Chemical Terrorism

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This course will address the remote and current history of the use of chemical agents during conflict and draw parallels as to the nature and dimensions of the current terrorist threat. The categories of common chemical agents will be presented along with the associated mammalian pathophysiology and insight offered on prevention, management and casualty treatment. The importance of competent identification and decontamination of exposed casualties and equipment will be emphasized. The topics covered in this course include:

Learning Objectives

- Identify ways chemical weapons are used
- Classify types of chemical agents and their characteristics
- List determinants of injury from a chemical exposure
- Distinguish specific characteristics of phosgene, chlorine and cyanide
- List types of vesicants
- Identify characteristics of Mustards
- Describe types of nerve agents
- Identify symptoms and treatment of nerve agents

Competencies

- Recognize unusual events that might indicate an emergency and describe appropriate action (to activate response plan)
- Describe the public health role in emergency response in a range of emergencies that might arise.

* Bioterrorism and Emergency Readiness

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