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Introduction: This study aims to investigate whether healthcare professionals from distinct occupational backgrounds demonstrate increased interest in disaster response post-training.
Methods: An anonymous online survey (via Google Forms) was administered immediately following the training sessions. The survey collected data on participants' years of experience, professional categories (physicians, nurses, EMTs, administrative personnel, other healthcare professionals), and self-assessed interest in disaster response both pre- and post-training. Data from 278 participants involved in practical drills and tabletop simulations were analyzed, assessing shifts in interest levels by occupational group. Interest was rated using a 10-point scale, where 1 indicated minimal interest and 10 represented maximum interest.
Results: Nurses comprised the majority of the sample (59.92%). On average, the interest level across all participants increased by approximately 1.1 points. Physicians, EMTs, and nurses initially reported higher interest levels (mean scores of 7.87,7.73, and 7.7, respectively), each averaging about 1 point higher than administrative and other healthcare professionals. Notably, administrative and other healthcare professionals initially recorded lower interest (mean scores of 6.61 and 5.83) but demonstrated a post-training increase of approximately 2 points, surpassing the overall average improvement.
Conclusion: The disaster medical training program was effective in enhancing interest in disaster response across all professional groups, with the most substantial gains observed among administrative and other healthcare professionals. These groups, often attending involuntarily, likely developed a heightened appreciation for disaster preparedness through practical training, which bolstered their confidence and engagement. Such multidisciplinary training initiatives are pivotal in advancing healthcare teams' disaster response capabilities, ultimately strengthening community resilience.

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Success of a Pilot Citizen's Disaster Preparedness Program

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Introduction: Disasters place considerable stress on systems. The role of laypersons in disasters cannot be overlooked. A course was developed by Disaster Volunteer Corps, Singapore General Hospital, for laypersons, focusing on principles of basic disaster management and interventions. The course included scene safety, triage, emergency communications, and basic lifesaving procedures. Emergency physicians supervised emergency medicine residents and trained medical students who conducted the sessions. This paper focuses on the feedback from the pilot conduct of the course.
Methods: The course was delivered over two phases; Phase 1 was delivered online. Phase 2 was delivered in person, culminating in a simulated mass casualty incident. Course feedback was sought through an online form. Descriptive statistics are used to display the quantitative feedback while grouped thematic feedback is presented for free text feedback.
Results: 35 laypersons participated, with 24 providing feedback. Prior to the course, 50% rated their own skills and knowledge as "Poor". Post-course, the majority of them rated themselves as "Good", with a minimum rating of "Acceptable". This shows that the course provided basic knowledge and skills for responding to an MCI.

Participants noted that: i) course objectives were clear; ii) audio and visual aids and doctor-medical student pairs facilitated an effective learning experience; iii) facilitators were "knowledgeable" and provided "useful feedback and advice". The duration of the course was deemed suitable by most participants. Participants also fed back that they would seek opportunities to upskill. The overall rating of the course was high, with all participants receiving either a "Good" or "Excellent" rating. All participants would recommend the course to others.
Conclusion: The positive feedback received and the improvement in the knowledge of participants highlight the success of this pilot program. Given the demand by laypersons keen on applying themselves in basic disaster response, more work needs to be done in refining this course model for future conduct and expansion.

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A Token-Based Methodology for Hospital Evacuation Tabletop Drills

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Introduction: Traditional evacuation drills are costly, disrupt hospital routines, and require significant downtime, making it essential that hospital personnel fully understand evacuation concepts, challenges, and routes prior to full-scale drills. This study presents a novel token-based methodology for conducting hospital evacuation tabletop simulations, which serve as a vital preparatory step before large-scale drills.
Methods: The methodology was tested in eight tabletop sessions at Fundación Cardioinfantil, a leading hospital in Colombia ranked third in Latin America. Participants included area leaders and key decision-makers responsible for crisis

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