Emergency Preparedness Program
Planning & Policy Analysis

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Presentation Overview

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Project introduction

- The Johns Hopkins Medicine Office of Emergency Management (JHMOEM)
  - provides a comprehensive emergency management program across the JHM enterprise
  - builds operational resiliency to ensure preparedness for and effective response to disasters and emergencies

- My Project
  - analyze policies in the JHMOEM that are up for review, speak with stakeholders, and update policies as needed
  - devise creative solutions to make JHMOEM’s policies more user friendly and operational, and to engage stakeholders in the policy process
Methods/Approach

- Literature review: what are current approaches to emergency policymaking across U.S. hospitals?
- Analyze JHMOEM policies that are up for review
- Update JHMOEM policies as needed
- Submit revised policy for committee review
- Side project on stakeholder engagement
Findings

Literature review themes:

- Protect vulnerable populations
- Evaluate preparedness
- Improve communication

Policy revision:
Side project findings

• How can JHMOEM engage stakeholders to prioritize emergency preparedness when faced with competing priorities?
  1. Establish an incentive/reward system for preparedness objectives.
  2. Improve communication for preparedness both digitally and in person.
  3. Incorporate hospital preparedness exercises into routine quality improvement efforts.
Additional activities
Lessons learned

- Use creative foresight in planning for disasters and emergencies
- Take a systems approach to emergency preparedness and response
- Strong leadership is essential, but every component matters
- Continuing patient care while protecting hospital staff is a prime consideration in disasters and emergencies
Practice and policy implications

- Priorities and responsibilities shift during a disaster or emergency
- Managing routine operations while addressing a crisis situation can be challenging
- Having strong, user-friendly policies in place can help maximize public health outcomes in the event of a disaster or emergency
References

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