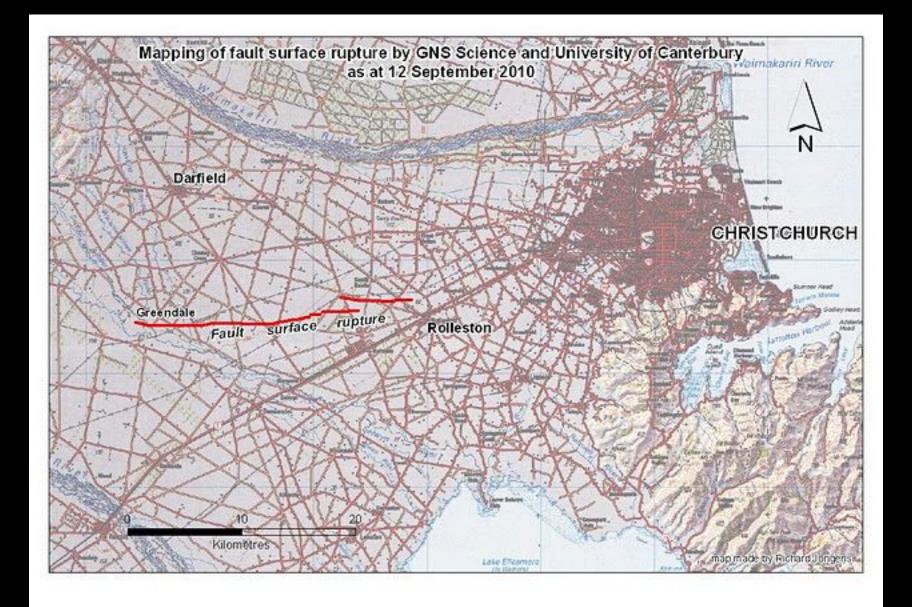


DATELINE: 4:35 am 4 September

2010

CHRISTCHURCH STRUCK BY 7.1 EARTHQUAKE

Two serious injuries, One fatal heart attack



*******NEWSFLASH******

DATELINE: 16:53 12 January 2010

PORT au PRINCE HAITI STRUCK BY 7.0 EARTHQUAKE 316,000 DEAD 300,000 injured

********NEWSFLASH*******

DATELINE: 26 DECEMBER 2010

CHRISTCHURCH STRUCK BY SWARM OF 32 AFTERSHOCKS

CITY CENTRE CLOSED BUILDINGS DAMAGED

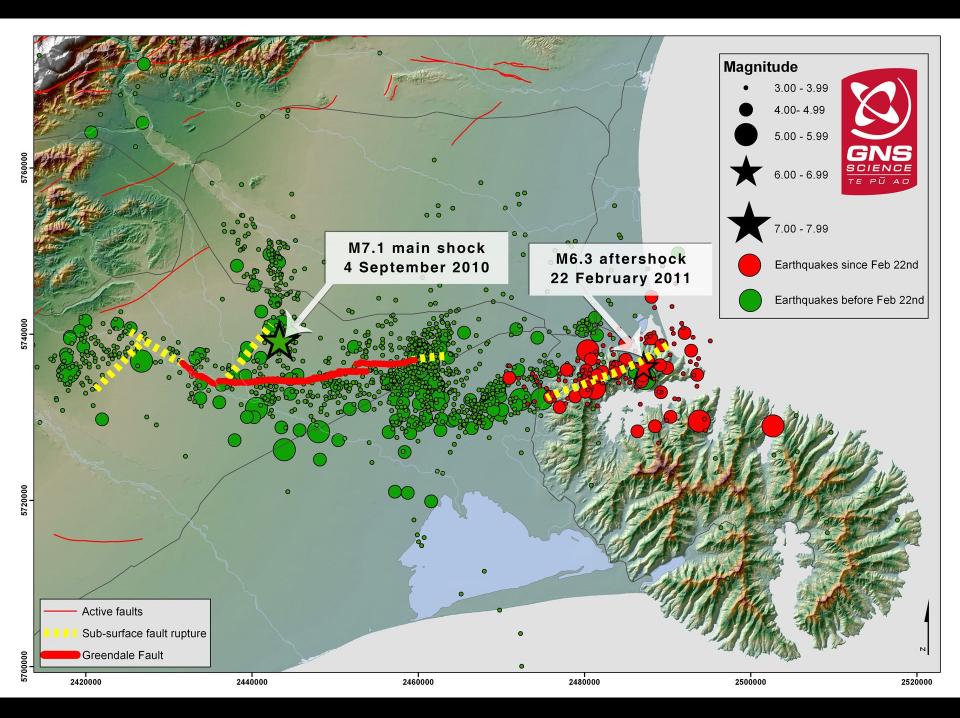
NO FATALITIES

******NEWSFLASH*****

DATELINE: 12:51 22 February 2011

CHRISTCHURCH STRUCK BY 6.3 EARTHQUAKE CLOSE TO CITY

MASSIVE DESTRUCTION, INJURY AND LOSS OF LIFE





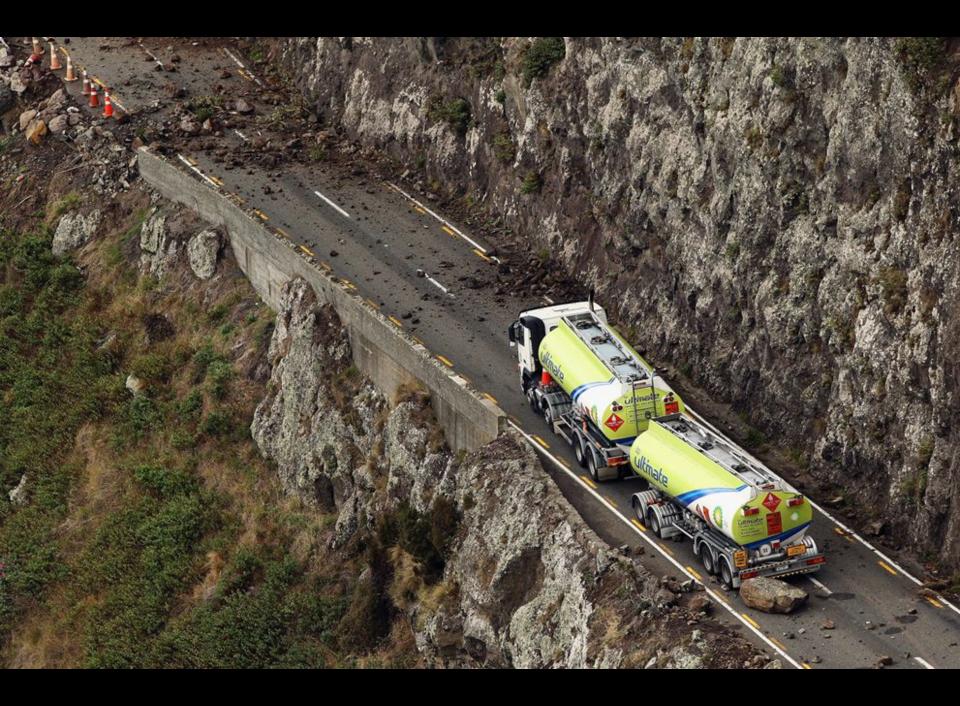
















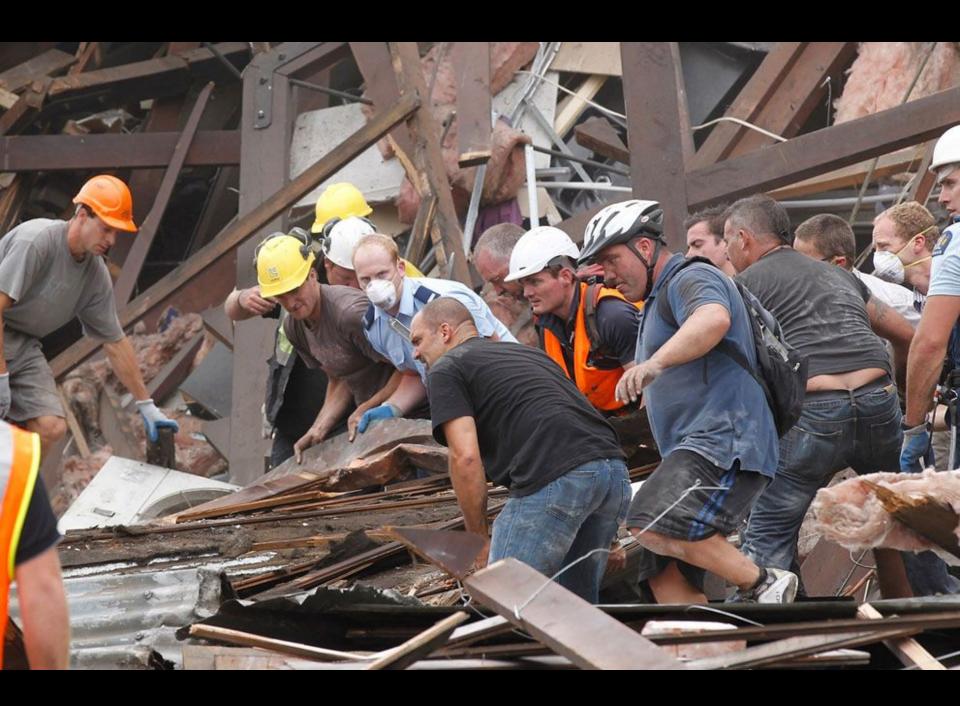
















Issues can be broken into different phases

Whilst the immediate drama raises the most adrenaling

The longer term effects cause more trauma to a greater number of people

Immediate medical implications

General stunned reaction of all affected

Disruption of communications and access

Damage to medical facilities

Who is in charge?

Continuing aftershocks

No amount of protocols or "exercises" cover the real thing

Examples of coping techniques

Conference of urolgists, attendees get stuck in with on site amputations

Conference of A&E docs on 17 floor struggle down to street and get stuck in

Injured carried on doors or any vehicle that can carry them to Main Hospital

Emergency organise a full resus team to each a&e bed

Less sick patients evacuated from hospital to make room.

PACS down, CT upstairs, Lifts not working Xrays read in A&E on local work stations

Intermediate term Problems

Airport closed for runway check, helicopter access only. This limits access to outside help

Road damage and flooding cause gridlock as people try to drive home

Water pipes broken, fire risk (cf Napier Earthquake 1932)

Sewage pipes broken, streets awash, risk of wound contamination

GP surgeries and 24 Hour clinics have no power or water

Triaging and identification of the dead

Rest home residents have no power or sewage and must be evacuated out of ChCh

Longerterm issues

Sewage contamination may lead to widespread disease out break (Coping Strategies)

Damage to power reticulation , Cell phone sites down, Risk of fire if candles used and tip in aftershocks

Food and bottled water distribution, Many supermarkets shut as stock on floor and buildings damaged

Post quake euphoria (can do attitude) fades as scale of issues dawn

Major issues are: slow decision making by authorities, and fine print crap by insurance companies! This leads to despair and depression Big increase in prescription medicine use

Hospital upgrade stymied by cost of repairs (\$400 million)

Scale and nature of medical interventions

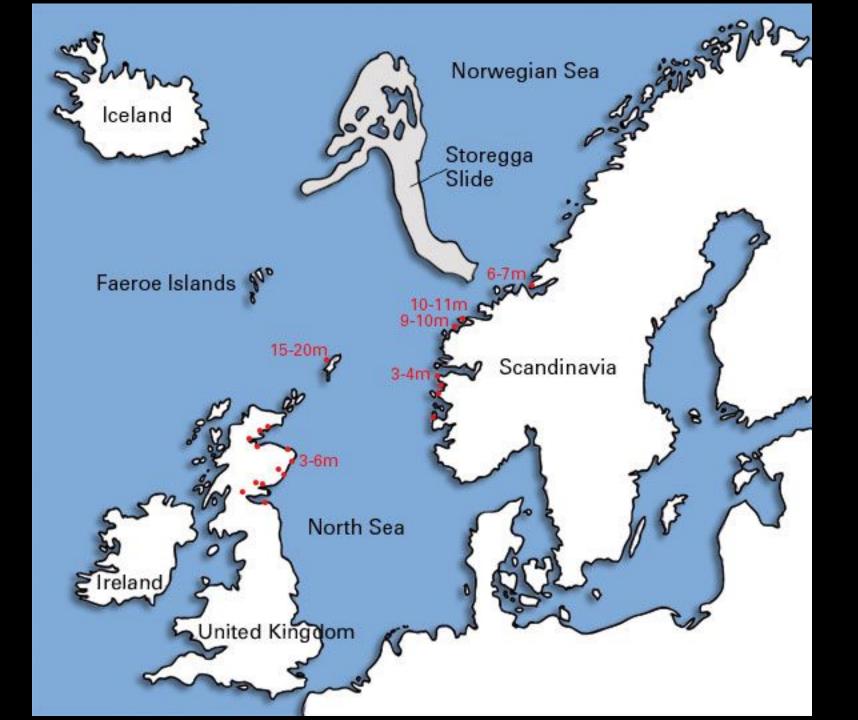
185 dead

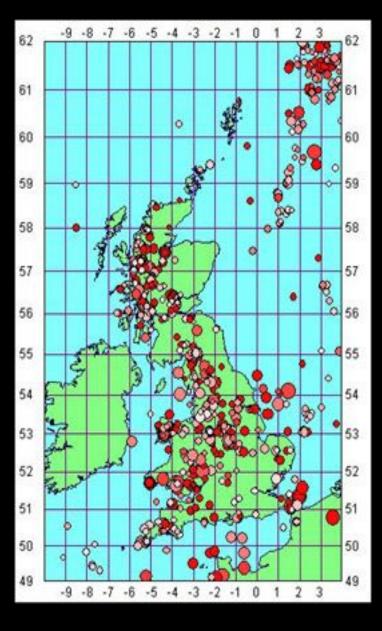
In first 24 hours:

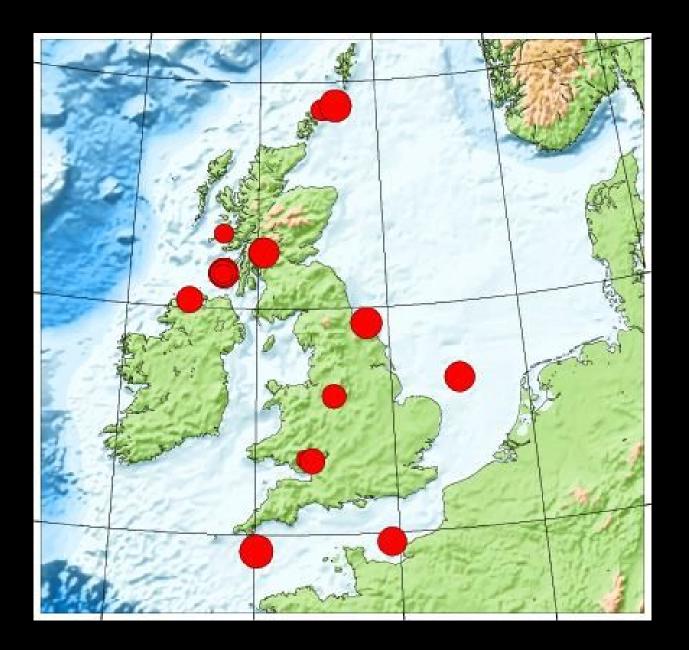
141 hospital admissions,

82 orthopaedic operations

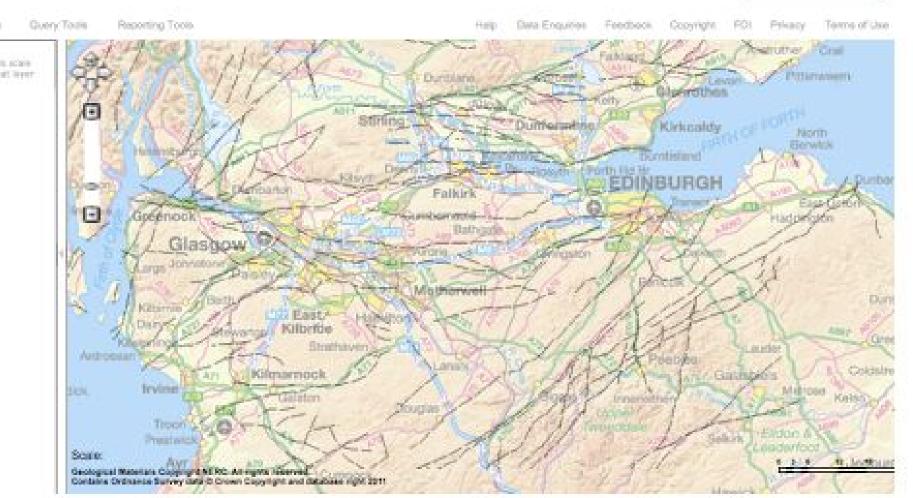
6659 documented injuries













Borcholes



Published Online April 16, 2012 DOI:10.1016/S0140- 6736(12)60313-4