

MODULE 9: Incident/Accident Management & Reports

- **Incident and accident definition:**
 - An incident is a case that does not lead to injuries and does not require treatment or hospitalization, while an accident is a case that leads to injuries and requires treatment or hospitalization.
 - Incidents are divided into normal incidents that do not put life in danger, and serious incidents that do put life in danger.
 - Accidents also are divided into normal accidents that do not require hospitalization, and serious accidents that do require hospitalization.

- **Incident/accident management procedures:**
 - Although proper preparation, planning and using good judgment help reducing risk and preventing problems, diving incidents or accidents still may occur.
 - In the event of an incident or accident, these are the steps that should be followed:
 1. As a preliminary step, have appropriate equipment available as required by standards, local regulations and practices.
 2. Your first priority is rendering appropriate emergency care. Make the victim's (and rescuer's) wellbeing your primary concern. Activate the local emergency medical service system as soon as possible, if necessary.
 3. Show compassion, but do not volunteer an admission of fault. You may not be at fault, so don't assume you are.
 4. In a dive accident that involves decompression illness, contact Emergency Service or other emergency services that deal with diving related accidents.
 5. Isolate dive equipment and have someone else confirm whether it's functional – noting the equipment configuration and connections, tank pressure, regulator and gauge function, etc. – however, leave it intact. The equipment may be stored unwashed for a long period, causing a later debate about whether it works correctly. Cooperate with authorities if they request the equipment.
 6. Make note of environmental conditions, such as the time of day, water conditions, surf, waves, current, water temperature, visibility, etc.
 7. Identify witnesses and record their names and contact information.
 8. When answering questions about the accident to local authorities state only the facts and refrain from offering opinions or speculation. Keep a copy of any statements you make. You have no obligation to give statements to other entities, such as newspaper reporters, interested parties, representatives of the involved party (family members), etc. Although you may feel the need to give a statement to these groups of people, it is not recommended.
 - Following the above steps, the below report shall be filled in to be submitted to CDWS:

**Incident Report****تقرير حادث**

	نوع الحادث Classification of Incident
	موقع الحادث Location Dive Site
	تاريخ الحادث Date
	توقيت الحادث Time

Involved Party Information**بيانات الحالة**

	الإسم Name
	الجنسية Nationality
	تاريخ الميلاد Date of Birth
	جواز السفر Passport #
	رخصة الغوص Diving Certification
	شهادة إخلاء المسؤولية Liability Release
	الحالة Condition

Information of DC/Vessel**بيانات خاصة بالمركز / العائمة**

	إسم المركز DC Name
	شهادة وزارة السياحة MOT License
	إسم العائمة Vessel Name
	تاريخ بداية الرحلة Departure Date
	عدد الركاب المسموح به Diving Certification
	الترخيص الملاحى # of allowed Passengers
	معدات الإسعافات الأولية MFA

بيانات خاصة بمرشد الغوص المرافق للرحلة

	الإسم Name
	الجنسية Nationality
	تاريخ الميلاد Date of Birth
	شهادة الغوص Certification Level

○ **Samples of incident/accident.**

▪ **Case 1:**

A group of three experienced divers booked a two dives day by boat. There was a total of 16 divers onboard plus the dive leader in charge. At the end of the second dive, the dive leader got out of the water. He asked the boat captain to take them back to the harbor. The boat left the second dive site while two of the three were still under water. Five minutes later, the third person who did not make the dive because he was feeling tired and was resting, notified the dive leader that his friends were missing. The dive leader immediately asked the boat captain to turn back to the dive site, which was reached at the same moment the two buddies were surfacing. In which category this case should be fall?

Identify the cause.

▪ **Case 2:**

A newly trained open water diver went diving in a group of four with a dive leader. Two of the other three were advanced divers while the third was a rescue diver. The dive leader planned the first dive on Abu Ramada South. He made a good briefing and at 10H30 AM took his group in the water at 32 meters depth. 10 minutes in the dive, the open water diver was low on air and started a fast ascent. The dive leader having seen the fast ascent, asked the rescue diver to lead the other two while he slowly ascended and got on the boat to find the open water already onboard, spotted him. Half an hour later, the open water diver started complaining of an arm pain. The dive leader administered him oxygen for 15 minutes and the pain was relieved. The dive leader asked him to rest and denied him the second dive, which took place at 1H30 PM. At 2H45 PM the boat was heading back to the harbor. By then, the open water diver was complaining of severe arm pain and fatigue. Upon arrival, he was consulted by a doctor and diagnosed with decompression sickness and was sent to the recompression chamber. In which category this case should be fall?

Identify the cause.

▪ **Case 3:**

A group of four experienced divers booked for a speedboat dive on Elphinstone. The speedboat left at 6H00 a.m. and arrived on site at 6H25 a.m. They made the first dive on the Northern Plateau, rested on the speedboat for an hour and a half during which the wind started blowing at more than 25 knots and high waves of nearly 2 meters started forming. Then at 9H30 AM the dive leader made the briefing for the second dive, which he chose to be along the eastern drop-off from North to South, followed by a quick visit of the South Plateau then going back North to the main reef at the Southern tip where the speed boat will be waiting. Unfortunately the current was too strong from North to South. Upon reaching the end of the South Plateau at about 28 meters only 12 minutes into the dive, the group was not able to move back to the main reef against the current. 5 minutes later the dive leader was forced to start ascending with the group. The

current carried them away and when they reached 5 meters depth they deployed the 3 available SMBs. Upon surfacing, they neither could see the reef nor the speedboat. Because they neither had mirrors nor whistles, they could not attract the speedboat pilot attention. They drifted for five hours until luckily; the current brought them back to the shore 12 kilometers south of Elphinstone.

In which category this case should be fall?

Identify the cause.

▪ **Case 4:**

A sixty years old lady and her daughter booked a boat trip including an introductory dive, snorkeling and a banana boat tour. The lady had undergone an open-heart surgery three months before. Her physical condition was so bad she had to use a wheelchair to be transported for a distance of 150m from the car parking to the boat. The instructor in charge denied her the introductory dive but allowed her the banana boat tour. Eventually, the participants fell into the water and the lady struggled to get back on the banana but could not. She was pulled out of the water and brought back to the main boat where she collapsed. The crew tried to revive her by performing CPR but in vain. She was declared dead due to a heart failure.

In which category this case should be fall?

Incident/accident report filling:

- The report
- As the involved technical manager, fill in a report for each of the above cases.
