



Region C Participates in Full Scale Chemical Exercise

Region C participated in a special full-scale exercise in Rome, GA. The exercise was hosted by the Georgia Highland College Atrium Health Floyd Department of Nursing. GHC hosts an annual disaster symposium to teach nursing students on-scene disaster response. The goal is to provide insight into what all first responders and victims encounter prior to hospital arrival. Each year the topic changes, this year Chemical was chosen. The day started with education on first responder decontamination, first receiver decontamination and lastly an overview of the Georgia Chempack Program. The speakers were Chief Clete Bonnie from Rome Fire, Brittany Holcomb and Hillary Renner from Atrium Health Floyd and Tracy Dabbs, emergency management Pharmacist at the Georgia Department of Public Health.

After education, the GHC nursing students observed a demonstration of first responder decontamination. Something that makes the day unique is the addition of an in-depth trauma simulation. The scene is laid out as a tractor trailer and car collision, resulting in a hazardous material spill as well as multiple traumas. The nursing students were able to triage each victim based on their presentation. EMS, Fire and Nursing professionals then debrief on the appropriate care and triage categories.

There were so many wonderful partners from Floyd County that made this exercise successful: Georgia Highland College, Atrium Health Floyd, Floyd County Emergency Management, Rome Fire, GA Department of Public Health, Office of EMS, and last but certainly not least, Chattooga County High School who played our victims.