

Disaster Preparedness and Medical Priorities for Earthquake Survivors in Germany

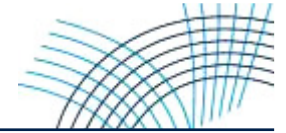
C. Kleber, N.P. Haas

Center for Musculoskeletal Surgery
Charité – University Medicine Berlin, Germany

XII Humanitarian Congress, Medical priorities for Earthquake Survivors

Berlin 15.10.2010

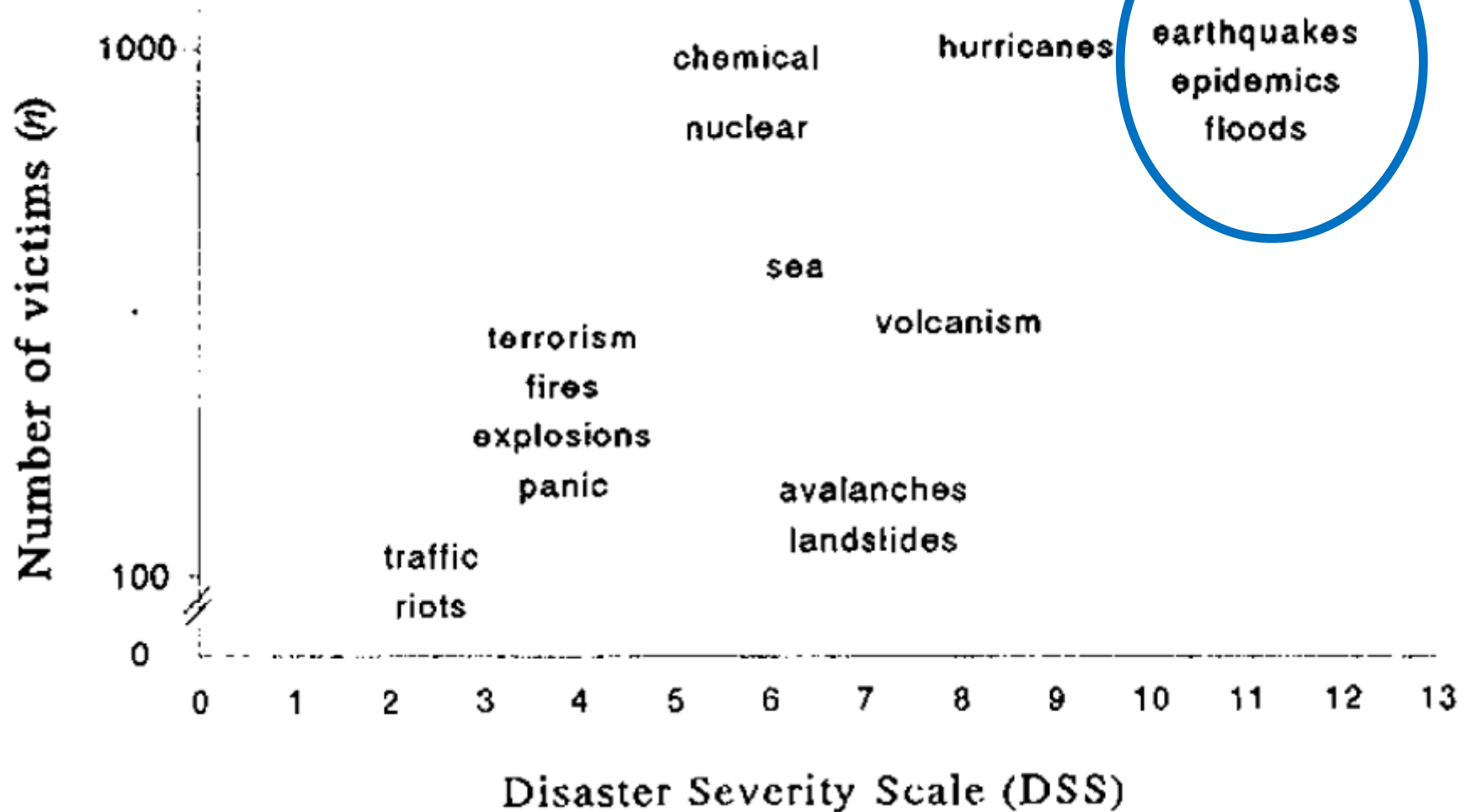
Classification of disaster



1. The cause: man-made / natural
2. Duration of disasters: <1h, 1-24h, >24h
3. Radius of disaster: <1km, 1-10km, >10km
4. Number of casualties
5. The nature of injuries
6. The required rescue time

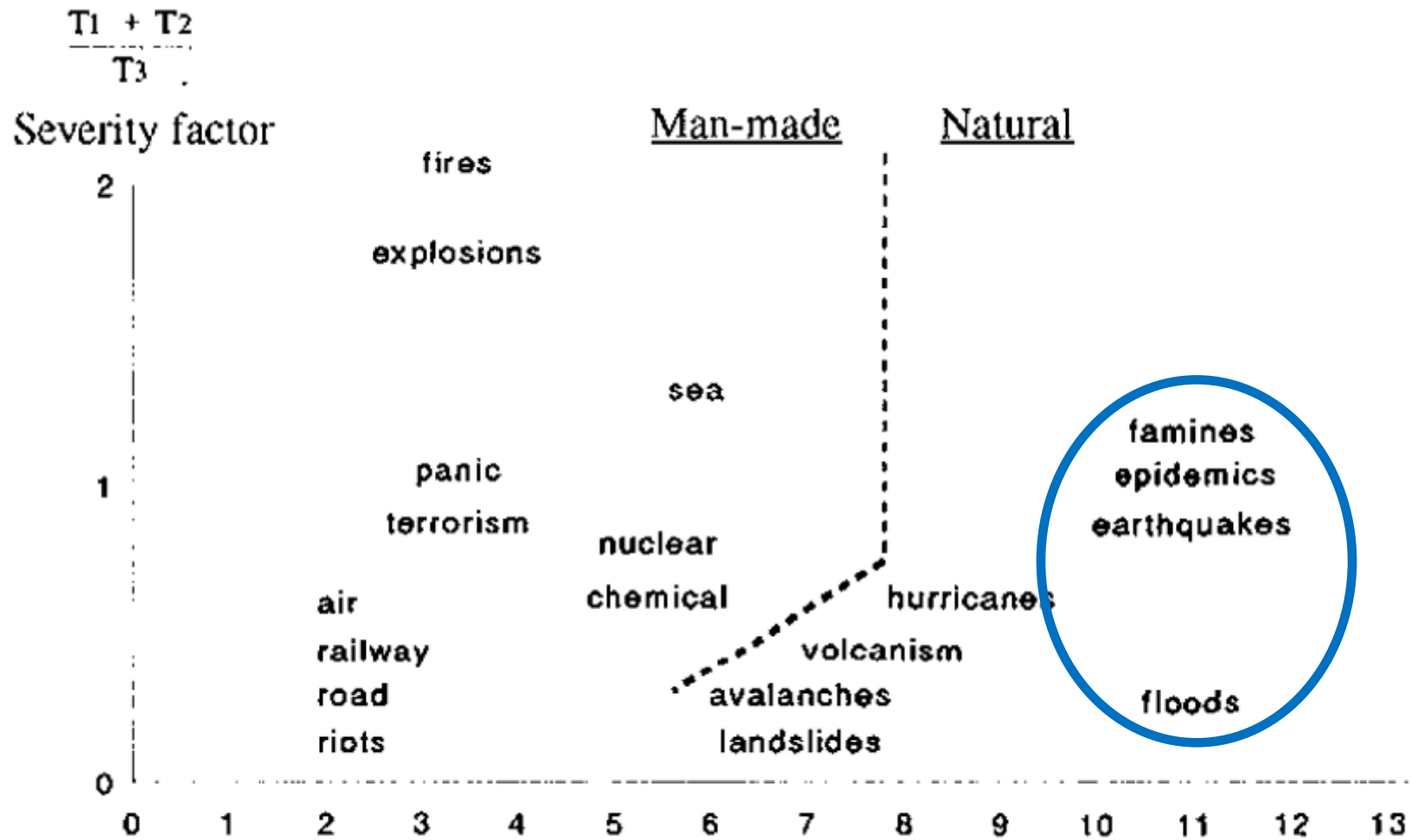
deBoer J, J Emerg Med 1990;Vol 8:591-95

Type of disaster – number of victims



deBoer J, Eur J Emerg Med 1997;4(2):107-1010

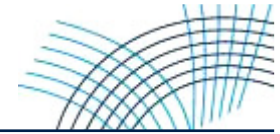
Type of disaster – severity of injuries



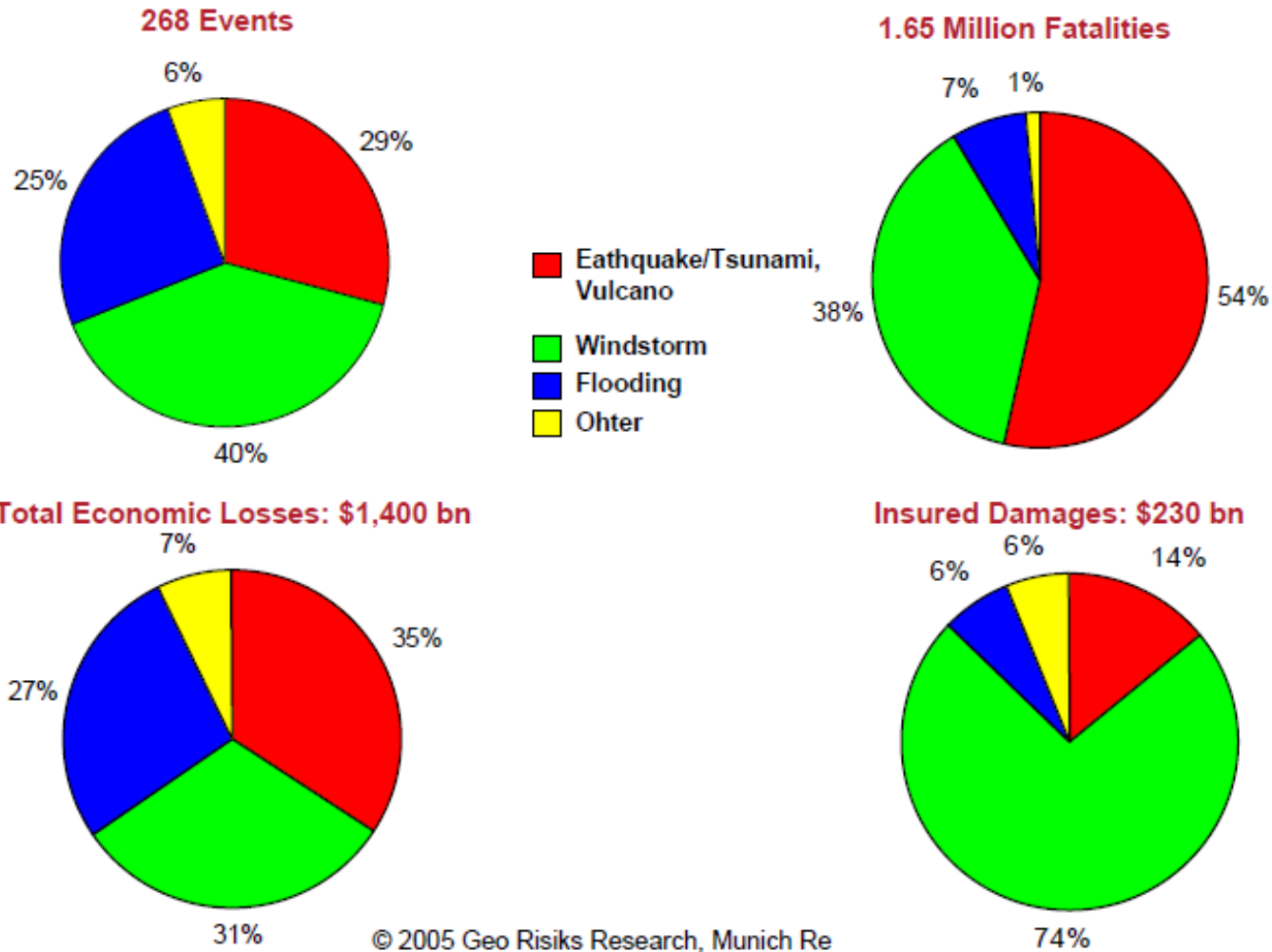
Disaster Severity Scale (DSS)

deBoer J, Eur J Emerg Med 1997;4(2):107-1010

Type of disaster – global distribution

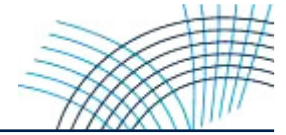


Great Natural Disasters 1950 - 2004 Global distribution

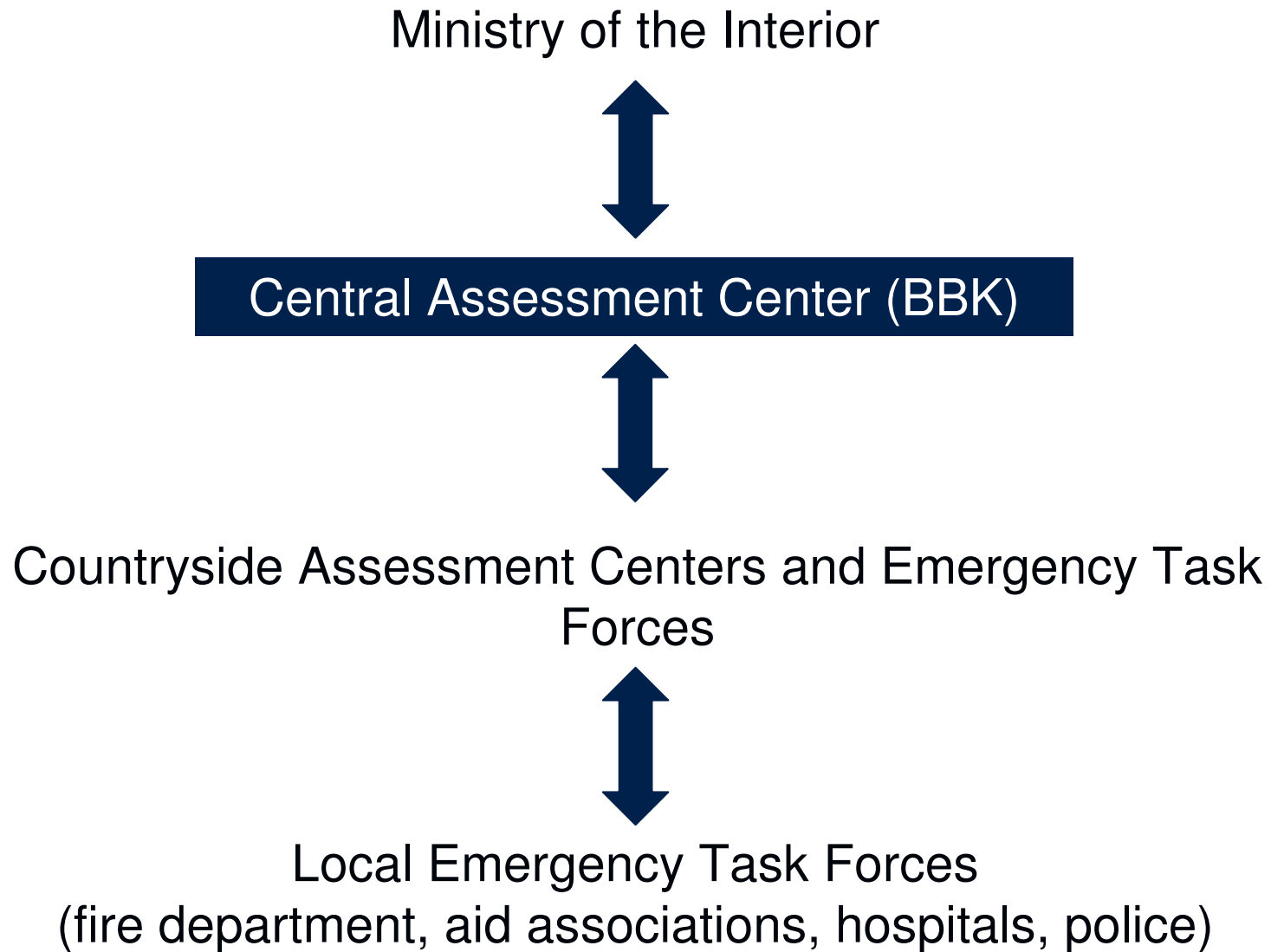
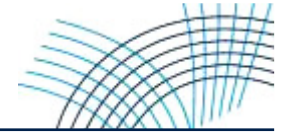


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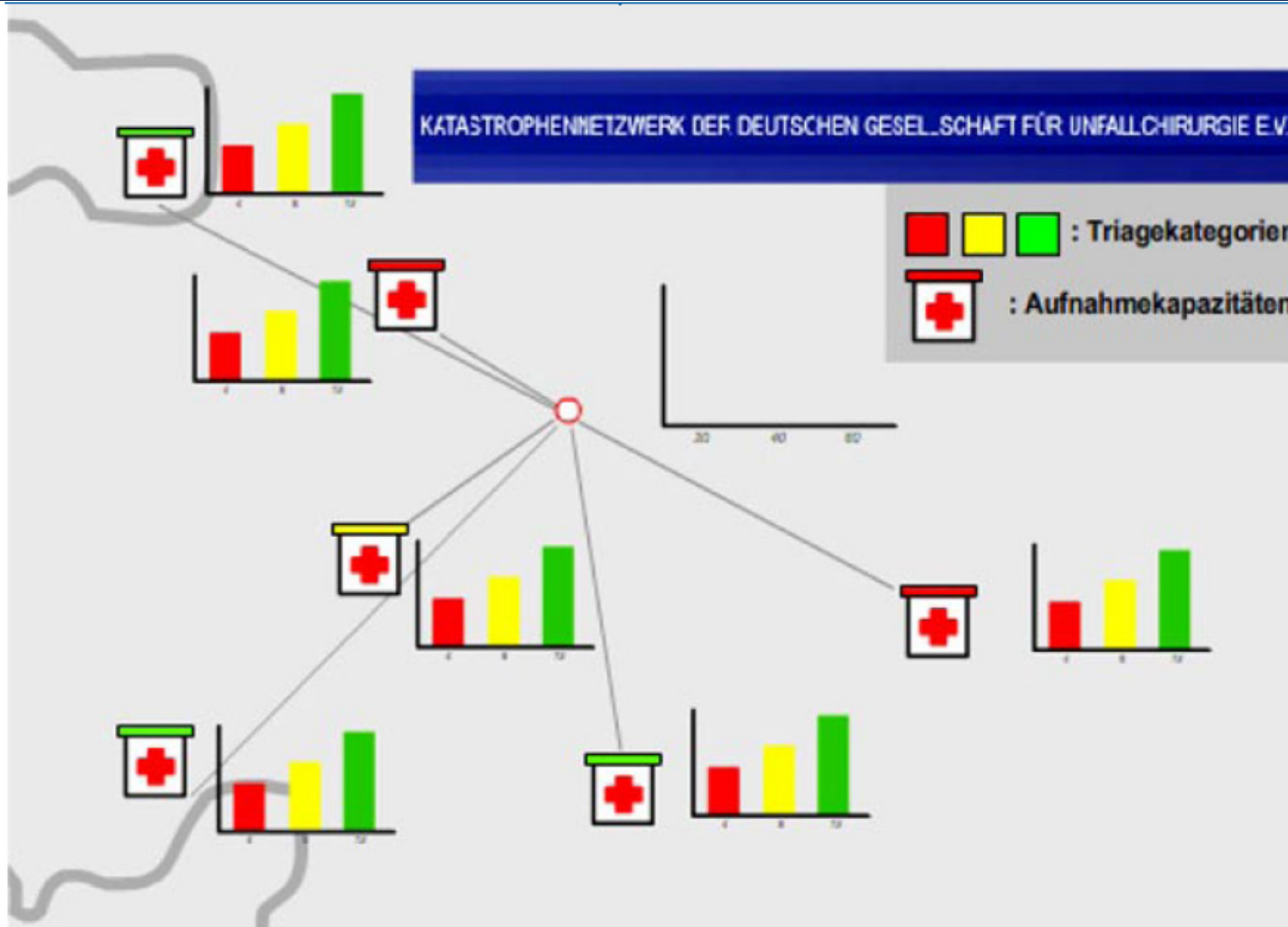
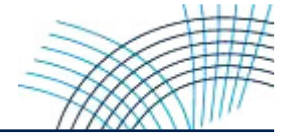
Elbe flood 2002



20 dead persons



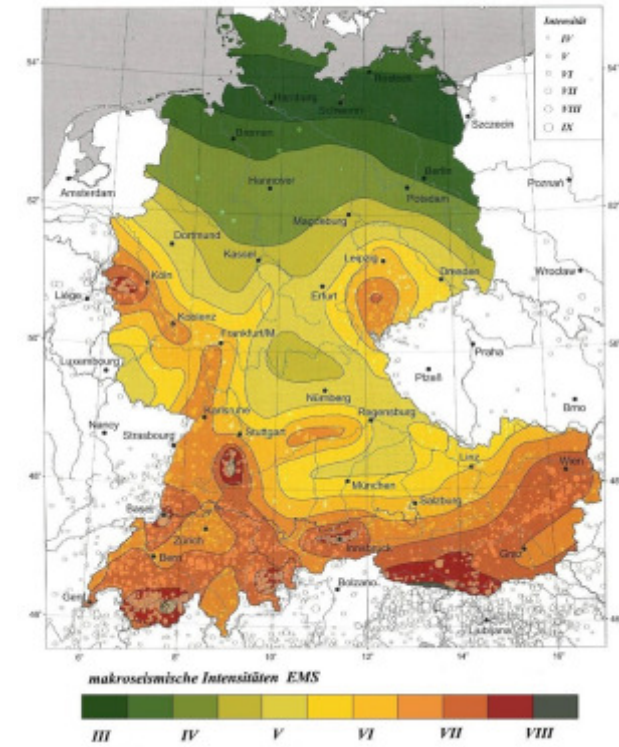
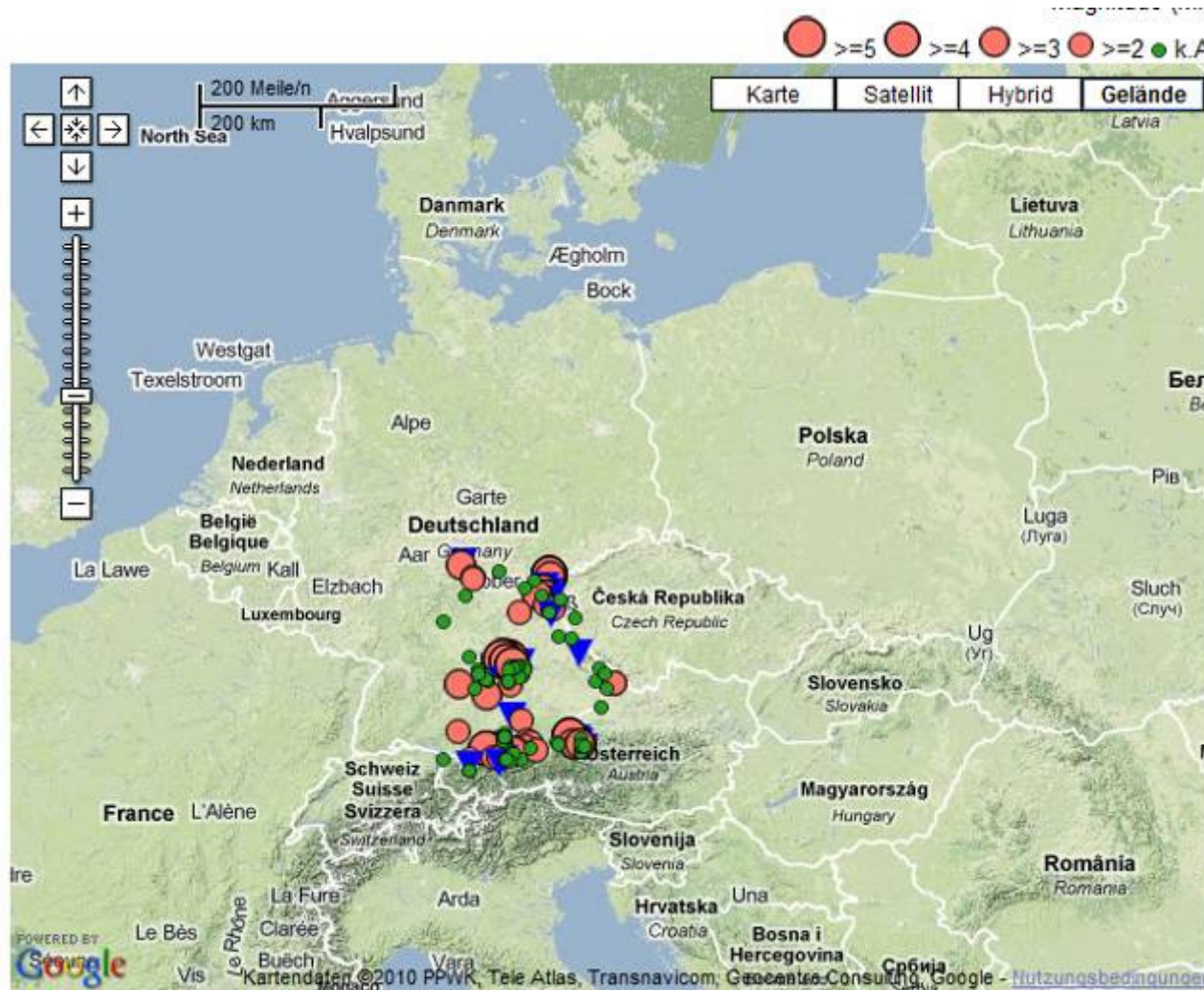
Distribution planning – DGU

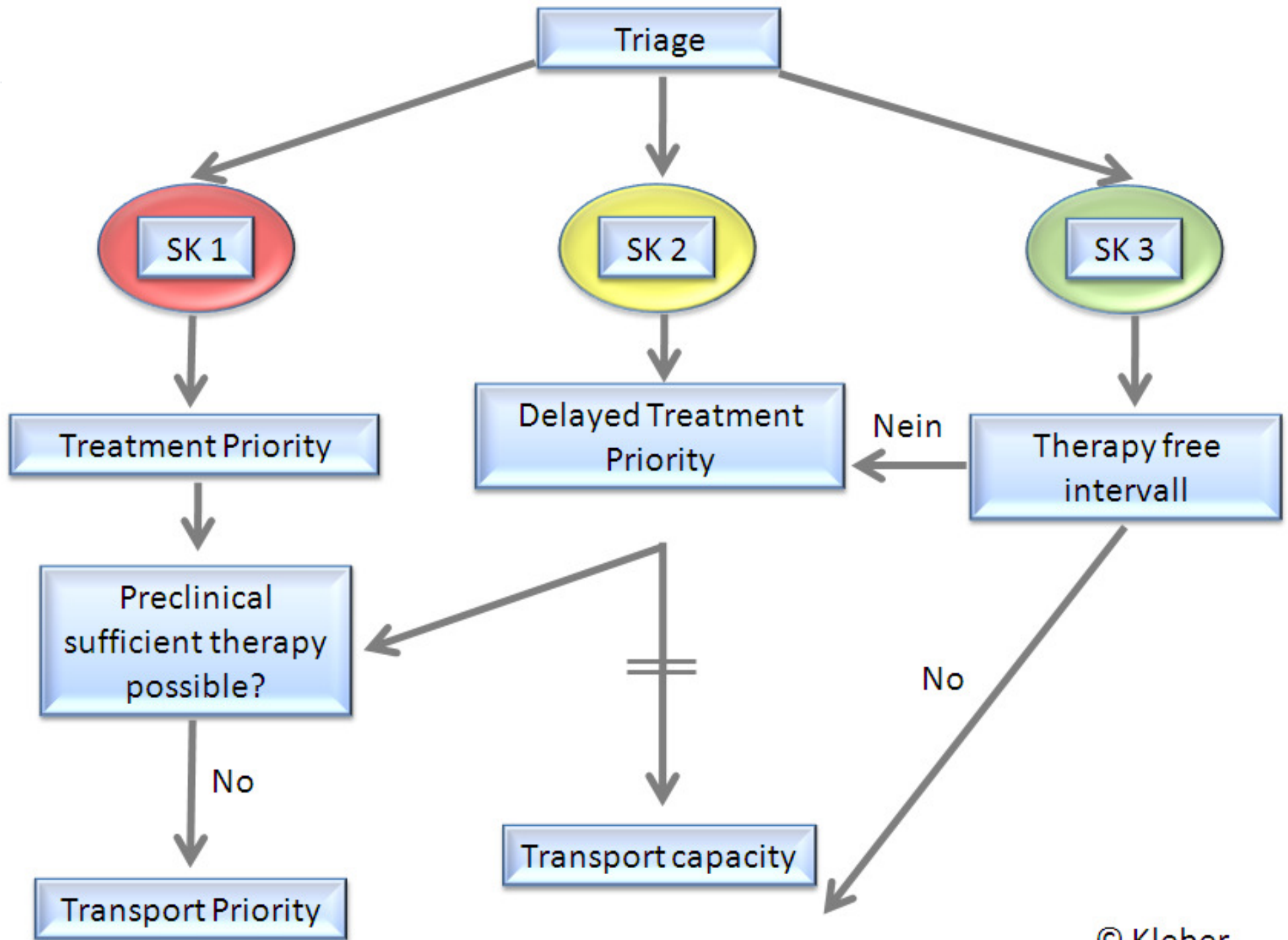


Earthquakes in Germany



4 Earth quake Institutes in south Germany





Earthquake specific injuries

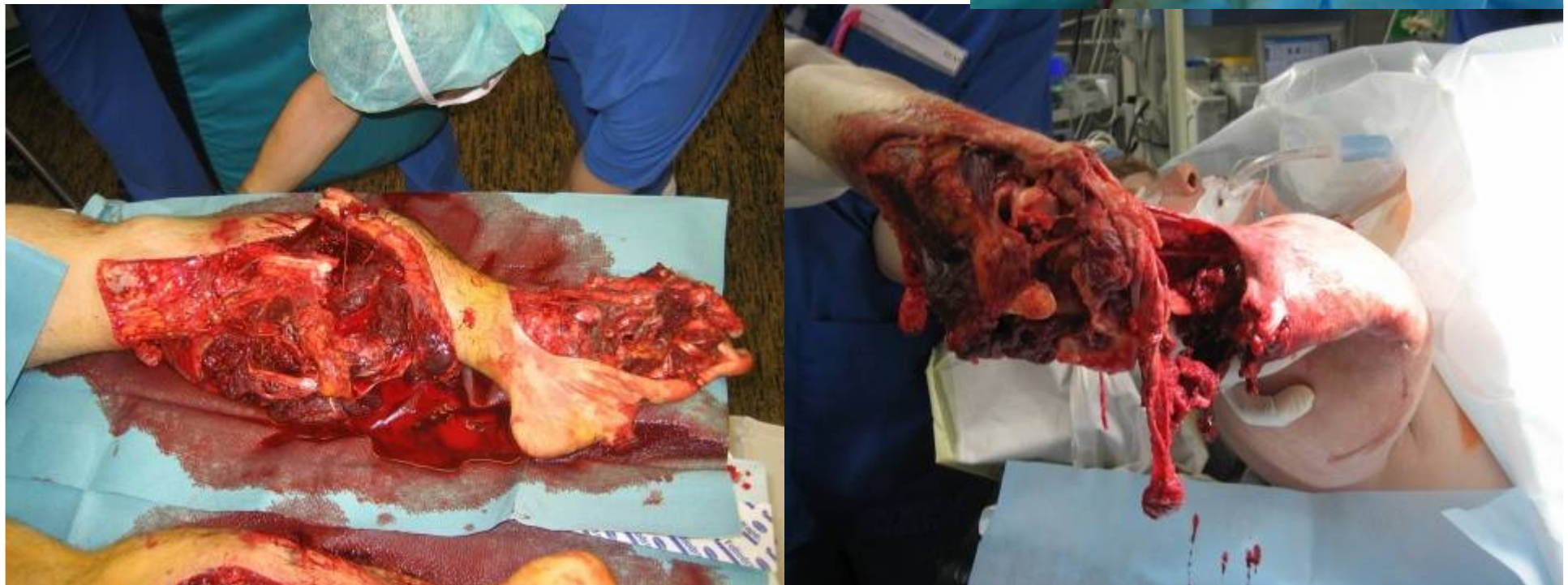


Open fractures

Severe soft tissue injuries

Severe thoracic trauma

Severe pelvic trauma

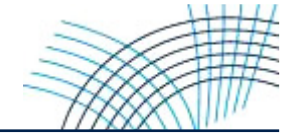


Earthquake survivor specific problems



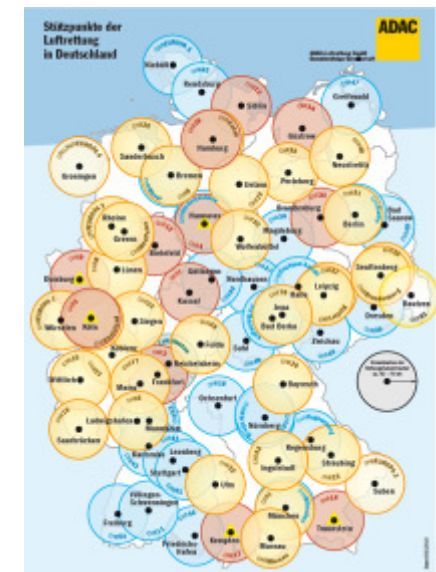
- Hemorrhagic shock
- Crush-Injury
 - Rhabdomyolysis
 - Hyperkalemia
 - Azidosis
 - Cardiac arrhythmia
- Thrombemolization
- Severe soft tissue injuries
- Compartment syndrome





Disaster preparedness in Germany

- Low risk for severe natural catastrophe like earthquake
- Modern infrastructure
- Most citizens have participated in a first aid course (driving licenses, national service, schools)
- German rescue service: “Bring the hospital to the patient”
- German rescue helicopter network
- German disaster network
- Detailed emergency planning
- Central assessment center



**Thank you
for your attention!**

