



Nursing education and crisis

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Abstract

Introduction: We live in a world where disasters occur. In all of disasters, emergency healthcare professionals are needed. Nurses are the main health professionals in touch with the community. They must have exceptional knowledge of the people affected by disasters, and recognizes the physical and the psychosocial impact of disasters on well being of individuals, families and community. This requires expansion of their knowledge by providing standard education in disaster preparedness.

Method: This is a review article. The information is based on searching in library and internet.

Materials and methods: This paper is a review article based on data which is searched in the internet and laboratory studies and journals.

Results and Conclusion: Disasters are a primary cause of morbidity and mortality. Whether the origin of the disaster is natural or attributable to human causes, the outcomes can be devastating. Community needs extraordinary efforts to cope with them. Nurses are in frontline during disasters and do important tasks such as taking care of the affected people, assessing their health conditions and any special needs and use the available resources to attend to these health needs. The World Health Organization (WHO) report 2006 acknowledges that nurses lack knowledge and skills in disaster and recommends that nurses to be involved in disaster preparedness and response by standard education. Under such critical circumstances nurses can be more effective when receive adequate training in preparedness and responding to disasters. Education about disaster must focus on triage, basic or advanced trauma care, scene management, basic tactical medical operations, and transport of patients. Current education has highlighted radiological, chemical, and biological, hazardous materials incidents.

In today's world, an absence of adequate medical supplies continues to be a real threat to disaster victims. Disaster nurses take care of these victims, even in the face of imminent demise. Nurses can play an important role in disaster, but they receive very little training. There is a Shortage in number of skilled nursing in disaster, too. Statistics indicate that the number of natural disasters continues to grow and because of current attacks and threats of terrorism in our society, educated nurses are in a unique position to participate in all aspects of disaster response, including triage, stabilization, definitive care, and evacuation. Disaster nurse is a brave, caring, courageous individual. Disaster Nursing will prepare any nurse to provide health care under a variety of disaster conditions. By their very nature, disasters are complex scenarios full of odd variables that often change in the blink of an eye. But disaster nurses, who combine effective leadership and organization skills with medical expertise, are as prepared as possible.

Keywords: Nursing, education, crisis