

Pediatric Disaster Preparedness Curriculum Development Conference: Results and Recommendations

To address the unmet education and training needs of medical responders who care for children in a disaster

Kandra Strauss-Riggs, MPH; David Siegel, MD, FAAP; Amy Costello, MD,FAAP

Background

The National Center for Disaster Medicine & Public Health (NCDMPH) was created in 2008 via Homeland Security Presidential Directive-21 (HSPD-21), with the task of serving as the nation's academic center of excellence in disaster medicine and public health¹.

Impetus & Objectives

Children represent 75,000,000 members, 30%, of our population². It has been almost 10 years since 9/11 and the majority of our health care clinicians are unprepared to provide the necessary clinical support for children in the event of a disaster³.

In fulfillment of a recommendation from the National Commission on Children and Disasters (NCCD) and the Federal Education and Training Interagency Group (FETIG) – approved NCDMPH strategic plan, a planning committee developed the following conference objectives³:

- To initiate the development of the infrastructure and methodology needed to create a competency based pediatric disaster preparedness training program
- To demonstrate this approach by developing prioritized, role-specific education and training recommendations for select healthcare roles
- To demonstrate the capabilities of a public – private consortium for development of a disaster preparedness education and training program

Methodology

Teams conducted a literature review highlighting gaps in pediatric disaster education and training^{3,4}. Conference planners divided subject matter experts into 3 groups and sub-specialty teams:

Groups

- EMS/First Responder
- ED/Hospital
- Ambulatory

Sub-Specialties

- CBRNE
- Public Health
- Mental Health

Table 1:

Public Health, Community Response/Recovery Issues from the ED/ Hospital Group

Topic	Roles With Level of Performance			
	Emerg. Care Providers	Surge Providers	Disaster Leaders	Support Providers
Hospital Preparedness	A	A	E/P	A
Identify & coordinate regional ped specialty care capacity & access	A	A	E/P	A
Work w/local PH authorities	A	A	E/P	A
Plan for unaccompanied minors	A	A	E/P	A
Hazard Vulnerability Analysis	A	A	E/P	A
Personal Preparedness Staff	P	P	P	P
Patient/Family Preparedness	A	A	A	A
Communication w local/state EOC	A	A	E/P	F
Alternate Care Site (Creation)	A	A	P	A
Maintenance of Medical Home	A	A	P	F
Medical Reserve Corps, etc	A	A	P	A
Evacuation (ALL)	P	P	E/P	P
Strategic Communications (Media)	A	A	E/P	A

Codes for Performance Levels

F =Foundational (overview)

A = Aware (understanding concepts)

P=Proficient (capable of performing tasks)

E= Expert (subject matter expert)



Come visit us: Booth 5114
Follow us on Twitter: @NCDMPH

Outputs

The diverse and prominent consortium of stakeholders at the conference contributed to the robust, representative process and products of the meeting. Among them:

- Preliminary role-specific curriculum recommendations
- Identification of health care provider roles requiring training
- Priority of health care provider training
- Identification of training topics. See *Table 1*
- Full conference report (available at ncdmph.usuhs.edu)

Next Steps

- Develop the competency and topic recommendations into deliverable learning objects
- Make learning objects available to professionals



Richard Serino (FEMA Deputy Administrator) addresses the audience as Dr. David Siegel, Dr. Andrew Garrett and Dr. Kevin Yeskey (L to R) look on

With a basis in presidential policy and broad interagency support, the NCDMPH will continue addressing disaster health training and education gaps such as in pediatrics.

References

¹ Schor, K., Strauss-Riggs, K. *A Nation Prepared: Education and Training Needs for Disaster Medicine and Public Health*. Rockville, MD. September 2009.

² National Commission on Children and Disasters. *2010 Report to the President and Congress. AHRQ Publication No. 10-M037*. Rockville, MD: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. October 2010.

³ Siegel, D., Strauss-Riggs, K., Costello, A. *Pediatric Disaster Preparedness Curriculum Development Conference Report*. Rockville, MD. June 2011

⁴ American Academy of Pediatrics. *The Pediatrician and Disaster Preparedness. Pediatrics: The Official Journal of the AAP*. Grove Village, IL. October 2010.