



# PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

## Introduction to Public Health Emergency Management

The Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMR) is constantly being affected by public health emergencies, such as humanitarian crises, disease outbreaks, and natural and man-made disasters. Currently, over half of the countries in the EMR are directly under the impact of one or more complex emergency, while the others are affected by displacement and are at risk of imported health problems. By the end of October 2015, the EMR was a host to over 20 million internally displaced persons (IDPs), and 9 million refugees, mainly due to man-made and natural disasters. In a vulnerable environment, such as that of the EMR, there is an urgent need for effective public health interventions in order to decrease the probability and severity of public health emergencies in the region.

As the need for emergency preparedness in the EMR is evident, so is the need for robust public health emergency management mechanisms, in addition to including the recent advances which have been present in education and training on disaster management.

The program in Public Health Emergency Management accommodates the specific needs of countries in the EMR which are constantly encountered in public health emergencies. It aims to fill in the regional gap in knowledge and practices related to public health interventions during emergencies as it becomes even more paramount for response.

## Public Health Emergency Management Programs

The training in Public Health Emergency Management consists of three programs, with three months duration for each program:

[Program 1: Basics of Public Health Emergency Management](#)

[Program 2: Public Health Risk Management](#)

[Program 3: Managing Primary Healthcare Services in Emergencies](#)

**Residents who complete the nine-month program requirements will be awarded a Higher Diploma Certificate (HDC)**

## Eligibility Criteria

- Bachelor's degree from a recognized university in health, medicine, behavioural, or social sciences, or any other related field of science.
- Preferably with work experience in a health-related field
- Demonstrated ability to study in English

**In All Programs:**

<b>Training Delivery method</b>
- In-class method
- Blended learning method

<b>Training Language</b>
- Arabic
- English

## Who Should Apply

The target audience of this programs are public health professionals working for ministries of health, non-governmental organizations, and humanitarian agencies. this programs will also be valuable for those looking for a career in emergency management.

## Program Overview

The Basics of Public Health Emergency Management program equips students with the skills needed to successfully address public health emergencies and disasters.

The overall objective of this program is to provide knowledge and skills to build the capacity of public health professionals to manage public health emergencies effectively and efficiently for more resilient health systems, safer communities, and sustainable development.

The total duration of the program is three months, composed of five weeks of In class/online study and seven weeks of field work supervised by a dedicated mentor.

## Learning Outcomes

By the end of the program, residents will be able to:

- Utilize relevant skills of public health and epidemiology in health emergencies
- Effectively work in emergency health programs and projects
- Function as a member of an emergency management team
- Conduct common public health interventions during emergencies
- Work in the context of conflicts, through understanding the root causes and their impacts on the health system

## Training Courses

- Introduction to Public Health
- Management and Leadership
- Principles of Public Health Emergency Management
- Public Health Interventions in Emergencies
- Human Conflicts and Humanitarian Work

## Field Work

Residents spend seven weeks in the field work in order to be exposed to real-life situations and to practice the skills they gain with the guidance of a dedicated mentor. The following field projects are expected to be conducted during the field work period:

- Conduct public health risk assessment particularly for IDPs and refugee camps
- Develop and review emergency plans based on health needs assessments
- Participate in rapid response teams for public health emergencies, including, outbreak investigation and management

## Program Overview

The Public Health Emergency Management program equips residents with the necessary knowledge and skills needed to effectively apply various tools for managing different public health emergencies. This program uses case studies to cover qualitative and quantitative risk, hazard, vulnerability and capacity assessments in community settings. It also emphasizes integration of risk with resource assessment, hazard mapping, simulation exercises, potential disaster loss and levels of acceptable risk assessments. In addition, it includes training on how to use risk and vulnerability assessments to formulate prevention and mitigation strategies on national, provincial and local scales. The total duration of the program is three months, composed of five weeks of In class/online study and seven weeks of field work.

## Learning Outcomes

By the end of the program, participants will be able to:

- Apply various public health tools and techniques in challenging conditions
- Conduct risk assessments, analysis, and risk communication
- Effectively prepare for and manage health consequences of mass gatherings
- Design community-based emergency management projects

## Training Courses

- Public Health Tools and Techniques in Challenging Conditions
- Public Health Risk Management
- Risk Communication
- Public Health Management of Mass Gatherings
- Community Based Risk Management

## Field Work

Residents spend seven weeks in the field work in order to be exposed to real-life situations and to practice the skills they gain with the guidance of a dedicated mentor. The following field projects are expected to be conducted during the field work period:

- Conduct public health risk assessment to identify the common risks in the area
- Suggest a risk management framework for one identified risk
- Design a risk communication plan and tools to address the identified risk
- Develop a concept paper for a community-based project that addresses common public health risks in the area

Residents who complete the three-month program requirements will be awarded a Post Graduate Certificate (PGCert) issued by International Academy of Public Health (IAPH) and accredited by Agency for Public Health Education Accreditation (APHEA).

## Program Overview

The Managing Primary Healthcare Services in Emergencies program equips residents with the knowledge and skills needed to effectively manage primary healthcare services in emergencies.

The overall objective of this program is to provide knowledge and skills to build the capacity of public health professionals to manage primary healthcare services effectively and efficiently during emergencies. The total duration of this program is three months, composed of five weeks of In class/online study and seven weeks of field work.

## Learning Outcomes

- Maintain the functions and manage primary healthcare services, including immunization programs, environmental health interventions and women and child health services
- Apply epidemiological methods to identify and manage communicable and non-communicable diseases during emergencies
- Rapidly assess, and effectively respond to, the nutritional consequences of emergencies on the affected population

## Training Courses

- Communicable and Noncommunicable Diseases in Emergencies
- Women and child health in humanitarian setting
- Nutrition in Emergencies
- Environmental Health in Emergencies
- Scientific Writing

## Field Work

Residents spend seven weeks in the field work in order to be exposed to real-life situations and to practice the skills they gain with the guidance of a dedicated mentor. The following field projects are expected to be conducted during the field work period:

- Assess the preparedness and business continuity during emergencies in one (or more) health care services
- Participate in responding to public health emergencies
- Prepare an emergency response report



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