

Title:

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Author: Itamar Ashkenazi

Institution: "Rambam Medical Center"

Summary**History of MASCAL and future perspectives**

Ongoing political dispute between the people living in the Middle East has led to multiple attacks against civilians resulting in mass casualty (MASCAL) incidents. This was followed by incidents targeting civilians in European countries as well. The primary weapon used in these MASCAL incidents was bombing. Hundreds of explosion victims were treated in civilian hospitals that lacked the expertise to treat injuries typical of this trauma mechanism. Mistakes were made. In 2008 and 2009, two small conferences were convened in Israel and Spain. The aim was to define clinical questions concerning the treatment of individual explosion victims. All the participants had experience working in civilian hospitals that responded to MASCAL incidents following explosions. The primary tool was a Morbidity and Mortality session dedicated to mistakes in treating patients treated in these MASCAL incidents. Over 70 clinical questions were defined. Since these conferences, some of these questions were resolved following examining the clinical data. New technologies were developed. Still, time has passed since the last MASCAL. A new generation of surgeons, anesthesiologists, and trauma leaders has formed who have never experienced a MASCAL or the treatment of a severely injured patient following an explosion. The preservation of knowledge has become the main challenge. Examples of clinical questions will be discussed.