the implementation of blood transfusion protocols, the use of Low Titre O Whole Blood (LTOWB), and the development of Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) for DCR. Data and observations from various medical personnel and organizations involved in the Ukrainian conflict are utilized.
Results: The analysis highlights the essential role of blood transfusion in improving soldier survivability in modern warfare. It identifies significant limitations in the Walking Donor Program and underscores the importance of LTOWB. Innovative medical strategies adopted in Ukraine, such as the use of portable ultrasound devices and drones for blood delivery, demonstrate the adaptability required in LSCO environments. The study also emphasizes the need for improved training, equipment, standardization, and strategies to enhance medical readiness and combat effectiveness.
Conclusion: The findings underscore the need for a unified approach to blood transfusion protocols and the development of adaptable DCR strategies. Enhanced support and collaboration among NATO and partner states are crucial for expanding access to blood products and improving prehospital care in LSCO scenarios. The experiences from Ukraine offer valuable lessons for modernizing military medical care to reduce preventable morbidity and mortality.

Prehosp. Disaster Med. 2026;41(Suppl. S1):s129–s130
doi:10.1017/S1049023X26104695

Antidote Response Network

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Introduction: The Antidote Response Network (ARN) strengthens local preparedness and response to a chemical incident by addressing local antidote availability, placement, mobilization, and rapid delivery from pharmacies to an incident area. The ARN comprises entities with antidotes (e.g., hospital pharmacies) and pushes their real-time inventory to be securely received, stored, and accessible by an honest broker (e.g., poison information center). When a chemical mass casualty incident requiring urgent antidote response occurs, the entity urgently needing an antidote notifies the honest broker, the honest broker alerts all ARN members of the need for antidote, and members mobilize and deploy the requested antidote. The honest broker coordinates antidote pick-up and delivery to the incident area, necessitating the development of technological platforms that can accommodate these requirements.
Methods: A secure web-based and smartphone platform was developed to receive and store automated real-time ARN pharmacy antidote inventory uploads that can be accessed by an honest broker and can notify ARN pharmacies of a chemical mass casualty incident requiring urgent antidote response.
Results: Pharmacy-based antidote inventories were successfully interfaced with a secured server, accessible by an honest broker as well as an operationalized smartphone platform that sends alerts to ARN members verified by the honest broker.
Conclusion: The ARN web-based and smartphone platform allows honest brokers rapid access to pharmacy antidote assets and locations, alerts ARN members of a chemical mass casualty incident requiring urgent antidote response as well and coordinates antidote pick up and delivery to the incident area of need.

Prehosp. Disaster Med. 2026;41(Suppl. S1):s130
doi:10.1017/S1049023X26104701

Flood Risk Reduction Using a Flood Vulnerability Index

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Introduction: Floods are among the most frequent and destructive disasters globally, posing significant threats to human life, infrastructure, cultural and environmental heritage, and economic activities. The impact of floods is expected to grow due to climate change, population growth, and economic factors. Effective flood risk management involves assessing three key components: the hazard, exposure, and vulnerability. While understanding of hazards and exposure has improved, the terminology and methodologies for assessing vulnerability remain in development.
Methods: This study focuses on evaluating the flood vulnerability level in municipalities of Mazovia Province, Poland, using a flood vulnerability index and open-access data. Research was conducted in municipalities identified as flood hazard areas (fluvial floods) with a 1% probability of occurrence.
Results: The total flood vulnerability index of municipalities showed that the municipality of Wyszków had the greatest vulnerability, which stems from its highest exposure indicator, its high lack of resilience level, and its low level of susceptibility. The proportion of individuals with non-Polish nationality is relatively low in this area. Additionally, the percentages of people living in hardship, older individuals, and women are moderate compared to other municipalities.
Conclusion: Municipalities, where vulnerability is mainly influenced by exposure, should implement spatial policies that limit land use within flood hazard areas. In areas where susceptibility significantly influences flood vulnerability, it is crucial to educate residents on how to protect themselves from flooding and to inform them about appropriate behaviors during a flood. Municipalities with low resilience should invest in the necessary manpower and equipment for effective rescue operations, facilitate a swift return to normalcy, and increase funding for civil protection efforts. Additionally, they should assess whether the number and availability of emergency services (such as firefighters) align with the population size and distribution.

https://doi.org/10.1017/S1049023X26104701 Published online by Cambridge University Press