

## Role of Nurses in Response to Terror Attacks - from Israeli Experience

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During the 70 years' existence of Israel, the country faced many wars targeting mostly military forces, that forced us to develop medical and managerial tools. Additionally to wars, the country faced terror attacks targeting civilian population. These terror attacks created Mass Casualty Incidents (MCI).

MCI Casualties were admitted at first to Emergency Departments (ED) and required, due to their unique pattern of the injuries (blast, shooting, stabbing and vehicle running over) specific interventions.

The development of special treatment algorithms, as well as new doctrines, Standards Operation Procedure (SOP), infrastructure and deployment emphasized with greater vigor that working in ED demands the ability to function in stressful situation and rapid environment changes.

Certified Emergency Nurses (CEN) routinely worked in the ED are the fundamental key personnel, and are important partners to physicians, managing and providing medical care in MCI.

In our experience with MCI, debriefing sessions and Function Assessments held to develop and to promote CEN function in MCI, that includes sufficient knowledge related to MCI's injuries pattern; CEN are familiar with variable medical protocols, based on universal standards. Furthermore, MCI requires not only appropriate medical care, but also good managerial capacity applied to uncertain situations, causes, recourses and public.

CEN function in the ED, based on routine emergencies in ED work. Yet, MCI requires further knowledge and functionality. Thus, CEN were empowered during the years of accumulated experience.