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MASS CASUALTY MANAGEMENT AND HOSPITAL CARE

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INTRODUCTION

- In many developing countries, major natural disasters occur rarely and their consequences on public health are marginal in comparison with other public health problems.

- Trauma and mass casualty situations do occur frequently and have a major negative impact on the public health.

- Mass casualty management has to be considered to justify an investment into this issue.
Present situations

- capacity and the capability of the public health sector to deal effectively and efficiently with mass casualty situations are largely inadequate.
- A large segment of population living in the rural areas has no access to emergency health care facilities.
Present situations

• basic emergency life-saving equipment and essential drugs are far from being adequately available.

• Most of the ambulances are not equipped to ensure more than just the simple transfer of the patients.
Different Approaches to Mass Casualty Incidents

- Basic Approach
- Classical Care approach
- Mass Casualty Management Approach
PROBLEMS in establishing mass casualty management in developing countries

- Limited Human Resources

- Limited Material resources

- Poor Communications
Mass Casualty Preparedness Elements

- Policy
- Plan, Program, Project (National, Regional, Community, Hospital)
- Communication system, Network connection
- Simulation
- Evaluation, Improvement, Sustainable Development
- Knowledge management
Components of Mass Casualty Management

- The management of mass casualties is divided into three main areas:
- pre-hospital emergency care (search and rescue, field care, first aid, triage, and stabilization of victims);
- hospital reception and treatment;
- redistribution of patients to other hospitals when necessary.
Pre-hospital Emergency Care
Search, Rescue, and First Aid

• Most immediate help will come from the uninjured survivors, and have to provide whatever assistance possible.

• Search and Rescue Team will
  - locate victims;
  - remove victims from unsafe location;
  - assess victim status (on-site triage);
  - provide first aid, if necessary;
  - Transfer victims to the advance medical post, if necessary.
Pre-hospital Emergency Care

Field Organization and Management

• It encompasses procedures used to organize the disaster area in order to facilitate the management of victims.
Field Organization and Management Checklist

- Situation Assessment
- Report to Central Level
- Working Areas Pre-identification
- Safety
- Command Post
- Radio Communications
- Crowd and Traffic Control
- Search and Rescue
- Triage and Stabilization
- Controlled Evaluations
Hospital Reception and Treatment

Hospital Emergency Planning

-an integral part of both the multisectoral community emergency plan and health sector emergency plan.
PREPARATION OF A HOSPITAL CONTINGENCY PLAN

- MASS CASUALTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
- CONTROL ROOM
- SIGN-POSTS
- INCOMING PATIENT AREA-DRUG RESERVES AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SUPPLIES
- INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION
- ALTERNATE SOURCES OF WATER AND ELECTRICITY
- TRANSPORTATION
- MANUALS AND OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES
- HOSPITAL NETWORK WITH HEALTH SECTOR
- INSTITUTIONS AND OTHER COMMUNITY AGENCIES
- PATIENT REFERRAL SYSTEM
Redistribution of Patients between Hospitals

- While health care facilities within a disaster area may be damaged and under pressure from mass casualties, those outside the area may be able to cope with a much larger workload or provide specialized medical services such as neurosurgery.
Mass Casualty (Disaster) Can Strike Anywhere "Be Prepared"

Thank You For Your Attention