One week ago, at 9:30 AM, the transport courier left EHS office on foot to deliver Ir-192 to Radiation Oncology.

As he walked alongside Shock Trauma, he was assaulted by a thin, bearded man who snatched the shielded container and escaped.
Today, a campus radiation sensor is triggered

What do you do?
“Someone” needs to investigate the location by the radiation monitor

Campus security? campus radiation safety officer (RSO)? city personnel (Fire, Police)?
UMMS Drill #1-3

- UMMS RSO reads 5 rem/hour @ 1 m from the package at the loading dock
- What do you do?
What to Do

- UMMS must immediately alert the City (Fire, Police, Health)
- The City will then establish Incident Command
- Ultimately, the City, not UMMS, has authority
- RSO establishes a 40 m perimeter (2 mrem/hr)
- A failed detonation occurs
- **What do you do?**
By now, the city Bomb Squad should be dealing with the device.

They will clear a 300-foot radius because of the bomb threat (independent of radioactivity and radiation dose levels).
- 300-foot evacuation radius
- No change in dose rate from package
- Assessment and attempted separation of explosive from radioactivity
Some Things to Consider

- One week ago, Ir-192 stolen
- Tendency to focus on potential “red herring”
- No evidence to support the Ir-192 as source of radioactivity
- Don’t jump to conclusions!
General Approach to Terror Preparedness and Response

1. Crisis management
   - **Causes** of a terrorist event
   - Law enforcement function

2. Consequence management
   - **Effects** of a terrorist event
   - PH, safety, environmental functions
Differentiating Crisis and Consequence Management

- **Crisis management** is the short-term or acute phase of response to an event
- **Consequence management** is the long-term remediation of the effects of the event
Generic Steps

- First responder activities
- Evacuate/secure area
- Activate emergency ops
- Do confirmatory testing
- Monitor health (short-term)
- Start (long-term) surveillance and sampling
- Establish information “focus”
- Establish response teams
Complicating Factors

- Law enforcement interests
- Public health and safety
- Mass casualties
- Damage to infrastructure
- Psychosocial impacts
- Environmental concerns
Importance of Risk Communication

- Centralized focal point—Primary Information Officer (PIO)
- Message characteristics
  - Authority
  - Disclosure
  - Safety/risk
  - Sympathy/compassion
  - Protecting yourself
  - Timeline
Conclusion

- Develop and run practice drills
- Work together as a team
- Think broadly about who will be involved
- Drill, drill, drill!