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*University of Maryland
Medical System
(UMMS) Drill #1*

Section 2 of 2

- 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 Campus Layout



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

- 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

- 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

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