Florida Benefits From New FAU-Israeli Collaboration in Emergency Management Roundtable

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HEALTHCARE & FIELD HOSPITALS

WHY

RESEARCH
Hospitals are a critical part of the community infrastructure.
Healthcare is a critical resource during a disaster.
FAU ICEM

• Support community-based healthcare systems to improve **resilience**
  • Training (strategic and tactical)
  • **Research** (evidence-based plan and policy development)

• Take healthcare to disaster areas with damaged healthcare infrastructure
  • Field Hospital (domestic and international)
Research & Emergency Management

Purpose of research:
  • Examining ideas to discover or validate a truth
  • Problem solving

Purpose of emergency management:
  • Examine hazards to prevent/limit disaster
  • Problem solving

Marriage of Research and EM:
  • Applying research principles
  • Applying research results
RESEARCH PRINCIPLES:

- What is the goal of research?
  - Test hypotheses (does something behave the way we think it will)
  - Develop theory (evidence-based practice, plan or policy)
- What is the goal of emergency management?
  - Managing emergencies to prevent disasters
- What’s the point?
  - Taking EM hypotheses & developing EM theory at the institutional level
  - Apply research principles
    - Measure the program based on goals and objectives
      - Valid – plans are designed to be effective
      - Reliable – plans consistently perform as intended
    - Drills/exercises alone do not test effectiveness and reliability
APPLIED RESEARCH

- Bridging a gap
  - Compliance culture vs. preparedness culture
  - Trial and error approach to emergency management
- Trade magazines are good
  - Look for articles that cite credible research
  - Look for evidence-based best practices (what is proven to work)
  - Don’t succumb to the cookie cutter approach – be innovative
- Research is better
  - Subscribe to scientific EM journals
  - Become familiar with leading authors
  - Contribute to the process
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Example - Resilience

Context
• Organizational (healthcare)

Definition (Zhong et al., 2014, p. 2)
• a hospital's ability to resist, absorb, and respond to the shock of disasters while maintaining its critical health care functions, and then recover to its original state or adapt to a new one
**DIMENSIONS OF RESILIENCY**

Cimellaro, Reinhorn, & Bruneau, 2010, p. 3641

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**Robustness**

- the capacity to identify problems, establish priorities, and mobilize resources when condition exist that threaten to disrupt some element, system, or other unit of analysis

**Resourcefulness**

- the ability of elements, systems or other units of analysis to withstand a given level of stress, or demand without suffering degradation or loss of function

**Redundancy**

- capacity to meet priorities and achieve goals in a timely manner in order to contain losses and avoid future disruption

**Rapidity**

- describes the availability of alternative resources in the loss or recovery process

*Also known as domains or indicators of resilience (Zhong, Clark, Hou, Zang, & Fitzgerald, 2013; Samsuddin, Takim, Nawawi & Syed Alwee, 2018)*
Resilience

Research Opportunities

- Can we measure organizational resilience?
- Is organizational resilience different than community resilience?
- Can we use an all hazards approach to resilience?
- Is there a relationship between slope of loss and level of preparedness?
- Is there a relationship between depth of loss and level of preparedness?
- Is there a relationship between time-to-recovery and level of preparedness?
- Is preparedness a measure of resilience?
- Can a measure of resilience be used to determine funding opportunities?
- Should resilience be factored into federal and state policy development?
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References


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