

## **TRIAGE – What Is It?**

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The process of sorting people based on their need for immediate medical treatment as compared to their chance of benefiting from such care. **Triage is** done in emergency rooms, disasters, and wars, when limited medical resources must be allocated to maximize the number of survivors. Trauma triage is the use of trauma assessment for prioritizing of patients for treatment or transport according to their severity of injury.

Primary triage is carried out at the scene of an accident and secondary triage at the casualty clearing station at the site of a major incident. Triage is repeated prior to transport away from the scene and again at the receiving hospital.

The primary survey aims to identify and immediately treat life-threatening injuries and is based on the 'ABCDE' resuscitation system. Triage is a dynamic process and patients should be reassessed frequently accordingly.