

# The Royal London Hospital Major Incident Imaging Response on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2005

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## ROYAL LONDON HOSPITAL



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# IMAGING DEPARTMENT MAJOR INCIDENT PLAN ACTIVATION

- Royal London Hospital Major Incident Plan for Radiology was been well rehearsed
- At 08.56 on 7<sup>th</sup> July 2005 a major incident was declared
- Imaging department made aware at 9.30am
- Hospital closed
- Equipment and operating rooms prepared for multiple casualties

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# CO-ORDINATION OF MAJOR INCIDENT PLAN

- Lead Superintendent Radiographer and Consultant Radiologist in A&E informed
- Staff allocated to key areas
- Key staff given action cards: -
  - Radiologists
  - Radiographers
  - Clerics



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## WHAT WE WERE TOLD

**8.52am** Incident between Liverpool Street and Aldgate Underground stations, caused by power surge

**9.26am** Major Incident Alert from London Ambulance Service: bombs at Aldgate East, Liverpool Street, and Praed Street. Casualties unknown. RLH first receiving hospital

**9.40am** Incidents at Liverpool Street, St Pancras and Aldgate. 15 dead at Liverpool Street and 150 injured

Media reports that a power surge caused the incidents

**9.52am** 7 bombs on underground and hundreds dead

**Later that day** Police report times of four blasts as 8.51 Liverpool Street (7 dead), 8.56 King's Cross (21 dead), 9.17 Edgware Road (7 dead) and 9.47 Tavistock Place (2 dead – more likely)

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- Over 80 patients were transferred to the Royal London hospital in a convoy of 3 double decker buses

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## NUMBER OF PATIENTS IMAGED

- 8 patients treated in resuscitation room between 10.10am and 12.40pm
  - 14 chest radiographs
  - 3 pelvis radiographs
  - 1 full spinal series
  - 4 upper limb radiographs
  - 8 lower limb radiographs
- 63 majors / minors patients imaged



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## RESCITATION ROOM

- 2 radiographers and 2 radiologists allocated to each resus bay
- Co-ordinating radiologist logged all patients and an extra radiographer named films
- Extra equipment was taken to the resuscitation room
- Overcrowding issues

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## FURTHER IMAGING

- The A&E X-ray department imaged 63 patients
- 3 CT scanners were fully staffed but only 7 scans performed.
- General X-ray department was never used
- Theatres required no imaging until 11.30. However 7 mobile chest X-Rays were performed in theatres
- No MRI or angiography was required during the Major Incident

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## PATIENT NUMBERS

- The hospital received 208 patients
  - 26 were admitted
  - 49 kept in A&E/admissions unit.
  - 133 discharged
- By 19.45 - 27 remained at the Royal London Hospital
  - 7 on ITU
  - 19 inpatients
  - 1 died in theatres

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## AFTER STAND DOWN

- Major Incident stood down at 12.40
- A&E re-opened at 13.30
- Hospital wide debriefing at 14.00
- Radiology debriefing at 15.30
- Social debriefing from 18.30 onwards!



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## WHAT ACTUALLY HAPPENED

Three bombs went off almost simultaneously on three London Underground trains:

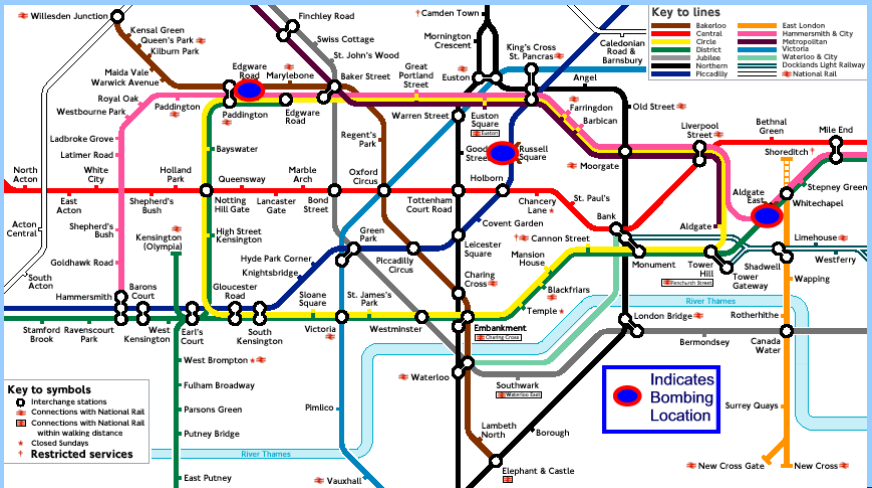
- a Circle Line train between Liverpool Street and Aldgate Stations at 08.51
- a Piccadilly Line train between Russell Square and King's Cross stations at 08.56
- a Hammersmith and City Line train at Edgware Road station at 09.17

A fourth bomb went off on a number 30 bus on Upper Woburn Place near Tavistock Square at 09.47.

**In total, 56 dead and over 400 treated in London hospitals**



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*Thank you*  
to all our staff

## PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED

- Communication
- Chemical, Biological, Radiation and Nuclear awareness was overlooked.
- Travelling home
- No specific press location



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## SPECIFIC IMAGING PROBLEMS

- Logging and reporting of X-rays
- V numbers given to patients were not compatible with our current computer system
- No formal plan for staffing the first 24 hours
- ID badge shortage

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## LEARNING OUTCOMES

- Overall a satisfactory performance
- Limb X-rays in resus not needed as adequate theatre facilities
- Conscious patients should have been registered by name and not number
- More formalised reporting system
- Hand-held radios
- More ID badges required

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**Any Questions?**

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