

Medical Factors in Event Planning

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Compounding and Mitigating Factors

Type of Activity

Fun Ride, Gran Fondo, Road Race, Criterium?

Course Type

Closed, Flagged, Open to Cars?
Urban, Rural, multiple ambulance districts?

Participant Age Spectrum

Kids have higher incident ratio, expectations change
Seniors have higher non-trauma incidence

Skill level of participants (Fitness level)

Casual, Weekend Warrior, Expert...
How well does skill fit course & environment?

High stakes?

Wednesday night ride or State Championship?

Medical Expectations

What do I think the standard should be? Do my participants expect a higher level than I am providing?
What is a bad, but not extreme scenario, and what kind of an outcome is likely from my event plan & staffing?
What do my peers do?

Environmental Factors

Temperature/humidity out of norm for individuals?
Could attendees be unprepared with clothing/training?
Mitigating factors available? Free water, shade, shelter, gear shuttle, sag vehicles?
Duration of activity?
Shelter available?

Chain of Survival

A communication pre-plan is the most important factor in incident mitigation.

Before the event-

Go through scenarios on different parts of the course-
Who are the people that will see someone needing help, and how will they, or won't they, pass the word? Are staff and locations identifiable and predictable? Do they have the ability to request help, the knowledge to call the right person, and critical information? (Location, Location, What the issue is, Who it is)
Who is out there? Have you identified & distributed your talented medically trained staff?

Disseminate information early-

What to do in an emergency (order of operations) sheet
Phone numbers to call for each type of situation
Expectations of volunteers

During The Event-

Does the event communication work?
How do event-day changes affect my pre-plan?
Is my backup system working?
Race Director should not plan to use all their bandwidth

