



跨部門反恐專責組
Inter-departmental Counter Terrorism Unit

Safe Community Newsletter

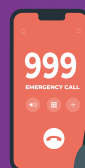
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Terrorist Threats Against Mass Gatherings and Personal Safety Chapter 2

Mass gatherings and crowded places are often regarded as vulnerable targets by extremists or violent actors, who may utilise a variety of tactics and methods to inflict harm and casualties upon targeted or innocent victims.

It is important to note that, there is no single profile or set of characteristics that can identify a potential extremist or violent actor. Extremism and violence can manifest across a diverse of demographics, backgrounds and beliefs. However, perpetrators with specific motive tend to conduct attacks on symbolic dates to draw media attention and maximise the impact.

Timely identification and reporting of concerning behaviour can help prevent and combat violent activities more effectively.



Different types of attack targeting mass gatherings or crowded places:

Thailand



In October 2023, a male launched a **mass shooting** attack at a popular **shopping mall** in Bangkok, resulting in three deaths and four injuries.



Korea

In July 2023, a male went on a **stabbing** rampage near a **metro station** in Seoul, resulting in one death and three injuries.



France



In July 2016, a male drove a 19-tonne **cargo truck** into crowds of people watching a **firework display** to mark the National Day of France in Nice, resulting in 86 deaths and over 400 injuries.



The US

In March 2013, two males planted and detonated two homemade **pressure cooker bombs** near the finishing line of the **Boston Marathon**. Three people were killed and over 250 people were injured.



Local Situation

Within the local context of Hong Kong, there has been a concerning increase in violent incidents at crowded places in recent years. This has also led to heightened concerns regarding the potential for copycat attacks, particularly those involving knife violence, given the relative ease of access to such weapons.



July 2021

A male wounded a policeman with a knife, and then stabbed himself to death outside a department store in Causeway Bay on the Establishment Day of the HKSAR. The Secretary for Security declared the incident as a “lone-wolf act of domestic terrorism”.

June 2023

A male launched an indiscriminate knife attack at a shopping mall in Diamond Hill, causing two deaths.

May 2024

A male wounded a cashier of a fast-food restaurant in Shatin with a long knife and injured another two. Subsequent investigation revealed that no personal grudges were held between the attacker and the victims.

While not all the above incidents are driven by terrorism-related motives, they have nonetheless proven destructive, causing casualties and arousing fear in the community, especially when the attacks happened in areas frequented by the public.

Although Hong Kong remains one of the safest cities in the world, it is crucial for each member of the public to remain vigilant and attentive to their surroundings.



In the event of an attack or emergency incident, remember –



Take charge of your personal safety and while waiting for the Police or rescue personnel, you may render first aid to those in need when practical and safe to do so.



Advisory of "Run, Hide, Report"

Treatment for Bleeding

Exerting direct pressure on the wound is the simplest and most effective way to control bleeding. This is known as the **Direct Pressure Method**.

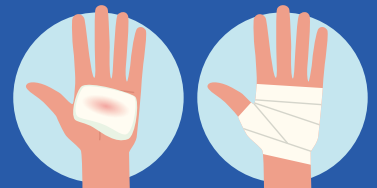


Steps to apply the Direct Pressure Method

* **Check whether there is any foreign object embedded in the wound**

If no

- ▶ Cover the wound with antiseptic gauze, dressings or a clean cloth
- ▶ Use a clean and dry cloth/handkerchief if dressing/gauze is unavailable
- ▶ Apply even pressure to the wound continuously for 5-10 minutes with palms/fingers
- ▶ Bandage the wound when bleeding stops, and immobilise the injured limb. Do not bandage the wound too tightly to impede blood circulation



If yes

- ▶ Do not exert direct pressure on the wound
- ▶ Do not attempt to remove a foreign object embedded deeply in the wound as this may cause massive bleeding; and the risk of massive bleeding increases if the foreign object is embedded right at the bleeding point
- ▶ Cover the surroundings of the wound with dressings, a clean cloth or layers of gauze and exert direct pressure on the edge of the wound



(Reference: www.hkfsd.gov.hk)