

## CAPABILITY PROFILE DISASTER VICTIM IDENTIFICATION

---

### Rationale

Accidents, natural disasters and terrorist incidents involving large numbers of fatalities occur on a worldwide basis. They are defined as incidents where more deaths occur than can be handled by local resources. Mass fatalities are commonly characterised by multiple casualties and by their complexity. Recovery and identification of the dead is essential for survivors and families to comprehend events, and for them to move on with their lives. Investigation of incidents is essential to prevent re-occurrence and for legal reasons.



### Principles

When a team or teams are deployed to DVI incidents, home or abroad, the following are essential:

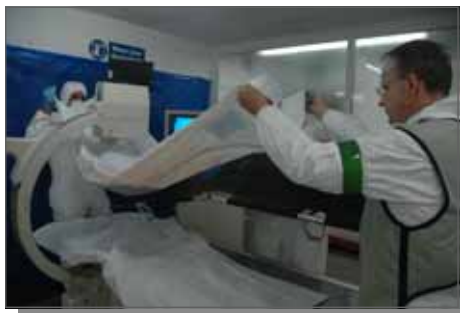
- all teams must understand the religious and cultural background of the area they are deployed to
- all teams work closely with the authorities that are responsible for the collection of ante-mortem data
- in a forensic scenario, all teams must understand the implications this has on their work.

- all teams use the same protocols and standard operating procedures
- all teams should be multidisciplinary and multi-skilled
- all teams must have awareness training for such issues as health and safety and stress management



### Inforce Experience

Inforce core staff and have been involved in DVI work in such incidents as the Tsunami and the London bombings (7/7). Inforce Advisors have been involved in many other scenarios, including 9/11, major transport accidents in the UK, and elsewhere.



Inforce has also been involved in DVI training with the Dorset Police using simulated air craft crashes and simulated temporary mortuary facilities. Such exercises are excellent vehicles to demonstrate the need for high quality and co-ordinated planning for such incidents and are also delivered for forensic specialists and students. Inforce also delivers one-day seminars for Emergency Planners, consisting of lectures and visits to the simulations site and mortuary.