GIBB GROUP
MEDICAL & RESCUE

Service Description

Medical Needs Assessment

A Medical Needs Assessment (MNA) is a structured approach used to evaluate and improve emergency medical response capabilities, particularly in high-risk environments.

The MNA is crucial to ensure that workers have access to the necessary medical care and resources in their specific work environments.

It builds upon a First Aid Needs Assessment (FANA) by not only identifying basic first aid requirements but also assessing the entire patient journey, from the point of injury to definitive medical care.

This assessment helps identify potential hazards, such as injuries or environmental risks, and ensures that appropriate medical response plans and safety measures are in place, and aids compliance with regulatory bodies such as the Health & Safety Executive (HSE).

It also aids emergency preparedness by determining the required medical training, equipment, and evacuation procedures. In addition, it ensures compliance with regulatory requirements, and helps organisations avoid legal risks. Ultimately, a comprehensive medical needs assessment tailors healthcare resources to the unique demands of a given location, enhancing overall safety and readiness.

FANA / MNA DIFFERENCES

1. FIRST AID NEEDS ASSESSMENT (FANA) FOCUSES UPON:

- Number of first aiders
- Type of equipment needed
- Required level of training.

2. MEDICAL NEEDS ASSESSMENT (MNA) GOES FURTHER BY:

- Evaluating the full medical response chain
- Identifying gaps in care
- Recommending improvements across all stages of the patient journey.

A Medical Needs Assessment considers:

- Physical / Environmental factors
- Safety Management factors

It identifies:

- Potential Hazards, Injuries or Environmental Risks
- Appropriate Medical Response Protocols and Safety Measures

It assists in establishing:

- The level of emergency preparedness
- Required medical training
- Required medical equipment
- Compliance with regulatory requirements
- Avoidance of legal risk

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3. THE MNA PROCESS:

- Identify credible scenarios
- Determine likely injuries
- Define the appropriate medical response
- Justify the response using clinical evidence
- Present findings that are operationally achievable.

As part of our Clinical Governance provision, we can continually review your site Medical Needs Assessment and/or First Aid Needs Assessment in conjunction with you, to ensure they are aligned with site emergency response plans and are up to date in the face of new credible scenarios/injuries, industry guidance or significant operational change.

CONSIDERATIONS WHEN CREATING A MEDICAL NEEDS ANALYSIS

1. PHYSICAL / ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

- A clear definition of the location, including its physical characteristics and boundaries
- Physical layout of the location
- Normal travel times to receiving hospitals and specialist centres
- Known, foreseeable factors that could impact upon those travel times
- Design of the location, including any issues that suggest that the movement or extraction of patients from some areas are particularly challenging, or that healthcare resource deployments might be slower than usual
- In particular, access and egress routes serving the location
- First-aid posts and/or medical units, and other key locations
- Existing contingency plans and/or emergency procedures
- Have medical teams already been briefed regarding patient removal requirements ?

2. SAFETY MANAGEMENT FACTORS

- Are there effective and resilient lines of communications which include relevant medical personnel?
- What is the type, method and range of essential communication systems?
- Are there tested contingency plans and emergency procedures?
- Is there a Medical Co-ordinator, a Medical Advisory Group (MAG) or similar involved in assessing needs?
- What are the training qualifications and competency of medical personnel?
- What are the current medical resources i.e. staff, equipment, medicines, facilities?
- Has account been taken of their shift patterns, rest breaks, meals, work intensity etc?
- Is there reliable historical data of treatments for injuries and medical conditions, including those of similar events elsewhere, and what does that indicate?
- What consideration has been given to the requirement for strategically located and readily accessible trauma equipment and patient extraction equipment?

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON HOW WE CAN SUPPORT YOUR PROJECTS.