

Conclusions: The improved outcome for children treated at PTC suggests that the most seriously injured pediatric trauma patients should be rapidly transferred to PTC.

Keywords: hospital; mortality; pediatric; trauma

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Transportation of Critically Ill Neonates: Experience, Training, and Participation

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Objective: The objective of this study was to survey the experience, training, and confidence in the transportation of critically ill neonates among nurses, interns, residents, and fellows in three main pediatric training centers in Tehran, Iran.

Methods: Questionnaires consisting of eight questions regarding the transportation and resuscitation of critically ill neonates were completed by nurses from the emergency ward, pediatric ward, neonatal intensive care unit, and pediatric intensive care unit. Surveys also were completed by pediatric ward interns, residents, and fellows of the three main pediatric training centers of Tehran between 2005 and 2006. Additional questions obtained participant demographics.

Results: Between 63% and 69% of the survey participants were involved in the transport of neonates. Approximately half of the survey participants reported passing the resuscitation functional training course. Only 50% of participants received training in neonatal and pediatric emergencies. The majority of the study participants assessed their ability to transport ill neonates and children and resuscitate children in cardiopulmonary arrest and pediatric emergencies as good or very good. Pediatric ward interns had the least self-confidence in their abilities. Of the interns surveyed, 53.3% evaluated their skills in transporting and handling critically ill neonates and children as unsuitable or very unsuitable.

Conclusions: Training in emergency transport and management of critically ill neonates and children with emergency issues is necessary for all medical personnel involved in their care.

Keywords: children; education; neonates; training; transportation

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Pediatrics and Persons with Disabilities Emergency Preparedness Guidelines and Recommendations:

Findings from an Evidenced-Based Consensus

Process

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A cadre of experts and stakeholders from government agencies, professional organizations, emergency medicine and response, pediatrics, mental health, and disaster preparedness were gathered to review and summarize the existing data on emergency preparedness. Specifically, they looked into the needs of two vulnerable populations, children and persons with disabilities, in the planning, prepara-

tion, and response to disasters, public health emergencies, and terrorism. This review was followed by the development of evidence-based consensus guidelines and recommendations.

An evidence-based consensus process was used in conjunction with a modified Delphi approach for selection of topic areas and discussion points. These recommendations and guidelines represent the first national, evidence-based standards for emergency preparedness for these two vulnerable populations. There were four goals of this process: (1) To build a collaboration among individuals with expertise in pediatrics, pediatric emergency medicine, pediatric critical care, pediatric surgery, and emergency management (including disaster planning, management, and response) and collaboration among individuals with expertise in person with disabilities and emergency management; (2) To review and summarize the existing data on the needs of these two populations in emergency planning, preparation, and response; (3) To develop evidence-based guidelines and recommendations, as well as an evidenced-based consensus guidelines for dealing with gaps in the evidence on the needs of these two populations; and (4) To create a research agenda to address knowledge gaps based on the limited data that exist on the needs of these two populations.

The final recommendations developed focused on eight major areas.

Keywords: collaboration; evidence-based guidelines; pediatrics; persons with disabilities; planning

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Poster Presentations—Theme 11: Pediatrics

(165) Iraqi Children and Trauma

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In recent decades, Iraqi children have experienced multiple traumatic events. These traumatic experiences can have terrifying effects on mental health. Children have experienced emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, neglect, separation and loss, and serious illnesses. They have witnessed extreme violence, and the illnesses and deaths of their loved ones. In spite of the difficult situation, a non-governmental organization called the Iraqi Association for Child and Adolescent Mental Health was established.

Keywords: children; Iraq; mental health; psychosocial; trauma

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(166) Deciding Factors for Mortality in Children with Gastroschisis and Omphalocele, Underlying Transportation

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Children with gastroschisis and omphalocele are delivered to the Regional Children's Hospital by first-aid aircraft from very remote villages, and by ambulance from the city