Environmental Incident Management

- All Health Boards are LRF members
- Duty of Care to public and partners
- Health Boards are part of Core IMT
- Community Risk Register
Environmental Incident Management

- Hazard Identification
- Dose Response Assessment
- Exposure Assessment
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- Public seek assistance across the range of NHS services
- Emergency Departments
- GP’s / Primary Care Surgeries
- NHS Direct service
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• To support the above, some Emergency Departments can establish verbal monitoring at reception desks within fifteen minutes of being alerted to a potential incident.

• The ‘Symphony’ system is very flexible and can accommodate a wide range of requirements in response to incidents and public monitoring.

• The ‘Adastra’ system has a similar function within the Primary Care network.
Environmental Incident Management

- Community based Health Professionals can be alerted by the Health Boards to report any instance of symptoms to PHW
- This would include District Nurses, Midwives, Mental Health staff, and supporting staff
- Information around Vulnerable groups can be accessed via the Community teams
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- Health Board public facing websites can display messages to:
  - Calm community anxiety about the hazard
  - Advise on how to access medical assistance
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• Where ‘Physical Attendance’ clinics are needed, they can be established but will take time to:

  • Gather resources
  • Assemble specialist staff
  • Provide access information to public
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• Where laboratory testing is required, it will take some time to establish for mass sampling unless it is a CBRN event (under C.C.Act) in which case Major Incident provisions apply.

• Consider alternative laboratories if it is an urgent situation.
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• The Guidance document talks of ‘Sufficient capacity in A&E’……..

• If this is not a CC Act incident, this may be problematic

• Will require multi-disciplinary team management within NHS
Environmental Incident Management

SUMMARY

• When you are sure of your situation:

• Tell us as soon as possible on a ‘Stand-by’ basis so we can put mechanisms in position to support you

• Don’t expect miracles in A&E!

• Do remember to ‘Stand-down’ as well!!