



## **Submission No 12**

### **Watching Brief on the War on Terrorism**

**Organisation:** Terrorist Response Capacity Royal Darwin Hospital

**Contact Person:** Chris Wrangle

**Address:** Northern Territory



# **TERRORIST RESPONSE CAPACITY ROYAL DARWIN HOSPITAL**

**THE ROYAL DARWIN HOSPITAL [RDH] IS A 297 BED,  
AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF HEALTHCARE STANDARDS  
ACCREDITED, TERTIARY REFERRAL TEACHING FACILITY;**

## **DIVISIONS INCLUDE:**

- **CRITICAL CARE [EMERGENCY MEDICINE AND INTENSIVE CARE];**
- **SURGICAL SERVICES INCLUDING: TRAUMA AND GENERAL SURGERY, VASCULAR SURGERY, EAR, NOSE AND THROAT SURGERY, ORTHOPAEDICS, AND EYE SERVICES;**
- **MEDICAL SERVICES INCLUDING: RENAL, CARDIAC, REHABILITATION AND GENERAL SERVICES;**
- **MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES;**
- **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES;**
- **ANAESTHETICS.**

**THESE SERVICES ARE SUPPORTED BY AN EXTENSIVE RANGE OF ACCREDITED DIAGNOSTIC AND ALLIED HEALTH SERVICES, AS WELL AS ADMINISTRATIVE AND HOTEL SERVICES.**

- **RDH ADOPTS A “WHOLE OF HOSPITAL” APPROACH TO EMERGENCY AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT;**
- **THE HOSPITAL APPROACH IS CLOSELY INTEGRATED WITH:**
- **THE TOP END’S TWO OTHER PUBLIC HOSPITALS - KATHERINE DISTRICT HOSPITAL [KDH] WITH 60 BEDS & GOVE DISTRICT HOSPITAL [GDH] WITH 30 BEDS;**
- **THE DARWIN PRIVATE HOSPITAL [DPH] – 105-120 BED CAPACITY];**

- DEPARTMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES;
- POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES;
- THE AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE [ADF] RESOURCES;
- ST JOHN AMBULANCE;
- AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICES;
- THE DEPARTMENT OF IMMIGRATION AND TRADE;
- DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL CARRIERS [IN PARTICULAR AIRLINES];
- AUSTRALIAN FEDERAL POLICE; AND
- IS PART OF NATIONAL GROUPS SUCH AS THE NATIONAL DISASTER RESPONSE COMMITTEE AND THE NATIONAL BURNS NETWORK;
- A SIMILAR SITUATION EXISTS IN CENTRAL AUSTRALIA. THE ALICE SPRINGS HOSPITAL [ASH] WITH 164 BEDS AND THE TENNANT CREEK HOSPITAL [TCH] WITH 20 BEDS.

**THE RDH EMERGENCY PROCEDURE MANUAL WAS THE WINNER OF FEDERAL/STATE GOVERNMENT POST DISASTER CATEGORY IN THE SAFER COMMUNITY AWARDS [SEPTEMBER 2001]**

**THE DISASTER MANUAL COVERS BOTH INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL EMERGENCY SITUATIONS WHICH RANGE FROM, INTERNAL FIRES AND EXPLOSIONS, THROUGH TO EXTERNAL INCIDENTS SUCH AS RADIATION LEAKS OR ACCIDENTS, AIRPORT EMERGENCIES, CHEMICAL SPILLS AND INCIDENTS, CYCLONE, FLOOD AND NATURAL DISASTER RESPONSE, AND THE CLINICAL CONSEQUENCES OF TERRORIST INSURGENCY AND ATTACK.**

**PROTOCOLS ARE IN PLACE FOR THE CLINICAL PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF A RANGE OF HAZARD SITUATIONS INCLUDING [CBR]:**

- **CHEMICAL [ATROPINE AUTO INJECTORS FOR NERVE AGENT];**
- **BIOLOGICAL [CIPROFLOXACINE/DOXYCYCLINE];**
- **RADIOLOGICAL POT IODINE/DECONTAMINATION FACILITIES]; AS WELL AS,**
- **MASS CASUALTY PRESENTATIONS;**
- **DISASTER VICTIM IDENTIFICATION; AND**
- **PANDEMIC SITUATIONS [SUCH AS THE RECENT INTERNATIONAL SARS OUTBREAK].**

**PREPAREDNESS HAS BEEN FURTHER ENHANCED OVER THE YEARS BY A NUMBER OF:**

- **COLLABORATIVE PRACTICAL AND DESK-TOP EXERCISES,**  
**ALONG WITH,**
- **POST EVENT EVALUATIONS** FOLLOWING ACTIVATION'S  
**SUCH AS THE KATHERINE FLOOD, THE TIMOR**  
**EVACUATION, AND THE POST BALI BOMBING RESPONSE.**

## RDH Beds and Capacity

<b>STAFFING</b>	
<b>Medical</b>	<b>175</b>
<b>Nursing</b>	<b>550</b>
<b>AHP</b>	<b>150</b>
<b>BEDS</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>297</b>
<b>Intensive Beds</b>	<b>27</b>
CCU	9
ICU	8
HDU	10
<b>Medical</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>Surgical</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>Orthopaedic</b>	<b>32</b>
<b>Paeds</b>	<b>54</b>
SCN	18
5B	21
7B	15
<b>Total Spill Over</b>	<b>20 overflow + 16 staff cafe.</b>
<b>Mortuary</b>	<b>31</b>