

Methods: Data were collected in a hospital of Florianópolis/Santa Catarina, from June to September 2015, through interviews with 36 health professionals. The analysis of the data was based on a theoretical codification which identified the phenomenon “Promoting the integrality on the attendance to the ground transportation accident victims.” This phenomenon has emerged from the integration of five categories and 13 sub-categories, according to Strauss and Corbin’s (Grounded Theory) paradigmatic model. The analysis of the category context outlined the scenery of the assistance to these victims.

Results: The results revealed that the organization of flux attendance to these aggravations to the integrality light is still incipient. It has been verified that the saturation of the operational limit and lack of inter-sectoring are the factors that impact in this care. It has been evidenced that the necessity of capacitance of the professionals to give the integral care, because a little bit is done in these event prevention fields.

Conclusion: We can conclude that the organization of the integral care to the participants of this study is partially comprehended, and the care is not contemplated in its whole magnitude of what it requires improvements on the performed actions.

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Health: Seeking Behavior of Patients Who Died of Rabies in the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital (KATH)

Emergency Department in Ghana

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Study/Objective: This study seeks to describe cases of human rabies in relation to health seeking behavior of rabies patients who reported to the Emergency Department (ED) in January 2015 to January 2016 in Ghana

Background: Human rabies is a neglected preventable tropical disease of the public health interest, with a case fatality rate of almost 100%. There are several interventions available for the control and eradication of human rabies offered by the World Health Organization and its partners. The health seeking behavior of patients bitten by potentially rabid dogs will influence their outcome.

Methods: This study is a retrospective chart review of all patients who presented to the Komfo Anokye Teaching Hospital Emergency Department and were diagnosed with Human Rabies based on ICD 10, from January 1, 2015 to January 1, 2016.

Results: Nine (9) patients presented with Human rabies and all died off. All bites were from dogs with majority (67%) being stray dogs. Majority of the patients were males (78%). Eighty-nine percent were between the ages of 20 years and 60 years (8 out of 9). Fifty-six percent of the cases did not seek initial medical treatment after the dog bite, 33% went to the hospital, injected with anti-tetanus toxoid and asked to observe the dogs. One case (11.1%) was given no treatment even though initial medical treatment was sought.

Conclusion: There is the need to further study factors that will ensure people who get bitten, that they receive prompt and

appropriate treatment to reduce the economic burden of human rabies.

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AAR and IP: Effective Tools to Improve Public Health

Preparedness

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Study/Objective: Describe the utility of incorporating properties of a public health investigation into an After Action Report.

Background: Integrating public health practice into emergency response operations from recommendations in After Action Reviews (AARs), and implementing standardized practices in public health emergencies.

Methods: Literature review.

Results: Preliminary Findings: - There is a need for a clear, comprehensive, uniformed data system which intersects the Incident Command System (ICS).

- Improved performance measures resulted in group discussion, interactive exercise, and hands-on practices in conjunction with FEMA IS-130 with participants in the healthcare field.
- Drills/exercises should be accompanied by clear performance measures.
- Significant decrease in public health practitioner participation in plans and protocols, communication and incident command and other investigations support (ie. surveillance systems).

Conclusion:

- Investigate the utility of incorporating components of a public health investigation into an After-Action Report/Improvement plan.
- Raise awareness of integrating an emergency response planning tool into the public health and healthcare sectors, to enhance response capabilities.
- Develop innovative methods for future collaboration and standardization of emergency preparedness best practices.
- Improve public health emergency preparedness by developing a tool which integrates the emergency management operational objectives, with the public health components of investigating an outbreak.

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Community Awareness of Stroke, Hypertension and Modifiable Risk Factors for Cardiovascular Disease in

Nkonya-Wurupong, Ghana

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Study/Objective: To determine community level awareness of risk factors for stroke and cardiovascular disease, in a remote and medically underserved region of Ghana.

Background: Hypertension and other non-communicable diseases are growing risk factors for cardiovascular disease and stroke in developing countries. A multi-region survey from a central clinic investigating participants' level of awareness and education surrounding hypertension and stroke, provides important information to guide primary prevention and public health response.

Methods: A central clinic in Nkonya-Wurupong, Ghana, evaluated 1,671 patients in July 2016, and a group of 302 adults over the age of 18 provided a convenience sampling. The survey examined three main areas; demographics, medical history and knowledge deficit with respect to stroke and cardiovascular risk factors.

Results: Fifty-six participants demonstrated hypertension (BP >139/89), of which 17 were male and 37 female. One-hundred and six believed hypertension was a risk factor for stroke. Twenty-six were medicated for hypertension. The majority of the participants believed that modifiable factors put them at risk for stroke, and that stroke was preventable. Diet, heart disease, smoking, obesity, diabetes, sedentary lifestyle or alcohol were not identified as risk factors. One-sided weakness was consistently associated with stroke. Other symptoms included in the survey were headache, slurred speech, visual changes, dizziness, and facial droop. It was difficult to discern the sources of participants' information. A few respondents did indicate school, internet, radio, TV, medical books, or health professionals.

Conclusion: Knowledge of the link between hypertension, cardiovascular disease and stroke varies significantly, along with stroke-symptom identification and sources of medical information. Many participants indicated the belief that stroke can be prevented, however it is unclear what respondents believe modifiable risk factors consist of. This data suggests there are major areas where healthcare education is needed. Discerning baseline health and medical knowledge in remote and developing regions, is essential for disaster preparedness and primary prevention.

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Telemedicine Consultations in an All-Russian Center Disaster Medicine

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Study/Objective: Analyze telemedicine consultations made in the All-Russian Center for Disaster Medicine (ARCDM).

Background: The territory of the country is more than 11 billion square miles, and there is no sufficient, medically qualified staff centers.

Methods: The structure of the provision of telemedicine consultations (TMC) of Russian disaster medicine service includes center of control crisis situations, having a connection with 21 federal hospitals and regional centers of disaster medicine, and having contact with the republican (regional) hospitals. ARCDM have mobile telemedicine complexes, based mobile satellite communication VSAT-stations, for use in emergency situations, which provides a system to quickly deploy remote support operations for rescuers and medical staff of field hospitals.

Results: Analysis of 115 TMCs was performed during the 2015 in ARCDM. Requests for telemedicine consultations came from different regions of the country. Leading experts of the federal medical centers in Moscow conducted TMCs. The most frequent requests were for neurosurgery profile - 26.9%, intensive care (21.7% traumatology, 14.7% neurology, 10.5% pediatrics, 5% cardiovascular surgery and oncology), and other 6.1%. As a result of TMCs, correction of medical care was made in 53.2% of patients, an accurate diagnosis and treatment plan was 32.2%, and 15.6% of patients were evacuated for treatment in specialized centers. The mobile telemedicine complex has been included in equipment of field hospitals, working at Northern Caucasus. In total, 121 telemedicine consultations were performed during 1.5 months (33.3% to children). Ten patients were delivered directly for further treatment to central hospitals; nine patients after TMC diagnostics were specified with a treatment plan in field hospitals.

Conclusion: We note the high efficiency use of TMC for an establishment of the diagnosis and medical tactics and operative decision of questions of evacuation of patients. **Keywords:** telemedicine, emergency situations, and mobile telemedicine complex.

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Evaluating Aviation Accidents in the World from 2003 to 2016

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Study/Objective: This study aims to determine some features of aviation accidents and to examine existing statistics on aviation accidents over the past 10 years worldwide.

Background: It is important to mitigate losses due to aviation accidents through aviation accident prevention measures in the disaster management cycle.

Methods: Data was obtained from the records of *planecrashinfo.com* (an accident database). The data included dates, times, flight number, aircraft type, total aboard (passengers/crew), total fatalities aboard (passengers/crew) locations of accidents and intent of flights. In this descriptive study,