ALTERED (ADAPTIVE, MODIFIED) STANDARDS OF CARE

Michael Murphy
MMRS Director
Emergency Medical Services Authority
Disaster Preparedness and Response Division
April 7, 2011

The Required Goals/Objectives

- To increase ones understanding of modified care provided in austere or resource constrained environments by:
 - Defining standards of care, resource constrained environment, and medical surge.
 - Demonstrating the various types of medical surge and how the medical system may or may not need to implement modified standards
 - Provide examples of incidents where modified standards have been used
 - Present the current Oklahoma Modified standards, the approach, and what still needs to be accomplished.

Clarification

"We" refers to a group of individuals that has spent a lot of time and effort over the last 5 years working on the modified standards of care

I sometimes will slip up and use an acronym—call me on it



What is a Standard of Care?

- "The degree of care a reasonable person would take to prevent an injury to another"
- The accepted medical standard of care can be thought of as the sum of medical knowledge that has been accumulated over hundreds of years of medical and scientific study and discovery, and how that knowledge has become the tools with which doctors can treat patients and make them well when ill or injured."

First, a Few Concepts.....

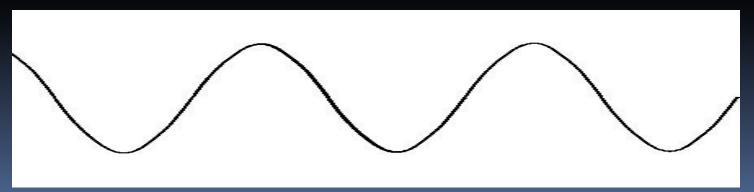
- Resource Constrained Environment
- CHE and CHE Task Force
- Medical Surge

 Medical Care is dictated by acceptable "standards" and the resources to provide the care:

STAFF	SERVICES	EQUIPMENT			
SUPPLIES	SPACE	MONEY			
TIME					

 Certain incidents may curtail or eliminate these resources and affect the level and type of care available

- The resource availability will often fluctuate over time.
- The level and type of Medical Care provided may also need to fluctuate.



 The resources available and the consequent Medical Care available may also be along a continuum



Armageddon

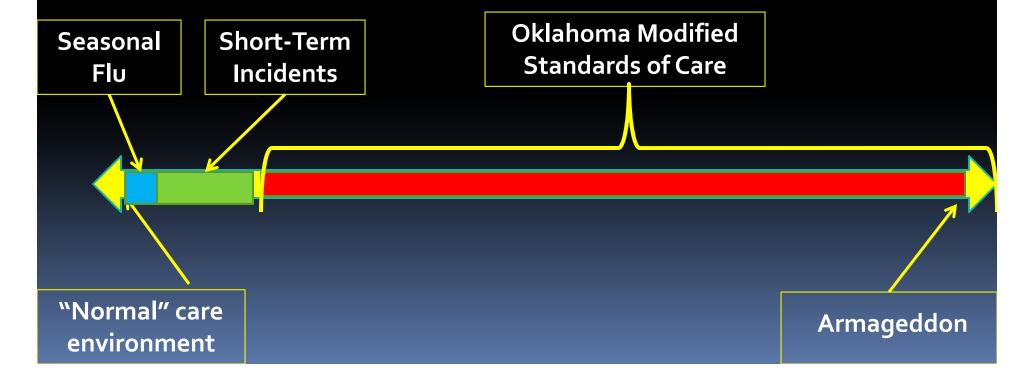
 Each year we "modify" care to some extent during influenza outbreaks



 We occasionally experience short-term incidents that require a very temporary modifications of the standards of care



 The Oklahoma Modified Standards of Care were created to address the incident that creates a sustained resource constrained environment



Catastrophic Health Emergency (CHE) Act

- Enacted in 2003/2004 (OS:63:6101)
- Defines CHE as any incident that can create:
 - Large number of deaths
 - Large number of long-tern disabilities
 - Actual or future exposure to bio or toxin
- Grants the Commissioner of Health broad powers to address the incident
- Requested by the Governor and eventually approved by the legislature

Catastrophic Health Emergency (CHE) Task Force

- Group of individuals appointed by the Governor to study the legal and operational needs during a catastrophic pandemic event and create/update a plan to meet those needs.
- CHE plan developed in 2009
- Task Force meets at least annually to update plan with any needed additions and modifications
- Task Force approved the Oklahoma Modified Standards of Care for use in a CHE
- CHE Plan:
 - http://www.ok.gov/health/Disease, Prevention, Preparedness/Emergency Preparedness and Response/Catastrophic_Health_Emergency/index.html

Catastrophic Health Emergency (CHE)

 The standard for a CHE declaration is exceptionally high. It is likely that some modification to care will be required prior to any declaration



The Ubiquitous "Medical Surge"

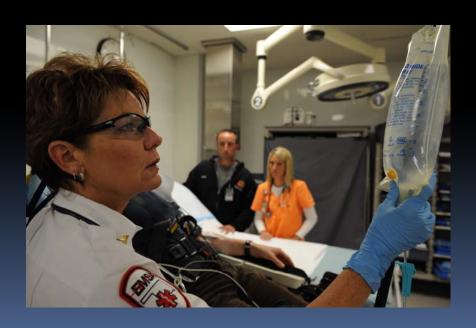
- Many different definitions to many different people
- Most tend to think of a sudden or overwhelming influx of patients
- The overwhelming will be determined by resources and will likely fluctuate

Medical Surge Definition

Medical surge is defined as the ability to provide adequate medical evaluation and care during events that exceed the limits of the normal medical infrastructure of an affected community. It encompasses the ability of the continuum of healthcare systems to respond to an incident, and maintain or rapidly recover operations that were compromised

Daily Surge

THE DIVERT WARS



Seasonal Surge

STACKED EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS



Evacuee/Shelter Surge



Mass Casualty Surge—System Intact



Hospital	Distance From Impact Area	Number of Patients	Number of Admitted Patients
Hillcrest Hospital	5 miles north	149	
Southwest Medical Center	6 miles north	145	
Midwest City Regional Medical Center	5 miles north	114	21
Norman Hospital	10 miles south		
Presbyterian Hospital	8 miles north	42	8
Baptist Medical Center	14 miles north	41	6
Saint Anthony's Hospital	8 miles north	38	8
Children's Hospital	8 miles north	25	9
Tinker AFB Medical Facility	2 miles	39	
Grady Memorial	South of Bridge Creek	21	
Deaconess Hospital	14 miles north		
University Hospital	8 miles north		
Mercy Hospital	20 miles		

Disposition of the patients from the May $3^{\rm rd}$ Tornado Strike in Oklahoma City.

Surge: Mild Pandemic





Surge: System Compromised

PMAC—Katrina 2005

Japan—Tsunami 2011





Surge: Pandemic with High Mortality and Morbidity



- Over five years in the making
- Numerous Providers involved in providing input
- Based on the following tenets:
 - Minimal care levels regardless of situation (philosophical/ethical stance)
 - Equipment Supply Caches
 - Guidelines for the clinical care providers, and facility management
 - A supportive legal environment
 - Consensus with the professional community
 - Education for awareness, access, and reduction of fear/concern

- Minimal Ethical and Care Standards
 - Each patient will be seen by a medical provider
 - Each patient will be treated with compassion and dignity
 - Respect for life



Equipment and Supply Caches

- Beds, Wheelchairs, Patient Care Items, Oxygen, Shelters, Masks, Gloves etc.
- Regional caches throughout the state
- Although a lot of material is in these caches, it will be quickly used up during a severe incident





Care

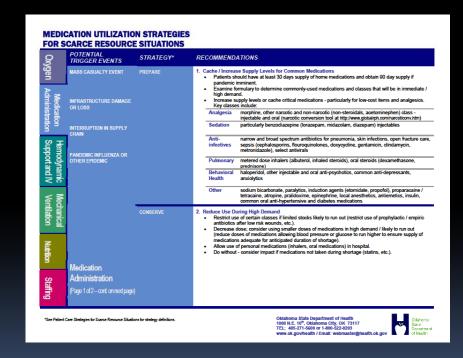
"Borrowed" heavily from the guidelines developed by Hennepin medical center for the state of Minnesota (with their permission)





Guidelines for Operating in a Resource Constrained Environment

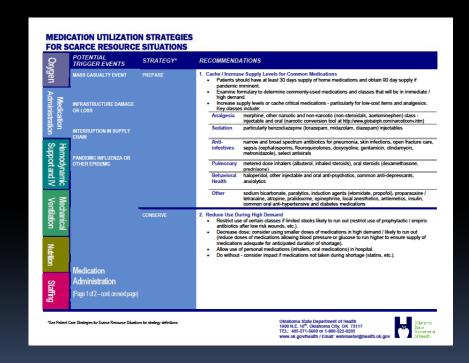
Guidelines—not proscriptive
Based upon anticipated
resource challenges



Guidelines for Operating in a Resource Constrained Environment

Resource Areas:

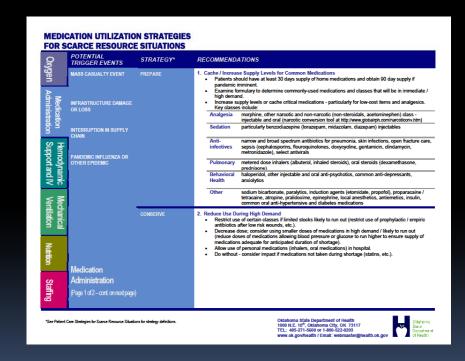
- Oxygen
- Medication
- Hemodynamic Support
- Mechanical Ventilation
- Nutrition
- Staffing



Guidelines for Operating in a Resource Constrained Environment

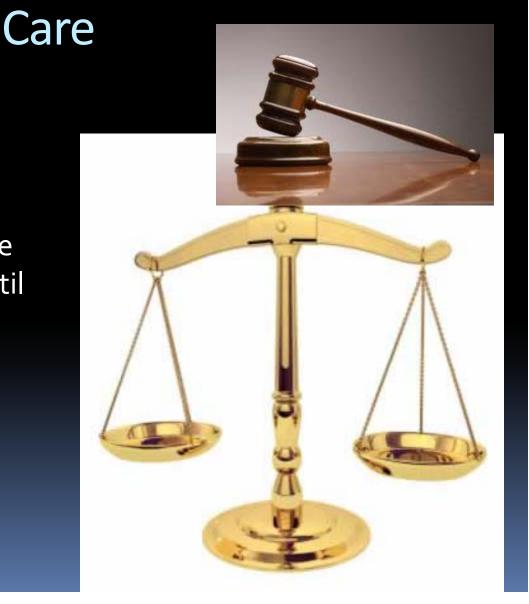
Action Areas:

- Prepare
- Conserve
- Reuse
- Adapt
- Reallocate
- Substitute



A Legal Environment to Facilitate Use

- There will be a real reluctance to utilize the modified standards until absolutely needed without some liability coverage
- CHE and OSDH submitted legislation



- Consensus
- There needs to be consensus among the professional bodies that these are the standards to be used.
 - Professional Organizations
 - Administrative Rules
 - Law



 Education for Awareness, Access, and a Paradigm Shift

 Medical staff needs to know what may happen ahead of time so they can mentally prepare for the event



Where Are We?

- Ethical stance and Guidelines: complete
- Cache continues to grow
- Legal—part of the CHE plan. Additional legislation on-going
- Consensus—on-going
- Education—just starting

Summary

- The standard of care is often dictated by the amount of resources available.
- The resources available may fluctuate over time flexibility needed.
- Medical Surge varies in cause and effect
- Ethics must be considered all circumstances—some care will be provided to all
- Guidelines currently exist
- Consensus, education, and a positive legal/regulatory environment are all critical for successful implementation of the Guidelines

Questions?

Michael Murphy M.A., EMT-P
Emergency Medical Services Authority
1111 Classen Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73103
Office: 405-297-7059
murphym@emsa.net