and take as many hostages as possible."

The Washington Post

Supernova Music Festival

4000-5000 in attendance, 364 killed, ~40 taken hostage



Supernova Music Festival

Route 232



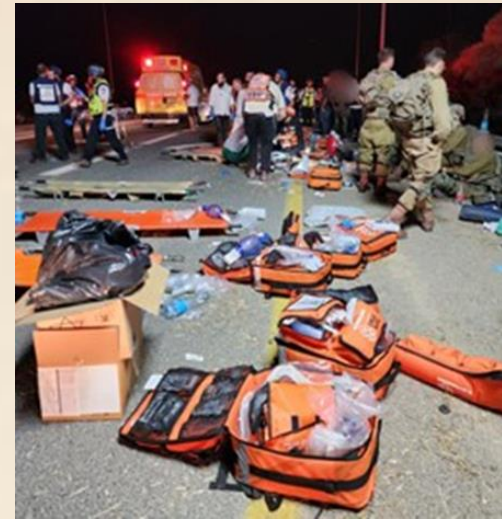
EMS in Israel

- Magen David Adom (MDA)
 - National EMS and blood service
 - 33,000 providers, *mostly volunteers*
- United Hatzalah
 - Community-based, *all volunteer* service
 - 7000 medical volunteers



MDA, United Hatzalah Response

- Activated all resources, moved many to south
- Not enough ambulances, helicopters to evacuate directly to EDs
- Set up staging areas, field treatment stations
- EMS used private vehicles for transport to stations
- From there, ambulances & helicopters to hospitals
- MDA deployed blood to hospitals, IDF



EMS Volume October 7

- MDA went on 1,612 dispatches
 - Mostly rocket, gunshot wounds
- Of the 1,612 cases
 - 512 severe injuries
 - 170 minor injuries
 - 118 stress reactions
- United Hatzalah treated 3000 in first 48 hrs



EMS Challenges

- Vast number of casualties at ~22 locations
- Lasted for days
- Operating amidst Hamas gun, rocket fire
- EMS working in body armor
- As police and IDF arrived, fighting escalated
- Patient evacuation initially very dangerous
- Both had providers killed, injured, kidnapped

EMS Lessons Learned

- Most care was at BLS level, load & go
- Two closest hospitals were quickly overwhelmed
- Transporting to farther hospitals raised safety, logistical challenges
- Central command centers helped coordinate resources, communications, resupply
- Need to consider provider emotional trauma, PTSD

Impact on Hospitals

- Hospitals received 2,290 casualties Oct. 7
- Impact greatest in south
- Soroka University Medical Center received 626 casualties
 - 96 surgeries, used 200 units of blood in first 24 hrs
- Barzilai Medical Center received > 420



What Made October 7 Different?

- Military style tactics, weapons used on civilians
- Multiple, dispersed attacks
- Sheer number of victims and attackers
- Mass hostage taking
- Occurred on Sabbath, many Israelis at home
- Duration - last Gazans apprehended October 20
- Attack not just on communities but on a nation

