s150 Poster Presentations

hazard version, tsunami measurement, and psychological care version are included at the moment.

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Mental Health Impacts on People Living in Subdivided Flats in Hong Kong

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Introduction: Housing has always been a source of stress for people in Hong Kong (HK), especially to those living in sub-optimal settings. About 210,000 people are forced to live in subdivided flats in HK. Most of these flats cannot meet health standards set by the UN even for prisoners, in terms of the floor space, climatic conditions, lighting, air quality, and ventilation. Fire and public safety equipment are lacking. Most believed that the substandard environment has a negative impact on one's mental health.

Aim: To investigate how the living condition in a subdivided flat affects a person's mental health.

Methods: 104 households living in the subdivided flats in Kwai Tsing, one of the 18 Districts of HK, were surveyed by HKJCDPRI's Collaborating Partner, HKSKH Lady MacLehose Centre in February 2017; while a follow-up study with purposive sampling was conducted in October 2017 to interview 10 households on their mental health status. A mixed Methods was used combining the quantitative Results of the WHO Quality of Life-BREF scale and Depression Anxiety Stress Scale 21, and qualitative Results of face-to-face interviews. Results: 80% of 104 households surveyed suffered from mental distress. The follow-up study revealed that seven of them displayed signs of depression and/or anxiety, while two were diagnosed with a mental disorder. Distress is proven to associate with the environmental and health risks, including fire and disease outbreak, as well as chronic issues resulting from poor indoor air quality and extreme weather.

Discussion: Low level of perception and preparedness among HK people is making these public health risks more apparent. The already desperate housing and land policy don't seem to offer any help in the near future. Public educations efforts need tremendous enhancement, to engage, mobilize and empower individuals and communities, to actively plan and prepare for future shocks.

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Misericord Injuries: Ancient and Modern

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Introduction: The Misericord, or stabbing pike, was a frequently used battlefield implement in medieval times. The misericord was used by battlefield clerics to relieve the suffering of irreparably wounded soldiers. Its cultural parallels include the Roman gladius, the Japanese wakazashi, and the eponymous Liston knife used in pre-Victorian era surgery in England.

Methods: This demonstration will analyze modern misericord injuries in the light of the current epidemic of long knife (or zombie knife) attacks in London and the domestic terrorist threat in Australia.

Discussion: A review of this weapon is pertinent to the projected low-technology, low-impact, and deep-penetrating wounds expected in urban terrorism in Australia and other cities globally. The talk will emphasize field discussion, demonstration, and disarming techniques against modern misericord-type weapons.

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A Mixed-Methods Analysis of the Spatial and Temporal Relationship Between Boko Haram Activity and Lassa Fever Incidence in Nigeria 2017-2018

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Introduction: Two major public health issues facing Nigeria in 2017 and 2018 were the terrorist activity by the Boko Haram Islamist group and an unprecedented outbreak of Lassa fever. Aim: To determine if Boko Haram activity was temporally or spatially related to the incidence of Lassa fever in Nigeria and if so, to identify potential concurrent causes and mitigation measures.

Methods: The study was a mixed-methods design. First, we conducted a secondary analysis of the Armed Conflict Location and Event Data (ACLED) Project for all known Boko Haram activity and of the weekly Nigeria Centre for Disease Control reports for suspected Lassa fever cases. Data were analyzed for January 2017 through June 2018. The ACLED data were spatially overlaid with suspected Lassa cases for each of Nigeria's 36 states. Secondly, we conducted interviews with six aid workers in Nigeria regarding Boko Haram activities and Lassa fever cases.

Results: In the study period, 596 Boko Haram activities occurred in 13 states (36.1%): 416 in 2017 and 180 between January and June of 2018. During the same period, 3,137 suspected Lassa cases were reported from 21 states (58.3%): 1,022 in 2017 and 2,115 in January through June 2018. Only one state, Sokoto, was unaffected by either issue. Aid workers reported a positive relationship between Boko Haram activity and increased negative health outcomes.

Discussion: The investigation found little geographic overlap in Nigeria between Boko Haram activity and the 2018 Lassa fever outbreak, suggesting independence of these two issues. However, unmeasured factors, such as public fear and mistrust of governmental activities, may affect both issues. It is also critical to note that widespread co-occurrence (97.2% of 36 states) of these two issues presents significant public health, medical, and security challenges for Nigeria, calling for overarching solutions such as governmental stability and economic stimulus.

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