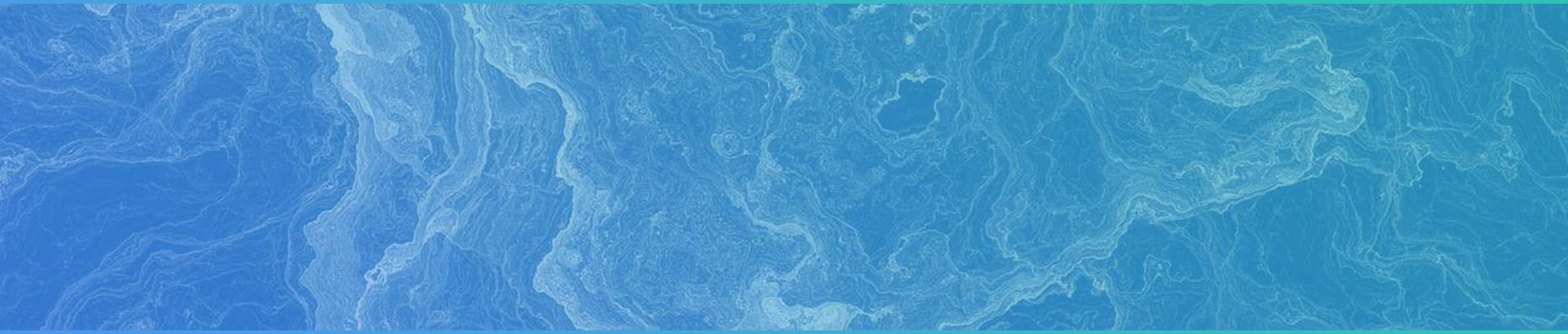


DISASTER PLANNING & PREPAREDNESS

Nick Sanchez MSI4
Supervised by Dr. Anthony Fong, Dr. Christopher Lee, Dr. Julian Marsden & Elizabeth Stacy

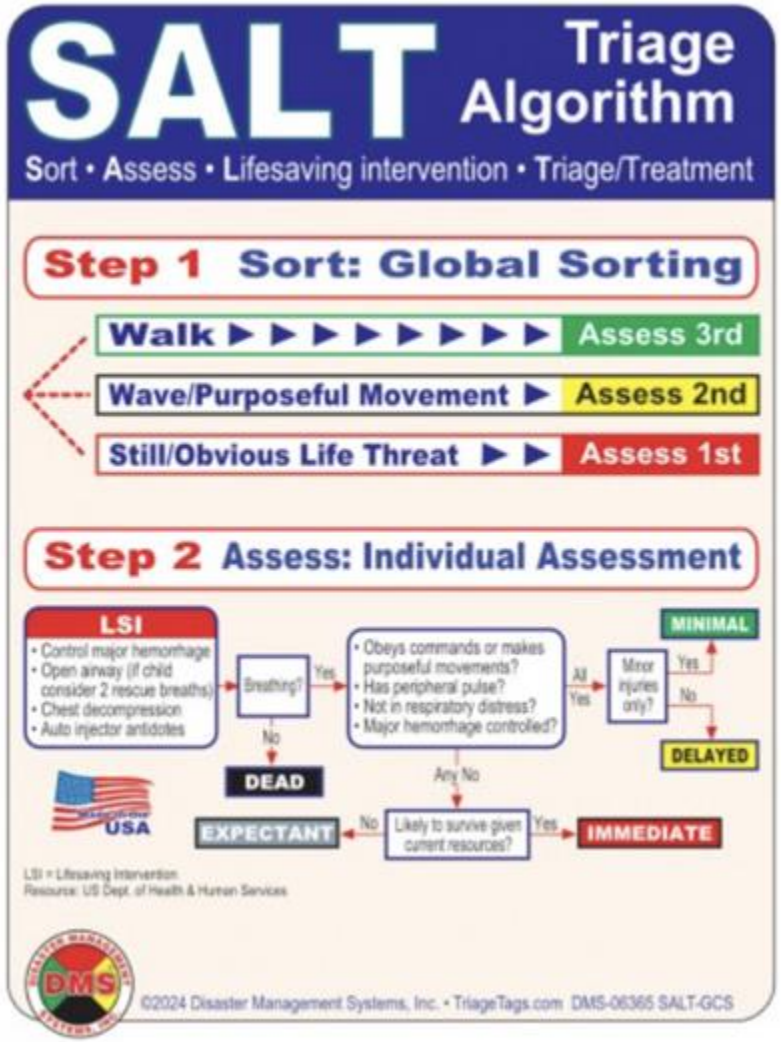
Project Goals

- Learn about disaster triage systems & how to apply them as an emergency physician
- Create physician resources that support the learning & application of the SALT triage system

What is SALT?

- SALT is a disaster triage system
- Comprised of Global sorting & assessment phases
- Some key differences from the START & JumpSTART triage systems
  - universally applicable
  - no vital signs required
  - Differences in triage classification system

Good Friends or Bitter Rivals



Literature Review Aim

Identify existing knowledge on the teachability of the SALT disaster triage system

How Teachable is the SALT system?

Studies report SALT as easy to learn and there have been no reported differences in teachability/usability from START[3,4]

How Can we Teach these skills to Trainees?

Early work suggests online training modules and virtual reality could replace didactic and practical training sessions with no effects on responder efficacy [3]

How effective is this training?

A responder accuracy of 70-80% has been reported after as little as a 30 minute training session on SALT[1,5,6].

Limitations & Future research Opportunities

- Limited research on disaster triage in acute care settings
  - Studies needed on teachability/usability in acute care trainees including medical students and residents
- Beyond learner accuracy, additional outcomes such as survivability & efficiency need to be investigated in the acute setting

The Resources

Provincial Health Services Authority

HEMBC

SALT

EMERGENCY CARE BC

Sort

1. "If you can hear my voice, walk to the **treatment** zone!"
2. "If you can hear my voice, wave your hand!"

Assess

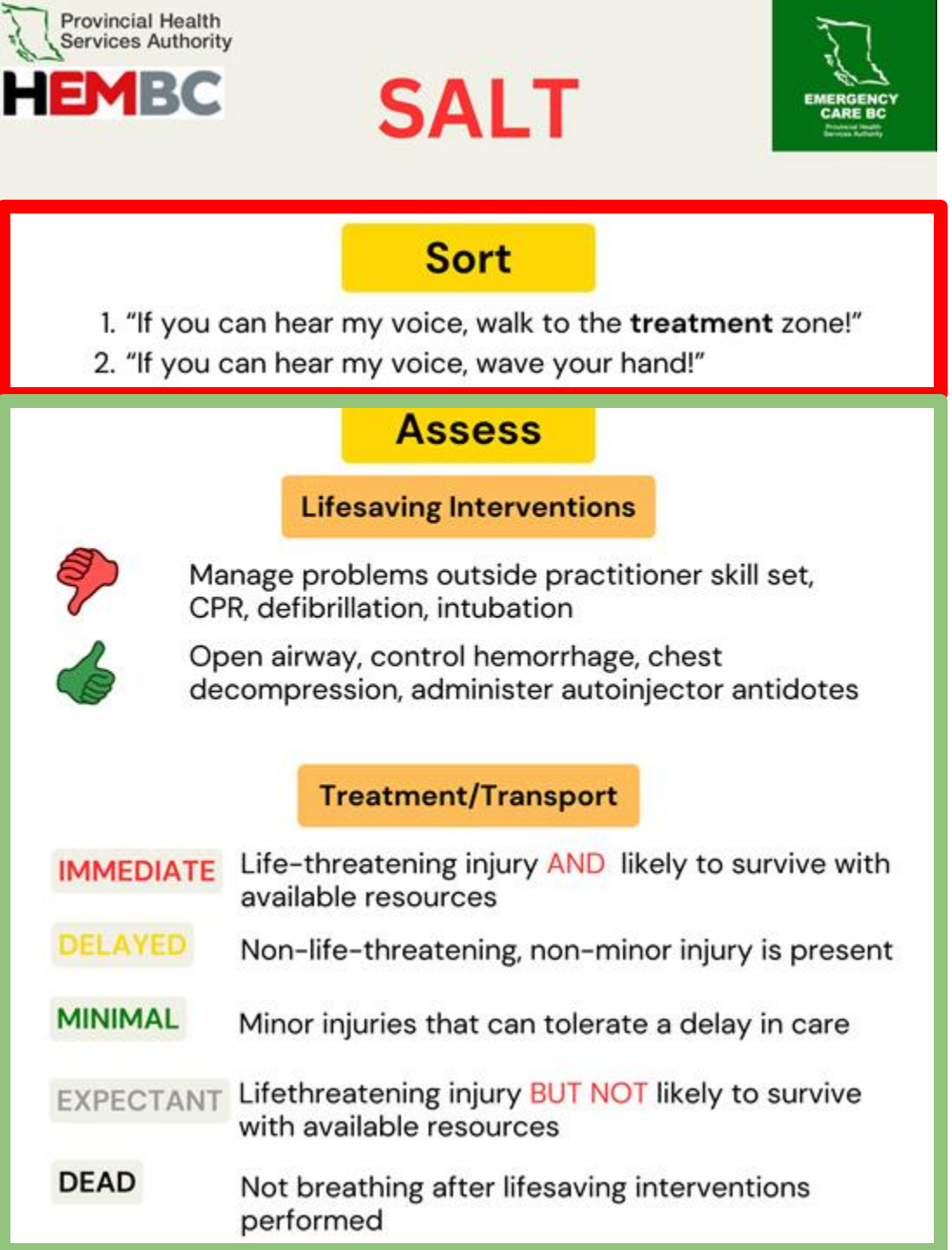
Lifesaving Interventions

Manage problems outside practitioner skill set, CPR, defibrillation, intubation

Open airway, control hemorrhage, chest decompression, administer autoinjector antidotes

Treatment/Transport

IMMEDIATE	Life-threatening injury AND likely to survive with available resources
DELAYED	Non-life-threatening, non-minor injury is present
MINIMAL	Minor injuries that can tolerate a delay in care
EXPECTANT	Lifethreatening injury BUT NOT likely to survive with available resources
DEAD	Not breathing after lifesaving interventions performed



Global Sorting

- Describes an efficient method of completing global sorting as a triage team leader

Assessment

- Highlights lifesaving interventions that are encouraged vs discouraged in the SALT system
- Provides guidance on assessment categories, a vital but challenging task to perform in real-life disasters

SALT

WHAT IS IT & WHY YOU SHOULD USE IT

WHAT IS IT?

A **universally applicable** Disaster Triage Method with **rapid global sorting & early identification** of high priority patients

WHY USE IT?

Universally applicable
adults, peds & special populations

Lifesaving Interventions
Chest decompression, hemorrhage control, open airways

No Vital Signs measured

Global Sorting & Early ID of Serious Injury

Practical Use cases

1. Disaster triage training sessions
2. On-shift rapid recall of SALT procedures

Call to Action!

1. Disasters may be uncommon, but training & staying up to date with current disaster preparedness practices should be common!
2. Be on the lookout for the HEMBC disaster triage & preparedness materials and incorporate them into your future practice and emergency departments
3. Consider HEMBCs recommendation of a unified SALT approach to disaster triage across the province

Thank you!

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