

(MCI). Eli Jaffe, Avi Dagan, Eyal Zahavi, Einat Aviel, Bruria Adini. The Department of Emergency Medicine, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev Magen David Adom (MDA) is the national emergency organization in Israel. Over the past few decades MDA personnel have been required to deal with MCIs involving large numbers of casualties. Recently, there have been fewer terrorist related MCIs, however, there is a continuing need for to maintain the knowledge and skills of paramedics to manage MCIs.

Objective: To examine performance of paramedics exposed to a CS compared to a control group exposed to a traditional lecture based learning experience.

Method: An interactive CS based on the MDA standard operating procedure for managing MCIs was developed. The participants were randomly divided into two groups. Group 1 received the lecture format, and Group 2 the CS. Both groups were given a pre-test (Group 1 average score 56.3, Group 2 average score 53.1), and two post-tests. One immediately following completion of the intervention, and a second a month after completion of the course.

Results: Average scores for the CS Group (n = 15) was significantly different on the first post-test (Group 1 average score 53.2, Group 2 average score 68.7), by 30% and on the second (Group 1 average score 71.9, Group 2 average score 80.8) by 12% compared to the Lecture Group (N = 17) (P = < 0.00).

Conclusion: CS allow for the use of multiple media formats based on real events, and are able to replicate reality using real media material. MDA has recommended that continuing education interventions for emergency medical personnel for maintaining knowledge and skills required for the management of MCIs utilize a CS based training methods.

Prehosp Disaster Med 2011;26(Suppl. 1):s89–s90
doi:10.1017/S1049023X11003037

(A321) Animals in Emergency Management: Veterinary Medical Triage and Treatment

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Veterinarians have been engaged in emergency preparedness and response activities for many years. The American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) founded in 1863 and representing approximately 83% of United States veterinarians, and the American Veterinary Medical Foundation, established by the AVMA in 1963, have been active in emergency preparedness and response, including the development of a world class veterinary disaster response program (VMAT) since 1993. Animals and humans share a special bond in the United States. According to the 2007 AVMA US Pet Ownership and Demographics Sourcebook, there are 72 million dogs, 81.7 million cats, 11.2 million birds and 7.3 million horses in US households. Approximately 60% of all US households own at least one pet, and 64% own more than one pet. Additionally, nearly 60% of pet owners consider their pets to be members of the family, and nearly 50% of pet owners consider their pets to be companions. Few US pet owners consider their pet to be property (approximately 2%). Following Hurricane Katrina, the Pets Evacuation and Transportation Standards Act of 2006 (PETS Act) became US law to ensure that state and local emergency preparedness

plans address the needs of individuals with household pets and service animals following a major disaster or emergency. Recently a US effort to identify best practices in disaster veterinary care was sponsored by the US Department of Agriculture and the National Alliance of State Animal Agriculture Emergency Programs and chaired by members of the AVMA. Best practices were identified, including physical examination and triage, vaccination and parasite treatment and prophylaxis, decontamination, euthanasia, medical care of search and rescue dogs, field diagnostics, and components of a disaster veterinary medical equipment cache.

Prehosp Disaster Med 2011;26(Suppl. 1):s90
doi:10.1017/S1049023X11003050

(A322) Animals in Disasters and Emergencies: A Version of Wild Kingdom

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Dr. Madigan will discuss the evolution of awareness of the need for emergency preparedness and response for the animal component in disasters and emergencies in the United States and internationally. Emergencies and disasters affect animals and those who own them, including companion animals, animals who's use is for sustainment or groups of animals which serve as a key component of individuals economic existence. Numerous studies have shown the public will delay or refuse evacuation from impending risks if they have to leave their animals behind. A significant component of the public will refuse use of non pet associated shelters which then affects public safety and wellbeing. Emergency responders can be put at risk because of rescues required of non-evacuated individuals staying with their animals. Emergency responders may be called to be involved in animal rescues or animal evacuation. Animals impacted by disasters may incur injury, entrapment, and lack of food and water. Veterinary triage, emergency rescue, treatment and humane euthanasia are driven by animal welfare concerns as well as legislation mandating care of animals in declared disasters in some countries. Dr. Madigan's presentation will provide discussion and video examples of organized response to small and large scale animal emergency and disasters associated with 15 years as Chief of the UC Davis Veterinary Emergency Response Team. Additionally the training components needed for effective and safe preparedness and response will be discussed.

Prehosp Disaster Med 2011;26(Suppl. 1):s90
doi:10.1017/S1049023X11003062

(A323) Wildfire Associated Burn Injury of 1400 Sheep in Northern California: A Coordinated Mass Casualty Veterinary Response

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Introduction: Wildfires can injure animals both from burns and inhalation of smoke and particulates. In 2006 a rapidly moving grass wildfire burned 12 square miles in Yolo County.