



Documentation: Event EAP

Event Emergency Action Planning for Athletic Trainers in the International Setting

BENEFITS OF HAVING AN EMERGENCY ACTION PLAN

- Risk management strategy leads to prevention of athletic injury
- Readily prepared for emergency situations
- Ensures appropriate care is provided in a timely manner
- Decrease chance of legal action taking place
- Protects liability of medical staff and event administration
- Leads to a more effective emergency response

The EAP needs to be specific to each athletic venue and address the following components:

- **Emergency Personnel:** Describe the emergency team involved when the EAP is activated and the roles of each person.
 1. Determine other agencies that may need to be involved, such as police, fire, hospitals, etc.
 2. Staffing needs and location(s) of staff.
 3. Hierarchy of staffing considerations: event coordinator, medical director and volunteers (physicians, hydration, first aid certified, AT, translators, etc.).
- **Emergency Communication:** Determine what communication devices are available, the number to call in an emergency and specific information and directions to the venue to provide to the EMS response team.
 1. Consider communication prior to the event with medical staff, including visuals, such as maps, to show locations of emergency supplies and services.
 2. In some cases, emergency help, such as ambulance, may be located on-site. Determine where they will be located, how they can be reached and if there will be backup if the ambulance is deployed.
 3. Consider how communication will occur at event, such as cell phone or walkie-talkie.
 4. Create a document to have on hand for staff with important event information, including staff phone numbers and emergency contacts. If using walkie-talkies, consider what stations will be used for what type of communication.
 5. Consider a specific method for staff to document injury and illness.
 6. Consider language barriers for verbal communication and written plan information.

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- **Emergency Equipment:** Location of equipment should be quickly accessible and clearly listed. Equipment needs to be maintained on a regular basis.
 1. Equipment needs may include, but not limited to:
 1. Automated external defibrillators (AEDs)
 2. Splint kits
 3. Cold water immersion/thermometers
 4. First aid supplies
 5. Hydration fill up
 6. Treatment tents
 2. These items may be noted on event map and discussed in pre-event meetings for preparedness.
- **Medical Emergency Transportation:** Describe options and estimated response times for emergency transportation. Note that EMS numbers vary by country.
- **Venue Directions With a Map:** This should be specific to the venue, and provide instructions for easy access to venue.
 1. Identify local medical centers, consider calling the centers prior to the event so center is aware of athletic event.
- **Roles of First Responders:** Establish scene safety and immediate care of the athlete, activation of EMS, equipment retrieval and direction of EMS to the scene.
- **Emergency Action Plan for Nonmedical Emergencies:** Consider what these may be for the specific event.

Conditions that may need to be considered within the EAP. Remember to consider language barriers as proper translation may be warranted:

- Asthma attack
- Internal trauma
- Cardiac conditions
- Cervical spine injury
- Heat/cold illness
- Sickling
- Concussion
- Inclement weather, such as lightning or weather disasters in the event area
- Multiple casualty incident (active shooter/bombing)

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