

### Management of Disaster Medicine Service

*Sergey Goncharov*

ARCDM "Zaschita", Moscow, RUSSIA

Due to the increasing number of emergencies and severity of their medical aftermath, one of the most urgent problems in the efficiency of achievement for a Disaster Medicine service remains the problem of adequate formation of a structure and the mechanisms used for management. In this context, it is important to consider, on one hand, the experience accumulated in the course of practical management directly in emergencies from previous tasks. On the other hand, the task of developing such a model with its national (or federal) structure remains rather complicated. It should provide the optimal level of its emergency preparedness and sufficiency of resources and manpower as some certain basic factors for adequate emergency responses.

The objectives of this presentation are: (1) to demonstrate the chief practical lessons learned by the All-Russian Disaster Medicine Service (ARSDM), and (2) to examine the All-Russian Centre for Disaster Medicine (ARCDM), the research arm of the scientific and practical Centre, that provides the main terms of reference and hierarchy of management.

The primary echelons of ARCDM management and the five levels of its organization are given— federal, regional, territorial, local, and on-site—as well as the mechanisms of vertical taxonomy and horizontal cooperation. Technologies of coordination of ARCDM subsystems, beginning from international cooperation and up to interdepartmental relations in the practice of medical care delivery in emergency, are discussed. Quantitative indices or parameters of the Service's activity in emergencies are proposed as a pattern of criteria for evaluating its efficiency. The guidelines of the concept of civil and military cooperation are considered as the most technological and adequate components of management processing for different types of medical care delivery in emergencies. It is stated that the adequate model of ARSDM's structural and functional organization includes mechanisms of management employed in international practice under the auspices of EHA/WHO, OCHA/UN, but taking into account, the national characteristics typical for our various regions. An example of cooperation of Disaster Medicine services in CIS countries is provided as one of the most efficient tools of interaction in transboundary and national major emergencies in the Eurasian region. The possibility of using the Russian experience in formation of similar Disaster Medicine services in the regions (countries) prone to emergency impact is discussed.

**Key words:** disaster management; emergencies; experiences; model; organization

**E-mail:** rcdm.org@g23.relcom.ru

*Prehosp Disast Med* 2001;16(2):s32.

### Teaching Disaster Medicine in Lublin, Poland

*M. Goniowicz; A. Mikula; M. Latalski; E. Chemperek*

Department of Public Health, Medical University of Lublin, Lublin, POLAND

The first course on Disaster Medicine in Lublin, Poland started in February 1992. The curriculum for Disaster Medicine was developed by the president of The Polish Emergency Medicine and Disaster Society and was based on the Curriculum for Education and Training of the Scientific Committee of the International Society of Disaster Medicine (ISDM). The accomplishment of the curriculum of Disaster Medicine belongs to the interfaculty chair and The Department of Public Health at the Medical University of Lublin. The aim of the study was to disseminate our ten years of experience in teaching Disaster Medicine. The curriculum includes 30 hours of theoretical lectures, and 45 hours of practical training. High tech medical equipment has been used in teaching the course. The medical students avail themselves of interactive computer programs to obtain knowledge relative to triage. Use of a videotape training program is a way to analyze and evaluate every major accident or disaster. Our intention was to introduce flexibility into Disaster Medicine education, and to present actual needs (postgraduate training) in Disaster Medicine in Poland.

**Key words:** course; curriculum; disaster medicine; education; ISDM; medical students; training

**E-mail:** mikula@rekt.pol.lublin.pl

*Prehosp Disast Med* 2001;16(2):s32.

### Field Evacuation Patterns of Humanitarian Relief Workers

*Dr. P. Gregg Greenough*

Baltimore, Maryland USA

**Objective:** Emergency evacuation of humanitarian relief workers from field operations not only may be detrimental to the workers themselves, but for the nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), which depend upon their work. Several studies to date, have examined causes of mortality in humanitarian relief workers, yet none so far, have looked at causes of morbidity prompting evacuation. A study that delineates risk factors for emergency evacuation would allow NGOs to plan preventive strategies designed to protect their workers, and keep their operations cost-effective. **Methods:** We surveyed 30 large NGOs for personnel records documenting reasons for emergent evacuation of their humanitarian workers from the field during the interval 1990–2000.

**Results:** Preliminary data demonstrate that over three-quarters of evacuations occur due to infectious diseases, notably malaria and dengue, while a significant percentage of the remainder of the evacuations are due to trauma-related injury.

**Discussion and Conclusion:** By knowing risk factors for emergent evacuation, NGOs can better educate prospective workers as part of the orientation process as well as initiate preventive approaches for personnel already in the