

Triumphing at Triage

By:

Nicholas Maxwell MD

Jessica Pelletier DO, MHPE

Learning Objectives

- Discuss various established triage methods
- Compare and contrast different triage methods
- Have hands-on experience applying a triage algorithm quickly to simulated patients



What is a Mass Casualty Incident

When the needs of your patients outstrip your resources

MCI Principles

- Triage – “to sort”
- Goal = Most good for the most people
- Response based on established, rehearsed plan
- Directed by resources available
- Dynamic not static

Approach to Treatment

- Highly variable
- Emphasis on life saving interventions and sorting
- Consider: space, transport, and destinations

Sorting

- Color based
 - Green, yellow, red, black
 - White
 - Blue
-

TRIAGE TAG No. 123456

DATE _____ TIME _____ AM / PM

INCIDENT _____

LOCATION _____

RESPONDER _____

NAME (Last, First) _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ AGE _____ SEX M / F

ADDRESS _____

CHIEF COMPLAINT _____

COMMENTS / FINDINGS _____

ATTACH TO PATIENT ↑

TIME _____ B/P _____ PULSE _____ RESP _____

0	DECEASED	<input type="checkbox"/>
I	IMMEDIATE	<input type="checkbox"/>
II	DELAYED	<input type="checkbox"/>
III	MINOR	<input type="checkbox"/>
IV	EXPECTANT	<input type="checkbox"/>



Personal Redress System

Special Incident Tag

Triage / Contamination / Belongings

Contaminated Patient (Chart on back of card)
___ Yes ___ No

Patient Condition (Chart injuries on back):

Red – Critical (stab / TCA preferred)

Immediate Life Threat (example):

Airway compromise

Altered Mental Status

HR > 120

RR > 30 or resp. distress

Severe chest / abd injury

Clinical shock

Yellow – Serious (TCB / TCC)

Injuries may threaten life within 30-60 minutes

Green – Minor (main waiting room)

Black – Dead / Expectant (SC holding)

Patient Goes To (Circle)

Stab TCA TCB TCC

Triage SpCare

Secondary Tx Site (Circle:)

Urgent Care SPC Ortho Clinic Peds (Inpt)

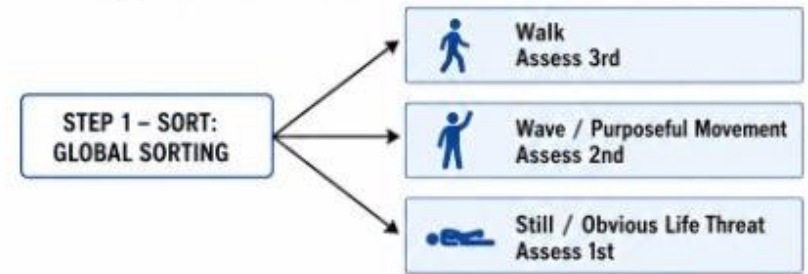
Patient and Belongings Tracking # 011007

SALT Triage

- Sort
- Assess
- Life Saving Interventions
- Treatment/Transport

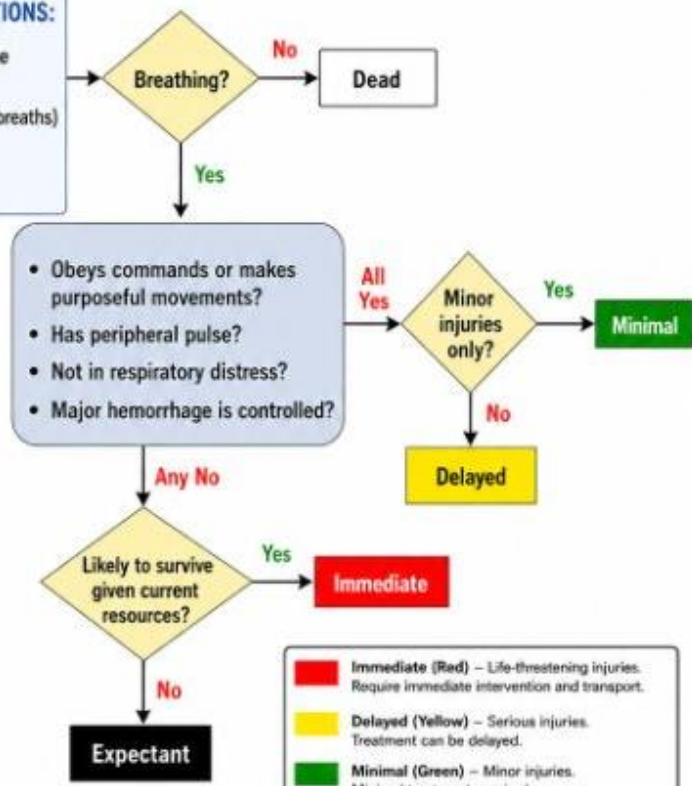
SALT TRIAGE ALGORITHM

SORT • ASSESS • LIFESAVING INTERVENTIONS • TREAT/TRANSPORT



STEP 2 – ASSESS: INDIVIDUAL ASSESSMENT

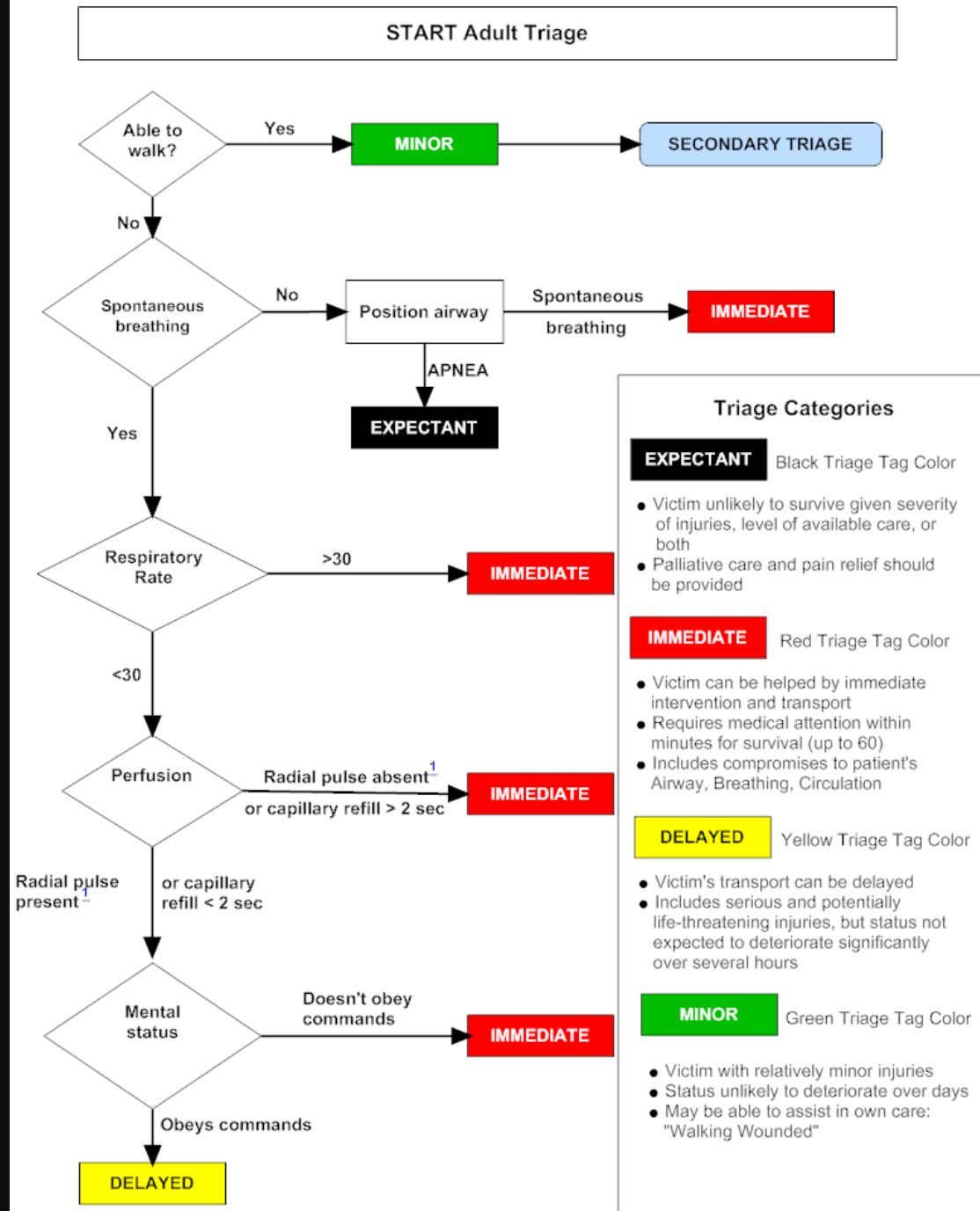
- LIFESAVING INTERVENTIONS:**
- Control major hemorrhage
 - Open airway (if child consider 2 rescue breaths)
 - Chest decompression
 - Auto injector antidotes



- Immediate (Red)** – Life-threatening injuries. Require immediate intervention and transport.
- Delayed (Yellow)** – Serious injuries. Treatment can be delayed.
- Minimal (Green)** – Minor injuries. Minimal treatment required.
- Expectant (Black)** – Expectant injuries. Survival unlikely even with intervention. Provide comfort care.

START Triage

- Simple Triage And Rapid Treatment
- Discrete findings/less ambiguity
- Widely used

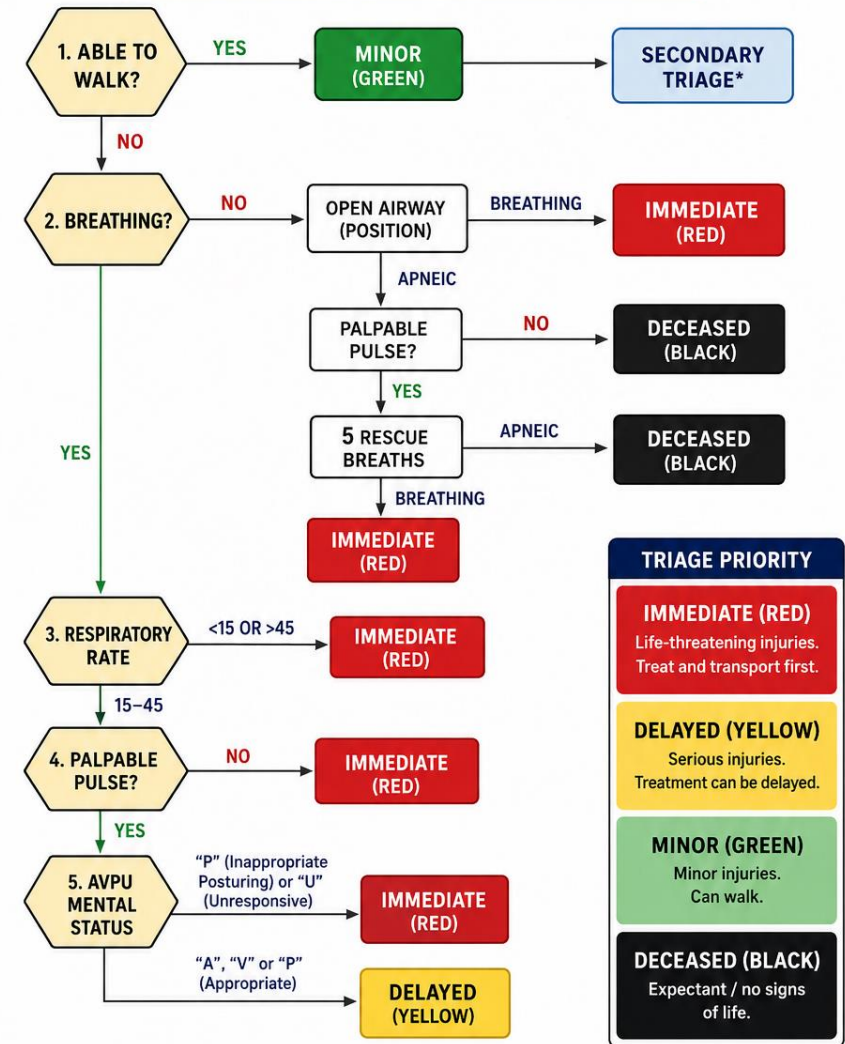


Jump START Triage

- Adapted for pediatrics
- Important to still be algorithmic
- Note it includes rescue breaths

Jump START Pediatric MCI Triage

A rapid assessment to sort and prioritize children when resources are limited.



TRIAS PRIORITY
IMMEDIATE (RED) Life-threatening injuries. Treat and transport first.
DELAYED (YELLOW) Serious injuries. Treatment can be delayed.
MINOR (GREEN) Minor injuries. Can walk.
DECEASED (BLACK) Expectant / no signs of life.



* After the primary assessment, perform a secondary triage to identify additional injuries and provide appropriate care.

Practice Time!

References

- Franc JM, Kirkland SW, Wisnesky UD, Campbell S, Rowe BH. METASTART: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of the Diagnostic Accuracy of the Simple Triage and Rapid Treatment (START) Algorithm for Disaster Triage. *Prehosp Disaster Med.* 2022 Feb;37(1):106-116. doi: 10.1017/S1049023X2100131X. Epub 2021 Dec 17. PMID: 34915954.
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- Jones N, White ML, Tofil N, Pickens M, Youngblood A, Zinkan L, Baker MD. Randomized trial comparing two mass casualty triage systems (JumpSTART versus SALT) in a pediatric simulated mass casualty event. *Prehosp Emerg Care.* 2014 Jul-Sep;18(3):417-23. doi: 10.3109/10903127.2014.882997. Epub 2014 Mar 6. PMID: 24601857.