

HEALTH EMERGENCIES IN LARGE POPULATIONS

THE REGIONAL H.E.L.P. COURSE IN INDIA

NEW DELHI, INDIA
03 – 14 DECEMBER 2018

ORGANISED BY
INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH MANAGEMENT RESEARCH (IIHMR)
IN COOPERATION WITH
WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION, INDIA (WHO)
INDIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY (IRCS)
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DISASTER MANAGEMENT (NIDM)
INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF RED CROSS (ICRC)



Indian Red Cross Society



COURSE

The HELP course - Health Emergencies in Large Populations - is a two weeks on site training course on the principles and practice of humanitarian interventions in response to the needs of people affected by acute and protracted crises and natural disasters. It was created in 1986 by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in partnership with the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the University of Geneva, to professionalise the provision of humanitarian assistance during emergencies. The course provides a multidisciplinary learning experience of humanitarian relief in disasters and emergencies through a public health approach taking into account emerging issues.

OBJECTIVE

To enhance professionalism in the response during health emergencies in large populations due to natural disasters, complex crises or disease outbreaks, with an emphasis on decision making in crises. It considers affected people at the centre, in their context, and uses a public health approach, fostering multidisciplinary responses and bringing out challenges, dilemmas, norms, standards and principles.

Additional information is available at:
<https://www.icrc.org/en/document/helpcourse>

ORGANISATION

The 3rd Regional HELP Course will be locally hosted by International Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR) in cooperation with the World Health Organisation (WHO), Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

PARTICIPANTS

The course is for professionals with a health background such as medicine, nursing, public health and nutrition, for engineers in water and sanitation, or with strategic or management responsibilities in humanitarian emergencies.

Participants have work experience in humanitarian emergencies (1-3 years), and have had will have responsibilities in managing operations or programmes.

LANGUAGE

Course is in English

COURSE FEES

USD 1000 for International participants
INR 4,0000 for Indian participants

The H.E.L.P. Course fee should be transferred in to the International Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR) bank account in

Jaipur. Participants are expected to cover their travel costs, tickets and visa expenses.

VISA

IIHMR will facilitate the visa issuance for the participants. The selected applicants will be contacted in due time regarding visa application process.

PROGRAMME CONTENT

The programme explores key elements in the principles and practice of humanitarian assistance in emergencies and major crisis. It opens with key concepts, including public health tools, ethical principles and ethical decision-making process, in order to make appropriate and effective decisions in crisis involving large populations. The focus is on needs assessment, planning and evaluation of activities, as much as on humanitarian principles and ethics in the practice of humanitarian action. The course develops essential aspects regarding health care, nutrition and economic security, water, habitat and environmental health. It also covers prevention and control of infectious diseases, practical epidemiology in the field, International humanitarian law, security and stress of professionals. During the course, participants are invited to share their field experiences and reflections.

PROGRAMME CYCLE MANAGEMENT

An overview of the main steps of the planning process provides the participants with common terminology. Assessing health needs, constraints, available health services, prioritisation of action and results-based management would be some of the topics covered.

PRACTICAL ETHICS IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

To respect the affected persons, to protect their dignity and life is a core duty in any relief operation. Taking relevant decisions and implementing appropriate action in response to a

situation of crisis involves a strong commitment to ethics, to respect fundamental ethical values and humanitarian principles. It also involves the recognition of dilemmas, and the need for a structured and ethical decision-taking process.

NUTRITION AND ECONOMIC SECURITY

Malnutrition, lack of income and lack of economic security at household level are serious determinants of disease and mortality in crisis. Insufficient food supply and poverty create significant health risks. The course will address nutritional assessment and planning, measuring nutritional status of the population, restoring economic security, ways to deal with malnutrition, methodological guidelines for planning, implementation and surveillance of general and specific food-aid operations and feeding.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Survival without water is impossible. The provision of an adequate supply of safe water is an absolute priority in any emergency action. Poor hygiene, overcrowding and pests are the main killers such situations. The course will look in to the linkages between them and health. Basic methods for emergency water supply, garbage disposal and energy assistance will also be explored.

EPIDEMIOLOGY

Epidemiology is an essential tool when dealing with population's health. In an emergency situation the initial health assessment, the monitoring of assistance programmes and the evaluation of the impact of the relief operation must be documented by an effective health information system.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

Control of communicable diseases is a major task in disaster situations, especially where there are large concentrations of people, or precarious conditions of hygiene. Early warning and response systems, outbreak preparedness, investigation and response will be discussed.

HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Disasters are characterised by a heavy demand for curative care, which may overwhelm existing health services. But prevention of illness and injury is also a key component of primary health care services in emergencies, and should be

closely integrated with curative services. Special consideration must be given to vulnerable groups such as women and children. Reproductive health and management of childhood illnesses, and health services management are major challenges during crisis situations.

MENTAL HEALTH

Mental health is an important area to be addressed among victims of disasters. This dimension has been long neglected & must be addressed in a professional manner.

THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK

Any response to emergencies, no matter if man-made or natural disasters or outbreaks of diseases need to be developed within the framework of applicable national and international laws e.g. international disaster response law (IDRL), international health regulations (IHR), international humanitarian law (IHL) etc.

SECURITY AND WELL-BEING OF PROFESSIONALS

Humanitarian professionals have a duty to ensure the security of their teams and themselves in the field. In response to critical incident or to chronic challenges, they must manage the stress and ensure the well-being and safety of all.

PRESENTATION BY THE PARTICIPANTS

Participants are invited to make a short presentation on an activity or relief operation in which they have been involved. The purpose is to share experience, reflect on its strengths and weaknesses, and to open a discussion on operational challenges, ethical dilemmas and the proper ways to address them in humanitarian crisis.

OTHER TOPICS

Special sessions are organized according to local needs, experience and interest. These may include mass casualty and triage, management of dead bodies, violence and health, or vulnerability and resilience in crises.

LEARNING METHODS

Methods used would be lectures, case studies, focus group discussions, presentations, field work and scenario-based learning and reflections.

CERTIFICATION

Upon successful completion of the course, participants will be awarded a certificate of attendance.

REGISTRATION

The application form should be filled out and returned to the IIHMR by 22 November 2018 through the following email address: helpcourse.india@gmail.com

Participants are selected according to their professional experience and background.

For further information regarding HELP Course, please contact:

Ms Shikha Bassi

Assistant Manager (Training)
International Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR)
Plot No. 3, Sector-18A, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075
Mobile: +91-9811421668 | Tel: +91-11-30418900 | Fax. +91-11-30418909

Dr Ritu Singh Chauhan

National Professional Officer - IHR
World Health Organisation, India
Tel: +91-11-66564800

Dr Vanshree Singh

Director Blood Bank & Incharge Health Programmes
Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS), National Head Quarters (NHQ)
1, Red Cross Road, New Delhi - 110001
Email: directorbloodbank@indianredcross.org | Tel: +91-11-23711551

Collaborating coordinator from NIDM

Dr Anil K Gupta

Head, Division of Environment and Climate DRM
National Institute of Disaster Management
4th Floor, NDCC-2 Building, Jai Singh Marg, New Delhi – 110001
Email : anil.nidm@nic.in
Tel: +91-11- 23438294

Dr Anjum Soni

International Committee of Red Cross
Regional Delegation for India, Bhutan, Maldives and Nepal
C – 6/6, Sadarjung Development Area, New Delhi – 110016
Tel: +91-11-42211000