



EVHC READY

The Eastern Region's Pulse On Healthcare Emergency Preparedness

Thursday
March 4, 2021

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Communications

MDPI- Complementarity of Communication and Coordination in Ensuring Effectiveness of Emergency Management Networks

Source: Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute, Inter-organizational communication, coordination, and network effectiveness have long been of great interest. However, the level of their complexity and situational dependencies still create



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challenges for researchers and public managers. It is usually assumed that inter-organizational communication leads to inter-organizational coordination, but little is known how these processes interact and complement each other. This article aims at identifying relationships linking these processes and analyzing their impact on effectiveness of emergency management networks. Achieving the goal of the article based on the survey questionnaire conducted with 83 experts. The results were analyzed using the principal components analysis (PCA), correlation analysis, hierarchical clustering, and partial least-square path modeling (PLS-PM). The analyses conducted allow for identifying the dimensions of the research processes, and relationships linking them. This was the basis for building the research models testing how relationships between inter-organizational communication and coordination influence the effectiveness of emergency management networks. Comparing analyzed models points to complementarity, parallelism, and the possibility of a non-sequential course of inter-organizational communication and coordination. For more information use the following [link](#).

[ASPR- Identifying and Overcoming Healthcare Communications](#)

[Vulnerabilities](#)

Source: Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, “Evacuate now,” warned the computerized voice coming from the recreational vehicle (RV) parked in front of an AT&T building in downtown Nashville, early Christmas morning. As the warnings continued, police officers did their best to evacuate nearby buildings. The blast, which occurred at 6:30 a.m., injured several people and damaged nearly 50 buildings, including the AT&T transmission facility that served as a primary wireless and wireline service provider to the region. While the blast did not cause a mass casualty incident, it significantly impacted healthcare communications throughout the region. For more information, please use the following [link](#).

[Mass evacuation](#)

In the event of a disaster there is a major difference between emergency evacuation and pre-planned. In the event of a fire, tornado, or other unexpected event often times emergency resources can be used to help move residents to safe locations. Understanding the difference between the two and the needs of your residents will go a long way to ensure the residents of your community get out safely and quickly. Understanding the power of wind and water and how quickly a storm can change its path is also important when making evacuation decisions. The investigative report by the Minority Staff of the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance called Sheltering in Danger examines how poor emergency planning and response put residents at risk. [link](#)



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Inventory and Maintenance

PPE Distribution

Resource Management Specialist conducts a PPE supply distribution each week in order to support facilities as they continue to combat the pandemic. Total PPE on hand: 697,427, total PPE distributed for the week: 2,150, total PPE distributed to date: 2,805,780. Purchased PPE under both the HPP and COVID-19 Supplemental grants continued to be shipped, received and inventoried. Commenced inspecting, inventory and tagging Bon Secour DePaul's hospital Mobile Medical Asset. If you have any PPE needs or questions please contact Scott Maynard at smaynard@vaems.org

VHASS Minute

Patient tracking

Hurricane Season is right around the corner and it is time for communities to start thinking about planning and evacuation needs for the upcoming season. The National Hurricane Center is pushing to change the start of hurricane season to May 1st since historically we have had six storms during the month of May in the past few seasons. Take time to review with your staff how the VHASS patient tracking tool works, I have included the link to the step by step process and will be happy to conduct training sessions. [link](#)

Training and Exercise

What's coming up:

N95 Fit Test TtT

Wednesday, March 10 at Tidewater EMS Council. We have extended to two class times and may have a few spaces left in the afternoon class. Registration is now available on va.train.org (Course ID: 1046592). Attendees must individually register (and create an account if necessary) in TRAIN if they wish to attend. Also, in advance of the training, attendees must be medically cleared to wear a respirator (click [here](#) and scroll down to review the Advance Preparation instructions).



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Attendees should bring their N95 respirator and fit test kit. However, fit test kits will be provided for use during the training if attendees do not have their own. The National Guard instructors will have everything necessary to conduct the training.

EVHC Lunch and Learn

Thursday, March 11, from 12:00 to 1:00 - Join us on Zoom for in a conversation with Darren Spencer, Sr. Digital Forensic Examiner with the FBI Computer Analysis Response Team (CART).

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88971974446?pwd=UTBWTThBdDFiNHN5enhqdi95OCtuQT09>

Statewide Tornado Drill

We will be conducting the stateside tornado exercise on Tuesday, March 16th at 9:45. Attached is the Eventbrite link for sign-up's, I will send out the zoom link and additional information on Friday the 12th. Please let me know if you have any questions. <https://evhc2021tornadodrill.eventbrite.com>

HHS- Cybersecurity Resources and Upcoming Webinar

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Our next [live webinar](#) (on **March 18, 2021, from 1:30-2:45 PM ET**) will feature speakers who have managed recent cyberattacks on healthcare facilities. Their experiences can help emergency planners, and the healthcare systems they may be a part of, understand the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders before, during, and after a cyber incident. [Register today!](#)

Best Practices

AGS- Reducing Hospital Transfers from Aged Care Facilities: A Large-Scale Stepped Wedge Evaluation

Source: American Geriatric Society, The Age Care Emergency (ACE) program is an integrated nurse-led intervention underpinned by a community of practice designed to improve the capability of residential aged care facilities (RACFs) managing acutely unwell residents. It includes telephone support, evidence-based algorithms, defining goals of care for Emergency Department (ED) transfer, case management in the ED, and an education program. The stepped wedge design allowed rigorous evaluation of a real-world large-scale intervention. These results confirm that the ACE program can be scaled up to a large geographic area and can reduce ED visits and hospitalization of older people with complex healthcare needs living in RACFs. For more information, please use the following [link](#).



CDC- Carbon Monoxide (CO) Poisoning Prevention

Source: Center for Disease Control and Prevention, When winter temperatures plummet and home heating systems run for hours the risk of carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning increases. Every year, at least 430 people die in the U.S. from accidental CO poisoning. Approximately 50,000 people in the U.S. visit the emergency department each year due to accidental CO poisoning. There are steps you can take to help protect yourself and your household from CO poisoning. For more information, please use the following [link](#).

IJP- Resilience of children in disasters: A multisystem perspective

Source: International Journal of Psychology, Interest in resilience is surging in research, policy and practice as threats from disasters rise and humanity confronts a global pandemic. This commentary highlights the importance of defining resilience for portability across system levels and disciplines in order to integrate knowledge and prepare adequately for the challenges posed to children and youth by multisystem disasters. A scalable definition of resilience is recommended: The capacity of a dynamic system to adapt successfully to challenges that threaten the function, survival or development of the system. Major determinants of adaptation among young people in the context of disaster are highlighted, including variations in adversity exposure dose, developmental timing, individual differences and the socio-ecological systems of children's lives that can be mobilized in response. Adaptation of children in disasters depends on the resilience of interconnected systems, including families, schools, communities and policy sectors. Implications of a multisystem perspective for disaster risk reduction and preparedness are discussed with a focus on nurturing the resilience of children and their societies for challenges in the near term and long into the future. For more information, please use the following [link](#).

Tools

(Disclaimer: The following information are tool that may help in your development of emergency preparedness planning. They are not Virginia specific, and are just meant as an example of information that might be helpful in your planning. Please contact EVHC Vulnerable Populations Coordinator Amy Green if you have questions regarding development of your emergency operations plans.

agreen@vaems.org)

Evacuation and assessment form

California Association of Health Facilities has an easy tool to help Long Term Care facilities determine what type of transportation they need for their residents. Understanding the different



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types of transportation units will help determine what your community needs to have secured in the event of an evacuation. How many residents have to have stretcher transportation? How many can sit on a bus, and how many can ambulate on their own? The availability of stretcher transport units will be low, there are always more people who need (or think they need) a stretcher for transportation than they really do. This document can be found on the HHS ASPR, TRACIE website under Plans, Tools, and Templates: Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place [link](#)

[Nursing Home Evacuation Plan](#)

New York provides the following tool to help their Long Term Care facilities develop evacuation plans. [link](#)