Bayntun, Claire; (2012) A health system approach to all-hazards disaster management: A systematic review. PLoS currents, 4. e50081cad5861d-. ISSN 2157-3999 DOI: https://doi.org/10.1371/50081cad5861d

Downloaded from: http://researchonline.lshtm.ac.uk/id/eprint/464272/

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1371/50081cad5861d

Usage Guidelines:

Please refer to usage guidelines at https://researchonline.lshtm.ac.uk/policies.html or alternatively contact researchonline@lshtm.ac.uk.

Available under license: http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.5/

World Health Assembly. (2011) 64th World Health Assembly Aims & Scope


Evaluation methods need to be developed and conducted. Issues of practical implementation must be clarified so that priorities can be established, such as how to incorporate disaster management across local, national, and international health systems. This will contribute to sustainable health system development.

A bias to the literature selection is that this review did not include documents from the grey literature. Instead, such as opinion pieces and letters to journals. The qualitative nature of the documents means that this bias could not be overcome.

Qualitative comments were recorded for each paper to account for this issue. The Summary Table of Limitations and Strengths was developed in a format similar to the PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) statements.

A Health System Approach to All-Hazards Disaster Management

This systematic review of the core literature shows that a holistic health system approach to disaster management is required. This is important as many published papers support this approach, but most are not analytical. The need for evaluations of healthcare worker training and assessments is also highlighted.

Other disaster-related reviews:

The findings of this review demonstrate that a holistic health system approach to disaster management is required. This is important as many published papers support this approach, but most are not analytical. The need for evaluations of healthcare worker training and assessments is also highlighted.

Inclusion of sufficient original data/(primary source information) to mediate between evidence and context.

A clear description of methods used to collect and analyse data/(information).

A Health System Approach to All-Hazards Disaster Management

This recently developed tool aims to progress a health system approach to all-hazards disasters, an initial step toward assessing the implementation of the World Health Assembly resolution of May 2011, aiming to promote resilience and efficient recovery in the face of all-hazards disasters.

The reviewed literature embodied a vast amount of information. A number of search terms were chosen to reflect the aim to identify a broad range of document type whilst avoiding the retrieval of an excessive number of irrelevant papers. Language restriction was not applied but all included papers were published in English. The search was limited to the 'Human' category. A second reviewer was involved to resolve any disagreements. The protocol also adhered to the PRISMA guidelines.

In this case, there were 41-50+ papers published between 1 January 2000 and 18 November 2011 (Figure 1). The review found that 11-20++ papers were published in May 2011. Figure 2 outlines the search and selection of papers.

The search terms were chosen to reflect the need to identify a broad range of document type whilst avoiding the retrieval of an excessive number of irrelevant papers. Language restriction was not applied but all included papers were published in English. The search was limited to the 'Human' category. A second reviewer was involved to resolve any disagreements. The protocol also adhered to the PRISMA guidelines.

The review was undertaken to determine the extent to which a holistic health system approach to disaster management is currently being used within health systems and the need for objective measures to be developed. The findings of this review demonstrate that a holistic health system approach to disaster management is required. This is important as many published papers support this approach, but most are not analytical. The need for evaluations of healthcare worker training and assessments is also highlighted.