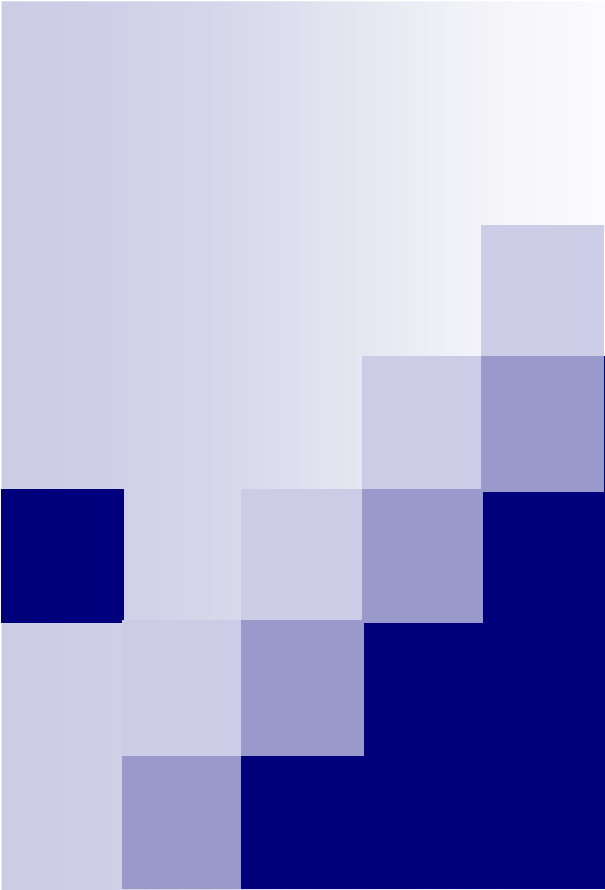




Sharing GPs in Care in Disaster Management

Dr. Judith Culliver
GP Liaison Officer
The Northern Hospital

The Northern Hospital

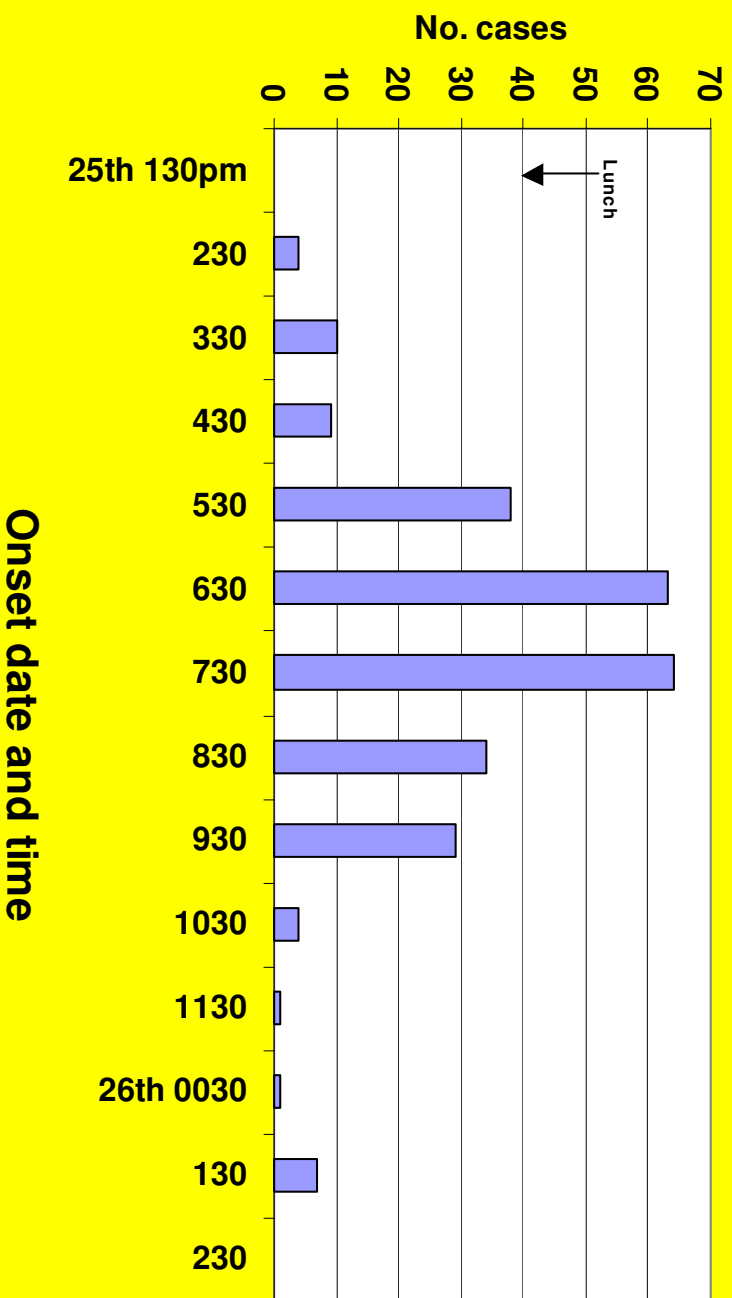


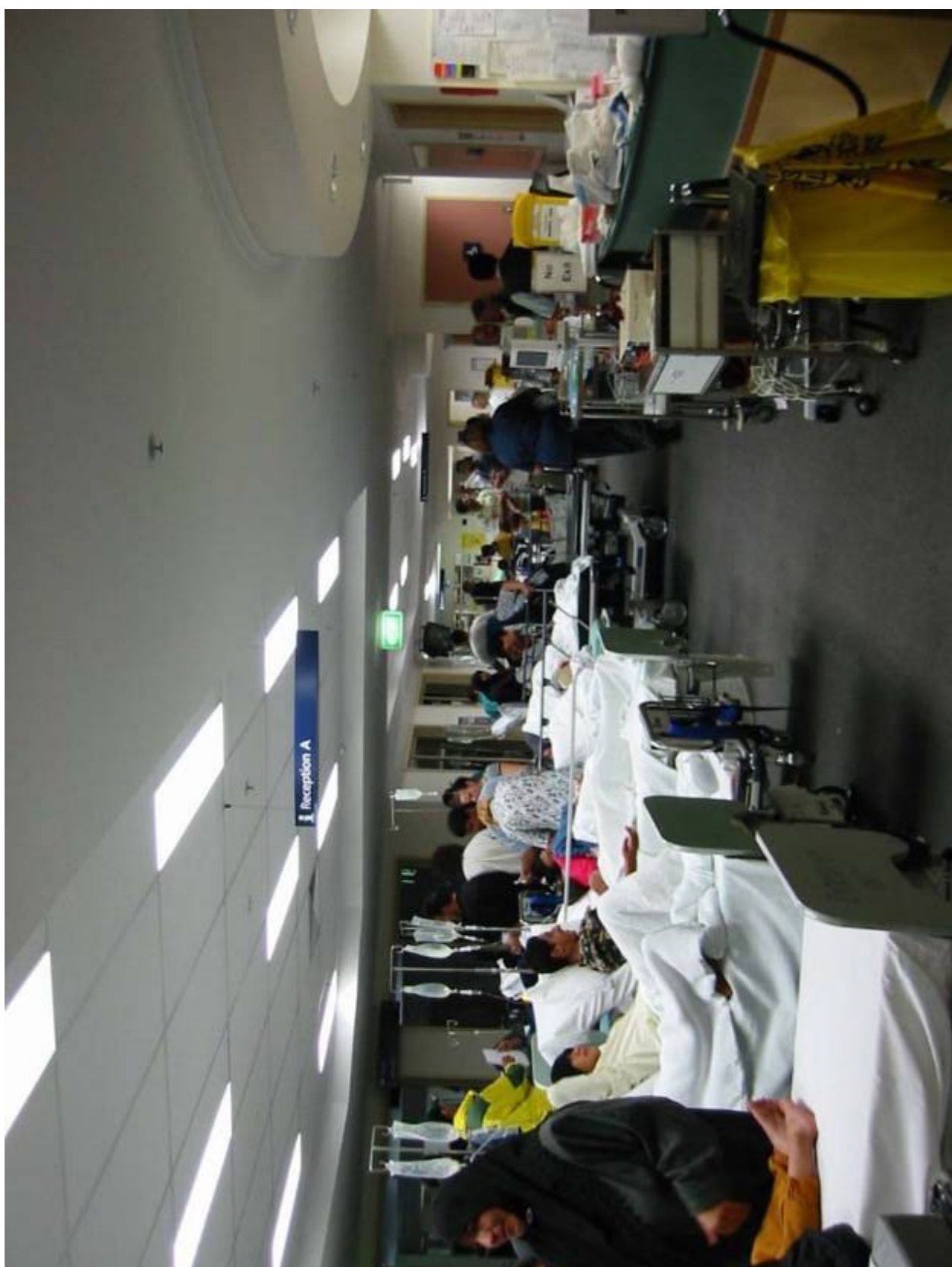


March 2002

- Religious ceremony involving 600 Islamic devotees in Melbourne's Northern Suburbs on March 25, 2002
- Foods eaten - rice, meat, potatoes, yogurt and salad
- Rudimentary on site food preparation
- Volunteer food handlers
- Weather conditions-warm (preceding day 32.8⁰C, overnight 20-22⁰C)

Hospital Presentations









Previous Experiences

- Emerald bushfires 1997
- Canberra Bushfires 2003



Barriers

- Lack of acknowledgment of the role or need of GPs
- Problems in contacting GPs
- Lack of knowledge of GP skills
- Indemnity issues



Requirements

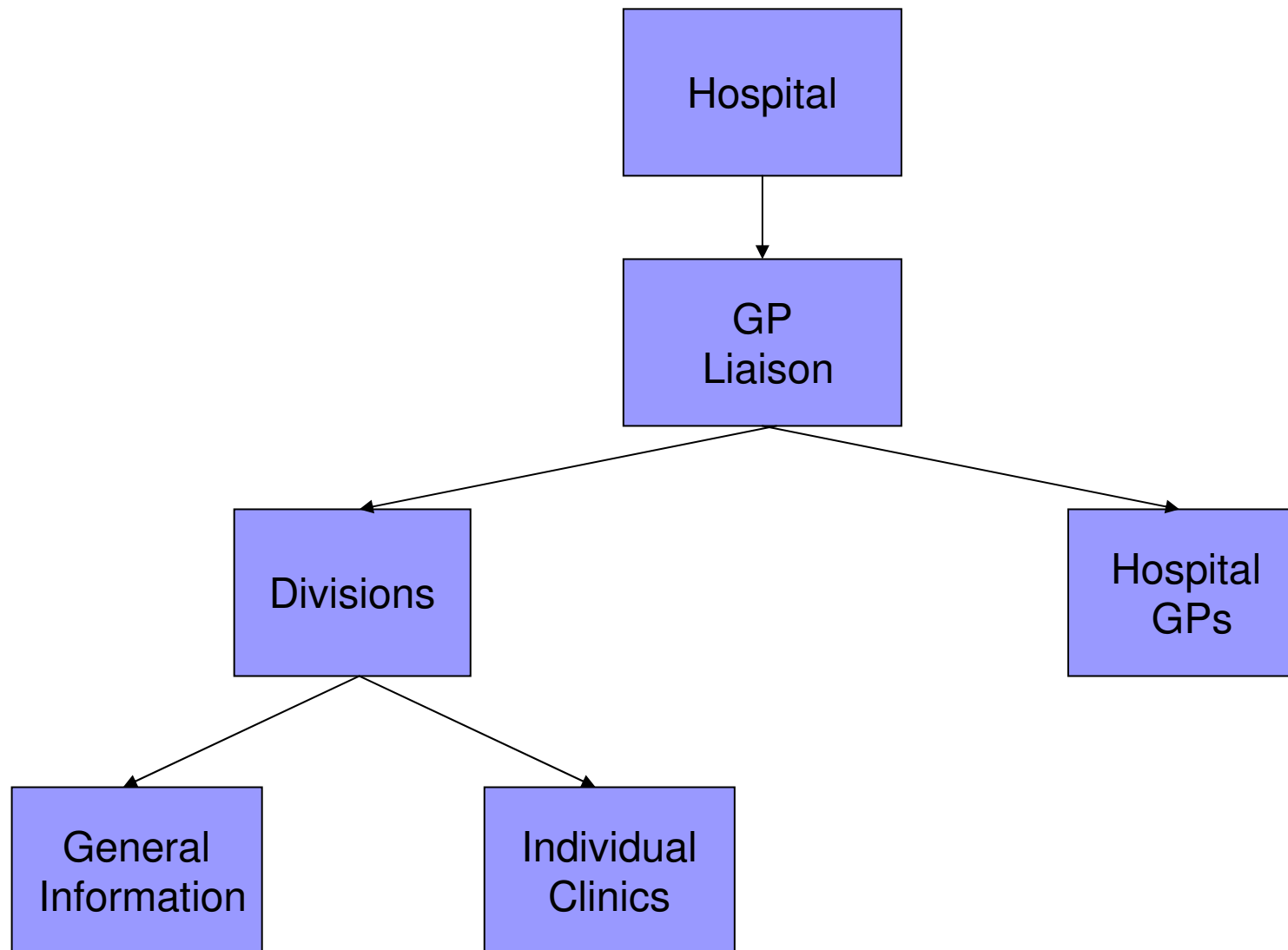
- Generic plan applicable to a number of situations
- Pre identification and planning
- Clear lines of communication need to be established
- Plan needs to be recognised and integrated with pre-existing plans



GP Involvement

- At the site
- At the hospital
- At their clinics
- At evacuation centres

Principles of the Plan





Integrating the Plan

- An appendix of the Northern Health disaster plan
- Summary included in the hospital disaster manual
- Contact details now included on the communication list in the control room



Developing the Database

Hospital GPs

- Application form with C.V.
- Evidence of registration
- Two referees



Developing the Database

Clinics

- Availability and GP/staff numbers
- Contact numbers
- Facilities/ equipment
- Skills
- Patient numbers



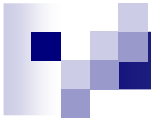
Outcomes

- 5 GPs accredited with the hospital
- 6 clinics (37 GPs) registered on the database



Where to from here?

- Recruitment
- Clinic kit
- Educational programs



Disaster plan available from:

www.ndgdp.org.au

www.nwmdgdp.org.au