Iran University of Medical Sciences
School of Nursing & Midwifery

Principles of Risk Management in Disasters and Emergencies

Course outline

Course Title: Principles of Risk Management in Disasters and Emergencies
Type and Number of Units: 2 units (Theory and Practical) – **The practical section includes participation in skills-based courses.**
Instructor(s): Dr. Sakineh Sharifian
Academic Rank: Assistant Professor- Health in Disaster and Emergencies
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Course Purpose: During this course, students from various medical science disciplines will become familiar with the principles and foundations of disaster risk management, including prevention, mitigation, preparedness, and disaster management skills.

General Objectives: Students will become familiar with the basics of disaster and risk management, acquire primary risk management skills, and enhance their understanding of disaster risks.

Specific Objectives:

By the end of the course, students will be able to:
1. Become familiar with terminology and the principles of disaster and emergency management and understand the epidemiology of disasters in Iran and worldwide.
2. Understand the health system and the structures related to crisis management.
3. Explain the disaster risk management cycle and its related functions.
4. Recognize all stages of risk management and their functions.
5. Become familiar with control, coordination, and command systems in disasters and emergencies.
6. Recognize common natural disasters in Iran and worldwide and explain protection functions against them.
7. Become familiar with passive defense concepts and CBRN incidents.
8. Understand disaster risk assessment and apply its stages.

Educational Approach
- Virtual

Teaching Methods

Depending on the format (in-person, virtual, or blended), the course may include:

- Interactive lectures (Q&A, quizzes, group discussions)
- Problem-Based Learning (PBL)
- Scenario-Based Learning
- Peer teaching

Student Responsibilities

- Regular attendance and active participation (Absences must not exceed 25% of total class hours)
- Timely completion of assignments
- Use of up-to-date academic and research sources
- Engagement in classroom discussions and assessments

Evaluation Methods

- **Summative Assessment:** 80% (final written exam)
- **Participation & Attendance:** 20%
- Assessment types may include written tests (multiple choice, true/false, open-ended), structured clinical exams (OSCE, OSLE), and workplace-based evaluations (logbooks, portfolios, DOPS).

Recommended Resources

1. Koening KL, Schultz C. Disaster Medicine: Comprehensive Principles and Practices. Cambridge University Press.
2. Haddow GD, Bullock J, Copolla D. Introduction to Emergency Management. Elsevier.
3. Ciottone GR et al. Disaster Medicine. Mosby Elsevier.

Class Time:

Session	Topic & Learning Activities	Teaching Method	Date	Instructor(s)
1	Introduction, concepts, and disaster risk terminology	Lecture & Group Discussion		Dr. Sharifian
2	Health system, crisis management structure, and disaster management cycle	Lecture & Group Discussion		Dr. Sharifian
3	Risk analysis	Lecture & Group Discussion		Dr. Sharifian
4	Prevention and mitigation	Lecture & Group Discussion		Dr. Sharifian
5	Disaster preparedness	Lecture & Group Discussion		Dr. Sharifian
6	Introduction to natural disasters	Lecture & Group Discussion		Dr. Sharifian
7	Human-made hazards	Lecture & Group Discussion		Dr. Sharifian
8	Passive defense and CBRN	Lecture & Group Discussion		Dr. Sharifian
9	Emergency evacuation drills and Incident Command System	Lecture & Group Discussion		Dr. Sharifian
10	Psychosocial support in disasters	Lecture & Group Discussion		Dr. Sharifian