

## DMCC - Whitman County EMS Talk

- DMCC - Disaster Medical Coordination Center – System attempts to initially place patients at the facility most appropriately able to care for them
- Whitman County is included with Asotin Co, Garfield Co, and Columbia Co in a sub-section of the larger Region 9 (East Region).
- All Public Safety, EMS providers and dispatch centers in Region 9 shall have trigger points to assist in determining if the Disaster Medical Coordination Center (DMCC) should be notified of potential patient surge caused by a Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) or disaster.
  - Multiple patients from one incident – Apartment Fire, Bus Crash, HazMat/Decon Incidents, Etc.
- PRH is the DMCC for Whitman, Asotin, Garfield, and Columbia Co. Should there be a mass casualty/multi-patient event, PRH assists in conducting bed availability and resource gathering.

## What does this mean for EMS?

- **Information-** EMS Teams are the first responders. The sooner PRH has information about how many possible patients there are, PRH can start the DMCC process of checking bed availability & resources. Calling PRH and asking for the ED charge nurse.
- **Tagging-** Quick way to communicate acuity of patients to hospital. “We have 1 red, 3 yellows, and 10 greens”
- **Directing Patients to EDs-** PRH Clinical Coordinator or Charge Nurse will then assist in the decision of how many patients to send where. For example- In a bus crash, not all 20 patients should go to one facility. The Charge Nurse can reach out quickly to other area hospitals to best share the patient load and get patients the care they need.
- **Tools-** Area hospitals share a Hospital system “WaTrac” where all state hospitals can update us with their bed count in a matter of minutes. PRH is also equipped with “Everbridge” where we can mass message staff for backup.
- **Teamwork!-** EMS is crucial in this process, and we look forward to working with Whitman County first responders more on this system.

### Pullman Regional Hospital DMCC Introduction Session

February 6<sup>th</sup> at 3pm in Conference Rooms C&D

For PRH Staff, but would love to host Whitman Co EMS that are interested!

For more questions-

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