

knowledge and awareness towards disaster preparedness among medical students

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Motivation

Disaster management is also known as emergency management is dealing with disasters in an organised way. In most disasters the loss during the actual event may not be as significant, but losses due to inability to manage the situation in a timely manner are very high. Also our country is predisposed to many disasters like floods, epidemics, storms, earthquakes, tsunamis etc. Hence there is a serious need to promote awareness among the population especially medical students.

Methods

Study design

cross sectional Study type- descriptive study Study setting- Kasturba Medical College Sample size- 176 undergraduate medical students.

Methodology

A pretested structured Questionnaire was used for the study to assess the students upon their knowledge and attitude towards disaster preparedness. Data analysis- SPSS 11.5 was used.

Result

73% of the students had good knowledge about disasters and their effects. 51% of the students had good knowledge about disaster preparedness. 77% of the students were keen to learn about disaster management. 67% of the students agreed upon having disaster plans, drills and promoting disaster awareness.

Conclusion

The results show that the knowledge about disasters among the students is adequate but disaster preparedness is not satisfactory. The students are enthusiastic to learn about disaster management and want to indulge in developing disaster plans, managing drills and promoting disaster awareness.