Annette Sobel Sandia National Laboratories

Defining The Moment: Human Casualty Event Mitigation

Casualty prediction is critical to operations other than war and especially is urban environments. In fact, medical capabilities frequently drive operational success. As an example, DNBI (disease/non-battle injury) has been a significant player in a multitude of military and civilian operations. As we consider the unconventional environment of characterized by urban, low intensity conflict paralyzed by chemical and/or biological threat agents and misinformation campaigns, our understanding of casualty impacts becomes paramount. Not only are these environments atypical and asymmetric in nature, but they have the potential for rapid escalation and difficult containment. Psychological operations have significant bearing on population health and resource allocation. Essentially, medical operations may not be the triggering event, but may significantly impact the operational tempo of a response, mitigation, return to functionality and community confidence. Casualty prediction is at the core of this matrix with regards to requirements generation, sustainability, and recovery. As we traverse this information space, we will attempt to clearly define the multidimensional space of medical operations across a myriad of inciting events, most notably, acts of terrorism.