Evidence Aid: Resilient Health Systems Evidence Collection

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Need and main audience
Improving access to reliable, curated information for well-informed decisions on disasters and health emergencies.

Summarising complex systematic reviews to lay writing for people across various languages.

- **Priorities**
  - Implementing and coordination end-user input

- **Research**
  - High-quality research that is relevant to health emergencies.

- **Reviews**
  - Systematic reviews of such research provide a reliable and robust evidence base.

- **Summaries**
  - Accessible summaries of this evidence to decision-makers at different levels of health emergency response and preparedness
7 Interconnected Collections

- COVID-19 (585 summaries)
- Earthquakes & Windstorms (97 summaries)
- Climate Change (17 summaries)
- Refugees & Asylum Seekers (113 summaries)
- Ebola (34 summaries)
- Malnutrition (111 summaries)
- Resilient Health Systems (200 summaries)
Resilient Health Systems

Identification

Enhancement

Website

Preparation

Publication

Searches were run by topic (Phase 1: 5652 results, 1725 reviews screened).

Collection of publication data, topic, methodology, findings, implications, and equity considerations.

Categorizing summaries, cross-linking to other collections, reference management, and embeddability.

Summaries drafted, edited, confirmed by PAHO, sent for translation (ENG, POR, SPA, FRE)

200 summaries on Resilient Health Systems published on EvidenceAid.org
Phase 1 & Phase 2

Next Phase

PAHO
Expand PAHO priorities (e.g., migration, climate change). Advisory Board

Expansion
Phase 3 of the RHS collection and its topics and broader use and communication

Analysis
Implications for field implementation beyond what is stated in reviews, and evidence (gap)maps

Usage Data
Find evidence

Resilient Health Systems

Read more

Blog

Read our newest blog: Monkeypox 2022: Is there a case for quarantine?

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Embed Code

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<iframe width="100%" height="400" src="https://evidenceaid.org/?iframe" frameborder="0"></iframe>
Resilient Health Systems

Read this introduction in Arabic, Chinese (simplified), Chinese (traditional), English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Portuguese and Spanish. The summaries will inform policies, programs and plans to achieve universal health coverage and support the achievement of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals. The collection was first published on 18 August 2021.

The Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization and Evidence Aid have been working together for several years and, in June 2021, started work on an Evidence Aid collection relevant to the development of resilient health systems in the context of disasters and other health emergencies. This collection of summaries for relevant systematic reviews will support preparedness, response and recovery, thereby sustaining and protecting public health gains. The partnership will further advance the Policy on Resilient Health Systems and the Plan of Action for Disaster Risk Reduction that were approved by Ministries of Health of the Americas and the Caribbean in 2019, the Strategy to Build Resilient Health Systems which was presented in 2021 and the Policy on Research for Health endorsed by the countries of the Americas in 2009.

This collection of summaries of systematic reviews is available in English, French, Portuguese and Spanish. The summaries will inform policies, programs and plans to achieve universal health coverage and support the achievement of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals. The collection was first published on 18 August 2021.
Search all resources

Search

Select a collection

English

Date Added

Descending

Add all results to my selections

Apps to reduce burnout, depression and suicidality among healthcare students and professionals
Added October 10, 2022
Add to my selections

Telehealth interventions for older adults in rural settings
Added September 26, 2022
Add to my selections

Police-related triage interventions for mental health-related incidents
Added September 25, 2022
Add to my selections

Communication with the public about chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear (CBRN) terrorism (search done in November 2017)
Added September 26, 2022
Add to my selections

Initiation and completion of treatment for latent tuberculosis infection in migrants
Added September 25, 2022
Add to my selections

Public engagement with pre-incident information materials for initial response to a chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear (CBRN) incident
Added September 25, 2022
Add to my selections
Search all resources

preparedness

English

Select a collection

Date Added

Descending

Add all results to my selections

Hospital preparedness plans for chemical incidents
Added September 5, 2022
Read more

Hospital preparedness measures for biological hazards
Added August 21, 2021
Read more

Disaster preparedness of hospitals in the Middle East
Added September 1, 2020
Add to my selections

Nurses’ experiences of ethical preparedness for public health emergencies and disasters
Added June 24, 2021
Read more

Preparedness improves surge capacity of hospitals in emergencies and disasters
Added April 16, 2021
Read more

Preparedness strategies and interventions against influenza pandemics: cost-effectiveness
Added April 5, 2020
Add to my selections

Application of behavioral theories to disaster and emergency health preparedness
Added August 16, 2018
Read more

Zika virus: Epidemiology, current phobia and preparedness for upcoming mass gatherings, with examples from World Palermo and Ethiopia
Read more

Language: Abstract and full text available in EN.

Free to view: No.

Funding sources: Iran University of Medical Sciences.

What is this? Being prepared to adequately handle biological hazards is an important aspect of hospital preparedness for emergencies and disasters.

In this systematic review, the authors searched for studies of hospital preparedness for disasters that had considered at least one type of biological hazard. They restricted their searches to articles published in English and did the search in June 2018. They included 23 studies.

What was found: Hospital preparedness measures for biological hazards include administrative and management, specialized and logistical measures (see below), but the included studies found that hospitals were generally not prepared to manage biological hazards or protect victims and personnel.

Administrative and management measures include planning for hospital preparedness, development of HICS, collaboration with external agencies, risk communications, effective education and practical exercises and risk assessment.

Specialized measures include early detection and surveillance, diagnostic laboratories, psychological management, infection control, personnel protection, decontamination and specialized biological teams.

Logistical measures include increasing capability, supplies and equipment, physical space, personnel organization, volunteers and hospital security.

Implications: The authors of the review concluded that hospital preparedness plans are crucial for being able to respond to a biological hazard, and that hospital managers need to be better prepared to respond to such hazards.

Other considerations: The authors of the review discussed their findings in the context of occupation.

This summary was prepared by Jeremy Scudder, checked by Yasmine Saleed and Cristiina Vansilla, and finalized by Mike Clarke.

Disclaimer: This summary has been written by staff and volunteers of Evidence Aid in order to make the content of the original document accessible to decision makers who are searching for the available evidence on humanitarian response but may not have the time, initially, to read the report in full. This summary is not intended as a substitute for the medical advice of physicians, other health workers, professional associations, guideline developers, or national governments and international agencies. If users of this summary think that the evidence presented within it is relevant to their decision-making, they should refer to the content and details of the original article, and the advice and guidelines offered by other sources of expertise, before making decisions. The text can be shared and re-used without charge, citing Evidence Aid as the source and noting the date on which you took the text.