### WS2 Handout 10 (Slide 67): Conducting Psychological Triage: Levels of Triage

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crisis Phase</th>
<th>Preimpact</th>
<th>Impact</th>
<th>Recoil</th>
<th>Immediate Postimpact</th>
<th>Postimpact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The period before crisis</td>
<td>When crisis occurs</td>
<td>Immediately after crisis threats end</td>
<td>Levels of Triage</td>
<td>Weeks after crisis</td>
<td>Days after the crisis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Steps in the Evaluation of Psychological Trauma (psychological triage)
- **Preimpact:** Locate and/or develop screening tools.
- **Impact:** When possible and as indicated, observe and make note of individual crisis reactions.
- **Recoil:** Evaluate risk factors:
  1. Physical and emotional proximity
  2. Selected personal vulnerabilities
- **Immediate Postimpact:** Evaluate risk factors and early warning signs:
  1. Physical and emotional proximity
  2. Internal and external vulnerability factors
  3. Immediate crisis reactions
- **Postimpact:** Evaluate risk factors and enduring warning signs:
  1. Physical and emotional proximity
  2. Internal and external vulnerability factors
  3. Durable crisis reactions

#### Crisis Intervention Activities
- **Preimpact:** Develop crisis intervention and psychotherapy referral resources.
- **Impact:** Reaffirm physical and psychological safety.
- **Recoil:** Match individual needs with specific crisis interventions.
- **Immediate Postimpact:** Provide psychoeducation and immediate psychological interventions.
- **Postimpact:** Make psychotherapy treatment referrals.

#### Level of Triage
- **Primary**
- **Secondary**
- **Tertiary**

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**Note:** Adapted from "Conducting Psychological Triage," by C. Conolly-Wilson, 2008, Waukegan, IL: Waukegan Public Schools. Adapted with permission.

**a**Immediate mental health referrals should be made for any student who, during any crisis phase, manifests grossly maladaptive coping (e.g., suicidal or homicidal ideation).