

#### RELATED TERMS

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## LESSON LEARNED

### Special Event Planning: Developing a Medical Plan for Treatment of Riot Control Agents

#### SUMMARY

Medical toxicologists should develop medical plans for the treatment of riot control agents prior to a special event. These plans should be distributed to all emergency medical services (EMS) and law enforcement personnel prior to the event.

#### DESCRIPTION

The 2004 Democratic National Convention (DNC) was held in Boston, Massachusetts from July 26-29. Prior to the event, Boston EMS and the Boston Police Department (BPD) were concerned that protestors might target law enforcement officers, emergency medical personnel, and other public safety personnel.

Based on these concerns, Dr. K. Sophia Dyer, Medical Toxicologist, Boston Police, Fire and EMS, developed a series of medical plans for the treatment of Capsaicin (pepper spray) and o-Chlorobenzylidene Malononitrile (mace). The plans offered an overview of the agent and information pertaining to its most common uses. The plans also detailed signs and symptoms of exposure, and provided instructions for decontamination and treatment of exposed victims. Boston EMS distributed the plans to all members of Boston EMS, the Boston Police Department, and Boston Fire Department prior to the DNC.

Medical toxicologists should develop detailed medical plans for the treatment of riot control agents prior to a special event. These plans should be distributed to all EMS and law enforcement personnel prior to the event.

#### CITATION

- Boston Emergency Medical Services, *2004 Democratic National Convention Medical Consequence Management Plan*. July 2004.

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