

Conclusions: Surgical cricothyrotomy had the lowest complication rate and tended to be quicker and more successful than the other techniques.

Reference:

1. Henderson *et al.* *Anaesthesia* 2004;59:675–694.

Keywords: cadavers; cricothyrotomy; efficiency; oxygenation; techniques
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(162) Considerations About a Symposium on Nursing Services in Disasters

M. Eryilmaz;¹ N. Bengu;² A. Yava;¹ F. Oflaz;¹ S. Hatipoglu;¹ H. Hanci³

1. Gulhane Military Medical Academy, Ankara, Turkey
2. Dokuz Eylul University, Izmir, Turkey
3. Ankara University, Ankara, Turkey

It is of great importance to minimize the number of disaster casualties while at the same time maximizing the quality of saved lives. That is why potential disaster threats should be eliminated if possible. To achieve this goal, personal, organizational, national, and global awareness and preparedness levels should be developed. In this study, 529 participants of “Nursing Services in Disasters Symposium” were asked what they thought of the symposium and what they thought about the disaster studies made in Turkey. The answers from 231 participants are discussed based on scientific criteria.

Keywords: awareness; casualties; disaster; preparedness; survey; Turkey
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(163) Improving the Performance of Triage Nurses

J. Mohtashami; F. Noguhani; A. Madadi; Z. Sadat
Tehran University, Tehran, Iran

The chief concept of an emergency ward is triage. The initial objective of an effective triage system is to identify severe emergencies and perform the necessary actions to allow the victims to survive the situation. Due to these special characteristics, triage nurses must have three main qualities: (1) speed; (2) accuracy; and (4) skill.

The performance of triage usually is stressful. Therefore, it is critical to choose and process the appropriate data. Therefore, the nurse must have concentration skills, thoughtfulness, and a good memory, because the consequences of errors during the process could be irretrievable. To prevent such occurrences, the nurses' cognitive skills such as: (1) attention; (2) concentration; (3) data processing; (4) decision-making; and (5) ability to use information technology should be improved.

The concept of data processing in triage contains six stages: (1) collecting data; (2) collecting signs; (3) collecting symptoms; (4) ranking the information; (5) defining the probable diagnosis; and (6) formulating the nursing diagnosis.

The data can be organized according to: (1) conditions; and (2) occurrences. Some diagnostic errors concerning daily occurrences can include: predicting errors. Constant training of triage nurses is important, five different qualities compared to a new triage nurse including: (1) smoothness; (2) automaticity; (3) mental effort; (4) being stress free and (5) points of view.

Selecting effective and efficient triage nurses is of ultimate importance. Experience shows that high self-monitoring people have priority over low self-monitoring people.

Keywords: education; improvement; nursing; training; triage
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(164) Disaster Education and Training of Emergency Nurses in South Australia

S. Duong
Royal Adelaide Hospital, Adelaide, Australia

South Australia has a population of 1.1 million people, the majority of whom reside in metropolitan Adelaide. South Australia has been fortunate to avoid a major incident that has involved mass casualties or a large-scale response from the healthcare system.

Currently, there is no structured disaster education for emergency nurses in South Australia. The only formal training is the Major Incident Medical Management and Support (MIMMS) three-day course, which six emergency nurses have now completed. This implies a significant gap in disaster education and awareness among the emergency nurses of South Australia.

As the largest group in the multidisciplinary team, nurses in the emergency department play an important role in carrying out the department's disaster plan and potentially can be deployed to disaster sites. Combined with the potential threat of mass-casualty incidents, it is imperative that all emergency nurses, particularly on a senior clinical level, have disaster education. For this to occur, it is essential to increase awareness and to introduce disaster education.

The plan is to implement a standardized approach to disaster education within the state. Initially, this could be approached by circulating a questionnaire and creating a database of emergency nurses, including any disaster education/experience they have. Introducing and increasing nurse participation in the one-day MIMMS course also would be beneficial. In the future, the introduction of more formalized education statewide or through the university system would be appropriate.

Keywords: Australia; disaster training; nurses; preparedness; response
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Oral Presentations—Theme 11: Pediatrics

Session 1

Chairs: Leonid Roshal; Arthur Cooper; J. Peper

Problems of Rendering Medical Aid to Children in Disasters, Wars, and Terrorist Events

L.M. Roshal
Clinical and Research Institute, Moscow, Russian Federation

Children's hospitals where various pediatric specialists work are common. However, while providing medical help to children in disasters, wars, and terrorist events, this fact is not taken into account. That is why children often do not