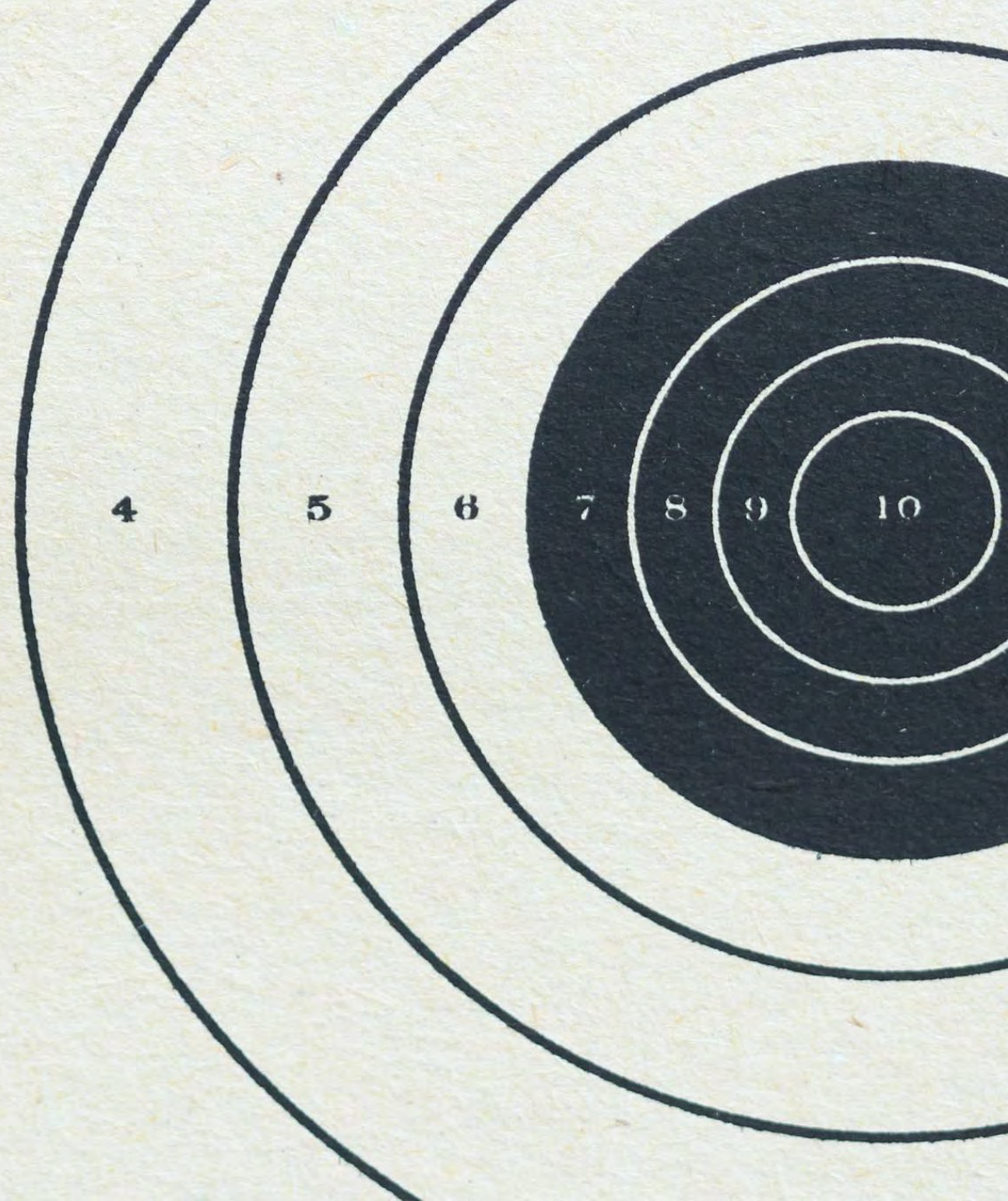


ACTIVE SHOOTER IN THE PRESSURIZED ENVIRONMENT

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Disclosure:

“I am a contracted employee through CutisCare, an ACCME defined commercial interest.”

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I will discuss the steps our department has taken to improve safety procedures, and protocols when it comes to active shooter scenarios.



DID YOU KNOW..

THERE HAVE
BEEN 356 MASS
SHOOTINGS IN
2023.
DAYS SINCE
LAST MASS
SHOOTING: 0. .

According to “Mass
Shooting Tracker”

The FBI defines
“mass shooting” as
a single event of gun
violence that results
in 4 or more victims.

Ref: <https://massshootingtracker.site/>

Active Shooter:

- “an individual actively engaging in killing or attempting to kill people in a populated area”

◦ Ref: OPS Active Shooter Guide. (2016, July 27). Retrieved from <https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/active-shooter-508.pdf/view>



Photo by J. Hocking, CHT

The training provided by the experts...

According to the FBI Training you have 3 choices when it comes to active shooter events:

- RUN!
- HIDE!
- FIGHT!

But, what special considerations do we need to think about in the hyperbaric environment?

- Ref: OPS Active Shooter Guide. (2016, July 27). Retrieved from <https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/active-shooter-508.pdf/view>

RUN?!

CAN I RUN?

DO I JUST LEAVE EVERYONE ELSE?

WHERE DO I RUN?

HOW CAN I HELP GET EVERYONE OUT OF DANGER?

WHERE CAN I HIDE?

HIDE?!

WILL THEY FIND ME?

CAN I HELP OTHERS HIDE?

WHAT "WEAPONS" DO I HAVE?

HOW DO I FIGHT?

WHAT WILL GIVE ME THE BEST CHANCE?

FIGHT?!

Using the FBI's training guideline, I took a closer look at our area and location to see how we could apply it to our department.

First, a
tour..



What to Think About if an Active Shooter is Announced?



Where is the shooter located?



Where are all the staff members?



Can we safely abort the treatment?



What if we can abort the treatment, how are we going to get the people to safety?



What if we cannot safely abort, what are the chances of survival?

A dimly lit hospital hallway with a hyperbaric chamber in the background. The text "WHERE CAN I HIDE?" is overlaid in the center. The hallway features a wheelchair, a blue mat on the floor, and a sign for men's restrooms on the right wall.

WHERE CAN I HIDE?

We could manage to have a couple people squeeze into the compressor room, and shut the door.

Or if the chamber is on surface we could place people inside, stay low and shut the door.



The entry lock on the back of the chamber could be a good option for those people who can crawl up into it. It has very limited space (usually 2 occupants), but still a hiding place.



An option for our department would be to tuck people into the back corners. This does not provide full coverage, but does get people out of sight, and away from the windows.





A consideration we must make in the medical setting are those patients that are not ambulatory. For our department we could place people who are in wheelchairs, or gurneys inside the exam room, washrooms, or...





..the waiting room seems like a great option to hide people, it is not a large waiting room, but we could fit wheelchairs, gurneys, and have people tuck in as close as possible. A bonus? There are no windows, it is dark, and the door locks from the inside.



WHAT CAN I USE AS A WEAPON?





Photo by J. Hocking, CHT

WAYS WE HAVE WORKED TO INCREASE SECURITY AND SAFETY:

The medical centers security personnel have increased their presence in our area to make sure that the individuals that are present are supposed to be there. Our department is in the basement in a more secluded corner, so we can kind of be forgotten about.

I have reached out to the medical center's facilities team, and security office to install a panic button near the chamber (still waiting to hear back).

I also reached out to the security office, and local law enforcement to see what else we can do to make our department safer, overall.

(These are examples of some of the steps taken to try and make our department as safe as possible, what can you do in your department to make it safer?)

Legacy Emanuel Hyperbaric Department

- [Tour of LEMC Chamber - YouTube](#)

BEST CASE SCENARIO...

(is there such thing?!)

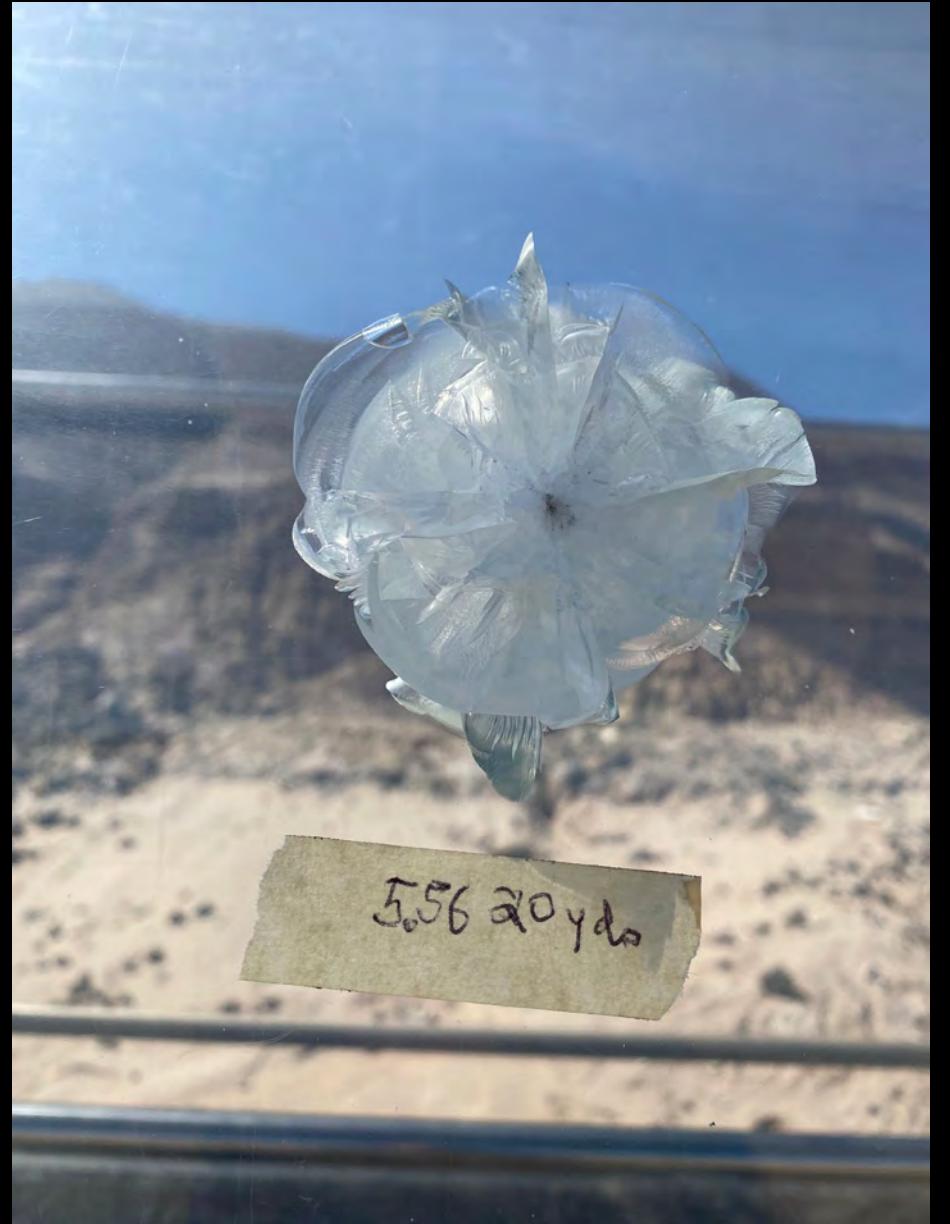
An active shooter is announced in a different location, the chamber is on surface, and the patients have either left, or are ambulatory...

But the real question is..

Could 2-inch thick viewports handle a bullet “at depth”?









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