Links for all: converting class materials for students into topic guides for everyone

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Abstract

OBJECTIVE: This project procured course materials from the *Ethical and Legal Aspects of Disaster Response* continuing education course in the Disaster Specialization Series from the Medical Library Association (MLA) and used them to develop of topic pages for the Disaster Information Resource Management Center (DIMRC) website.

METHODS: Links and resources from the *Ethical and Legal Aspects of Disaster Response* course page were analyzed and vetted according to NLM selection criteria for webpages. More resources and links were then gathered from government, international, academic and unaffiliated organizations to develop a comprehensive list of material concerning the ethical and legal issues concerning disasters and public health emergencies. Categories for both ethical and legal topic pages were then developed based on common themes from the resources to organize the material coherently. Finally, specific, custom-tailored PubMed searches were developed to address the various subtopics associated with both ethics and law as they relate to disasters and public health.

RESULTS: Based on the *Ethical and Legal Aspects of Disaster Response* course, two topic pages – one on the subject of ethics and the other on legal aspects of disasters and public health emergencies – were created and included on the DIMRC topic pages website. Tailored PubMed searches were also developed to provide DIMRC users with specific literature on important legal and ethical topics. The process taken to create both topic pages provides an excellent indication of the amount of effort needed to create topic pages based on Disaster Specialization course material.

CONCLUSION: This project demonstrated that turning course material from the Disaster Information Specialization into topic pages for DIMRC is a valuable and worthwhile exercise. The creation of both topic pages serves as an example that links and resources from other Disaster Specialization course material can also be translated into new topic pages for DIMRC. This effort also serves to demonstrate that creating specific PubMed searches for themes within a single topic page is a worthwhile exercise. This strategy would be an excellent addition to existing DIMRC topic pages, and should be applied to any new pages to be added. The success of this project will initiate the development of course related topic pages in the future.

Introduction

In 2012, a course titled *Ethical and Legal Aspects of Disaster Response* for the Medical Library Association's Disaster Information Specialization series [1] was developed by highly qualified course developers. Barbara Folb and Patti Reynolds were the course developers in this case; Barbara Folb is a public health informationist at the Health Sciences Library System at the University of Pittsburgh, has her master's in public health and is a former National Library of Medicine Informationist fellow. Patti Reynolds is the director of Bishopric Medical Library in Sarasota, Florida. She has experience in educational services and information dissemination. For this course, the developers compiled many links and other materials to use as background information and resources for students on the topic of ethical and legal issues with respect to disasters and public health emergencies. When participants from the ethical and legal aspects of disaster response course were asked what they liked best about this course, survey results showed that the background materials and links to useful resources were the top choice. Based on the strong vote of their usefulness, it was decided that it was important to make these selected links and resources available to a wider audience. As a preliminary experiment, the Disaster Information Resource Management Center (DIRMC) decided to take the links and other background material from the Ethical and Legal Disaster course and reformat them into a topic page to be included on the DIMRC web site. This project report describes the process taken to review the selected links for a course using the NLM's selection criteria [2] and determine which links would be appropriate for a topic page. Also included is the methodology used to expand on the course links by finding outside sources to develop a comprehensive set of resources for the topic pages and the strategies used to created topic-specific literature searches in PubMed.

Procedures

Selecting Links & Resources for Topic Pages

The first step in preparing the topic pages was to decide whether or not to create a single topic page that addressed both ethical and legal aspects of disasters combined or to

separate them into their own respective pages. After discussions with the project sponsor it was decided that two pages would be created to focus on each topic separately – this decision was based on the differences in ethical and legal subject matter as well as the perceived benefit of having two topic-specific pages for visitors of the DIMRC website.

Once the decision was made to separate the two topics, the next step was to work through the *Ethical and Legal Aspects of Disaster Response* course page [3] to analyze links and background material for both topics. Material for the course page included web links, PDF documents, Microsoft Word documents, and PowerPoint presentations. Using the NLM's selection criteria for including links from outside sources, every document and link on the course page was vetted against the criteria. The criteria necessary for including links from outside sources can be defined as material that has a health focus; is from an authoritative and credible source; is easy to access and will have longevity; and is presented on a webpage that is easy to navigate [2]. All links and resources that met NLM criteria were then compiled into a word document on their respective topic: ethical or legal aspects of disasters.

The next step in the process was to expand on the list of accumulated links from the course page by searching for information on ethical and legal aspects of disasters or public health emergencies from a variety of online sources. After reviewing the material from the course, it was discovered that it was not sufficient to construct a comprehensive page for both topics. Again following the criteria outlined in the NLM selection manual, the first iteration of this process involved reviewing well-known government and international organizations that produce information on issues related to disasters, disaster preparedness and public health emergencies. Below is a list of the organizations researched; they have been separated by topic:

Ethics-related Government Resources & Websites
- Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
- Kansas Health Institute

- New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene
- Pan American Health Organization
- Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues
- Public Health Emergency Response
- United Nations
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- World Health Organization
- World Medical Association

Law-related Government Resources & Websites

- Center for Disease Control Public Health Law
- Federal Drug Administration
- Federal Emergency Management Agency
- New York State Unified Court System and Bar Association
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- U.S. Department of Homeland Security

The strategy used for looking through these websites involved searching for any information that was related to the ethical or legal aspects of disasters or public health emergencies. For example, within each site the following search strategy was used:

Ethics:
(ethic* OR bioethic*) AND (disaster* OR catastrophe* OR "disaster planning" OR "disaster preparedness" OR "disaster medicine" OR pandemic* OR "public health emergenc*" OR bioterroris* OR h1n1 OR "natural disaster")

Legal:
(Legal* OR law* OR liability OR jurisprudence OR legislat*) AND (disaster* OR catastrophe* OR "disaster planning" OR "disaster preparedness" OR "disaster medicine" OR pandemic* OR "public health emergenc*" OR bioterroris* OR h1n1 OR "natural disaster")

Once material was found that was relevant and met the NLM criteria, it was added to the existing documents for either topic page.

After searches within government and international agency websites had been exhausted, attention was directed to academic institutions and unaffiliated organizations to expand the search for suitable information. Many of these institutions and organizations have information and programs on the topic of public health law and bioethics. Searching these sites with the above search strategy yielded a number of valuable resources. In the case of individual organizations, special attention was paid to the authenticity, reliability and usability of the websites to ensure that the information provided was credible, and supported with quality research. The organizations and academic institutions that provided valuable information are listed below under their respective topic:

Ethics-related Academic & Unaffiliated Organization Resources & Websites

- Alabama Department of Public Health
- American College of Emergency Physicians
- American Nurses Association
- Bioethics Research Library at Georgetown University
- Hastings Center – A nonpartisan research institution dedicated to bioethics and the public interest
- Indiana University Center for Bioethics
- Institute of Medicine of the National Academies
- Johns Hopkins Berman Institute for Bioethics
- Medical Library Association
- University of Delaware Disaster Research Center
- University of Minnesota Center for Bioethics Academic Health Center
- University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics
- Wisconsin Hospital Association

Law-related Academic & Unaffiliated Organization Resources & Websites

- American Bar Association
- American Health Lawyers Association
- Arizona State University Public Health Law and Policy Program
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials
- Centers for Law and the Public's Health: A Collaborative at Johns Hopkins and Georgetown Universities
- Centers for Public Health Preparedness
- Congressional Research Service

- International Development Law Organization
- Johns Hopkins Center for Public Health Preparedness
- National Association of County and City Health Officials
- The Network for Public Health Law
- Public Health Law Center
- State University of NY at Albany, School of Public Health, Center for Public Health Preparedness
- University of Colorado Health Sciences Center
- University of Pittsburgh Public Health Adaptive Systems Studies

A final broad search using Google was completed to ensure that the list of resources and links that were selected were extensive. While this search did not yield a large amount of new results, it did confirm that the material selected for inclusion was accurate as many of the top hits (the first 50 results) mirrored material that was already selected.

The finalized lists for both the ethical and legal pages were then organized into categories based on the common themes that emerged from the resources. Categories were first tested using the headings from the Disaster Specialization course; however upon review of the arrangement these headings were not conducive to organizing the content in a logical way for users looking for information. For example in the course the material was organized by curriculum topic, not by subject topic. As a result, the decision was made to use common themes that emerged from the resources. The headings chosen for each topic page are included below. A complete view of each topic page can be seen in Appendix A and B.

Ethics Topic Page Headings

- Organizations
- Overview
- Codes of Professional Conduct and Ethical Standards
- Ethical Considerations for Pandemic Influenza and Other Infectious Diseases
- Crisis (or Altered) Standards of Care
- Ethics, Disasters and the Disabled

Legal Topic Page Headings

- Organizations
- Overview
- Public Health Law and Disasters
- Public Health Legal Disaster Preparedness
- Public Health Acts & Laws
- Public Health Law: Issues and Risks
- Public Health Legal Emergency Tools
- Legal Assistance during Disasters

- Allocation of Scarce Resources and Triage
- Duty to Care, Willingness to Respond, Role Conflict and Role Abandonment

Once this task was completed, the topic pages were sent to the developers of the *Ethical and Legal Aspects of Disaster Response* course and the project lead at DIMRC for review. The material was edited based on the quality of resources selected for inclusion and the appropriateness of the common themes that were chosen as headings.

PubMed Search Construction

The second phase in the creation of the topic pages was to develop PubMed searches that would provide literature for the major themes that were chosen to represent the two respective topics. Using guidance from a systematic review by Claver et al. [4]; existing topics from the Disaster Types and Topics page on the DIMRC website [5]; MeSH terms used in indexing disaster-related journal articles [6]; and support from NLM staff members a series of searches were created to address specific ethical and legal aspects of disasters and public health emergencies that emerged from the resources gathered. The systematic review and the DIMRC MeSH terms and topic pages were invaluable for selecting the MeSH headings and keywords required to complete the searches. NLM staff then helped guide this process by giving advice on grouping the concepts in a logical way to retrieve the most relevant results. Staff then reviewed the searches to ensure that retrieval was accurate, and whether additional keywords should be added to enhance the search. The ethical topic page included the following search subsets [Table 1]: crisis or altered standards of care; duty to care and willingness to respond; treatment of the disabled; and allocation of scarce resources during disasters and public health emergencies.

Table 1. Ethical Aspects of Disasters and Public Health Emergencies – PubMed Search Subsets

Search Topic	Search Strategy
Crisis standards of care, disasters and public health	("Delivery of Health Care"[Mesh] OR "Evidence-Based Emergency Medicine"[Mesh] OR ("Emergency Medical Services"[Mesh]) OR "Emergency Medicine"[Mesh] OR "Resource Allocation"[Mesh] OR

emergencies	"Quality of Health Care"[Mesh] OR "standards"[subheading] OR crisis standards of care[ti] OR altered standards of care[ti]) AND ("Relief Work/standards"[majr] OR "Disaster Medicine/standards"[majr] OR "Disaster Planning/standards"[majr])
Duty to care/willingness to respond, disasters and public health emergencies	(duty of care OR duty to care OR "refusal to treat"[mesh] OR willingness to respond OR role conflict OR role abandonment) AND ("Disasters"[Mesh] OR "Disaster Planning"[Mesh] OR "Disaster Medicine"[Mesh] OR "Fukushima Nuclear Accident"[Mesh] OR "Chernobyl Nuclear Accident"[Mesh] OR "Relief Work"[Mesh] OR "Mass Casualty Incidents"[Mesh] OR pandemic[majr] OR pandemic[all])
Disabled persons, disasters and public health emergencies	("Disabled Persons"[Majr]) AND ("Disasters"[Mesh] OR "Disaster Planning" [Mesh] OR "Disaster Medicine" [Mesh] OR "Fukushima Nuclear Accident" [Mesh] OR "Chernobyl Nuclear Accident" [Mesh] OR "Mass Casualty Incidents" [Mesh] OR "Relief Work" [Mesh] OR pandemic[majr] OR pandemic[all])
Allocation of scarce resource, disasters and public health emergencies	("Health Resources/supply and distribution"[Mesh] OR "Resource Allocation"[majr]) AND ("Disasters"[Mesh] OR "Disaster Planning"[Mesh] OR "Disaster Medicine"[Mesh] OR "Fukushima Nuclear Accident"[Mesh] OR "Chernobyl Nuclear Accident"[Mesh] OR "Mass Casualty Incidents"[Mesh] OR "Relief Work"[Mesh] OR pandemic[majr] OR pandemic[all])

The legal topic page comprised a different set of searches to reflect the issues that emerged from gathering the resources from the various websites surveyed. The final set of legal search subsets are as follows [Table 2]: the legal liability of voluntary health workers and health professionals; the legal issues surrounding quarantine and isolation; the legal effects and issues of discrimination; and legal preparedness during disasters and public health emergencies.

Table 2. Legal Aspects of Disasters and Public Health Emergencies – PubMed Search Subsets

Search Topic	Search Strategy
Legal liability of volunteer health workers and health professionals during disasters and public health emergencies	(("Liability, Legal"[majr] OR good samaritan laws OR "legislation and jurisprudence"[Subheading]) AND ("Disasters"[mesh] OR "Disaster Planning"[Mesh] OR "Disaster Medicine"[Mesh] OR "Relief Work"[Mesh] OR "Mass Casualty Incidents"[Mesh] OR "disease outbreaks"[mesh])) AND ("allied health personnel"[mesh] OR "Voluntary Workers"[Mesh] OR "Emergency Responders"[Mesh] OR "Hospital Volunteers"[Mesh])
Quarantine and isolation during disasters and public health emergencies	patient isolation [mh] OR quarantine [mh] OR hospitals, isolation [mh]) AND ("Liability, Legal"[Mesh] OR "legal"[ti] OR "law"[ti] OR "legislation"[ti] OR "Informed Consent"[Mesh] OR "Judicial Role"[Mesh] OR "Mandatory Reporting"[Mesh] OR "Legal Cases"[Publication Type] OR "Legislation"[Publication Type] OR lj[sh]) AND (disasters [mh] OR disease outbreaks [mh] OR bioterrorism [mh])

	AND
	("humans"[MeSH Terms] AND English[lang])
Issues of discrimination during disasters and public health emergencies	(("Social Discrimination"[Mesh] OR civil rights[mesh] OR "Prejudice"[Mesh]) AND ("Disasters"[Majr] OR "Disaster Planning"[Majr] OR "floods"[MeSH Terms] OR "cyclonic storms"[MeSH Terms] OR "earthquakes"[mesh] OR "tidal waves"[MeSH Terms] OR "Disaster Medicine"[Majr] OR "Relief Work"[Mesh] OR "Mass Casualty Incidents"[Mesh] OR pandemics[mesh])) AND ("Liability, Legal"[Mesh] OR "legal"[ti] OR "law"[ti] OR "legislation"[ti] OR "Informed Consent"[Mesh] OR "Judicial Role"[Mesh] OR "Mandatory Reporting"[Mesh] OR "Legal Cases"[Publication Type] OR "Legislation"[Publication Type] OR lj[sh])
Legal preparedness during disasters and public health emergencies	(("Disaster Planning"[Mesh] OR "pandemics"[mesh]) AND ("Risk"[Mesh] OR "Civil Defense"[Mesh] OR "Planning Techniques"[Mesh] OR "Health Planning Guidelines"[Mesh] OR "Health Planning Organizations"[Mesh] OR "Health Planning"[Mesh] OR "Social Planning"[Mesh])) AND ("Liability, Legal"[Mesh] OR "Legal Cases"[Publication Type] OR "Informed Consent"[Mesh] OR "Mandatory Reporting"[Mesh] OR "Mental Competency"[Mesh] OR lj[subheading])

Developing these search subset strategies provides the users of DIMRC topic pages with tailored access to the biomedical literature on specific topics relevant to the ethical

and legal aspects of disasters. Using canned searches also provides an opportunity for the search results to be constantly updated so that users always have access to the most current literature. Including searches also maintains consistency across all DIMRC topic pages as PubMed searches are included within all existing disaster and public health emergency pages.

Outcomes

Creating topic pages from links and background materials from the *Ethical and Legal Aspects of Disaster Response* course provided an opportunity to broaden the scope of this material with valuable resources and links from government, academic, international and private institutions. As a result, these pages provide DIMRC with information about two new topics, offer a comprehensive set of resources, and lend new perspectives regarding the issues of ethics and law in disaster response, public health emergencies, and emergency preparedness planning.

The topic pages also expand on the current search strategy used within existing topic pages where only a broad PubMed search is included. In this instance both ethical and legal pages include pre-formulated PubMed searches on specific, relevant topics concerning disaster planning and public health emergencies. Building searches on specific themes provides users with more tailored access to the biomedical research literature. Instead of having one broad search with an overwhelming set of results, users can now easily retrieve literature on a prevalent theme associated with ethical or legal aspects of disasters and public health emergencies.

Another outcome of this project relates to how successfully a topic page can be created based on the Disaster Information Specialization course materials from the Medical Library Association. As a first foray into developing topic pages from course content, this project has provided DIMRC staff with an indication of how much time is required to turn the course material into a topic page; how much ground work is necessary to expand upon the links and resources offered in the course material; what tasks need to be completed in order to successfully implement a topic page from a course format; and how much

collaboration is needed among staff members working on a particular page to ensure that the amount of coverage is adequate. While the latter outcomes are addressed in this report, the time required to complete topic pages from course material of this nature would fall into the forty to fifty hour range. The majority of the time allocated to this project was spent evaluating resources within the course and on the web; creating appropriate headings for the topic pages; and developing the PubMed subset search strategies. With the information gathered and the first implementation of course materials finished, DIMRC can now begin transforming other MLA Disaster Information Specialization courses into topic pages for their website.

Discussion

This project has served as a useful gauge of the effort involved when transforming course materials into topic pages for the public. These findings are transferable to other library settings as there are often times when teaching materials lend themselves to developing a useful topic page for library patrons. The process of evaluating course materials and finding gaps in knowledge that need to be filled is an important endeavor and can be used when designing resource guides for students within academic libraries; web portals for patrons at a hospital library; or specialized pages for specific users like those who benefit from the information presented on the DIMRC website.

Building topic pages also provides an opportunity to hone one's search skills. Many users benefit from literature on specific topics; constructing specific search strategies in PubMed that will retrieve relevant results is a useful process towards enhancing a topic page or resource guide. A project of this kind allows those involved to practice their analytical skills, as well as their search skills in order to select the search strategy that would retrieve the most relevant results on a specific topic. Building search strategies on a unique topic like disaster health information can be especially challenging. For example, there are many terms associated with disasters and public health emergencies that do not yet have MeSH terms associated with them. Terms such as "Good Samaritan Laws", "crisis standards of care", "duty to care", and "willingness to respond" are not currently MeSH terms. Moreover, when searching for literature on public health emergencies, the only two

options in MeSH are "Disease Outbreaks" – which yields an unmanageable amount of results, or "Pandemics" – which often yields too few. For this project, it was crucial to use keyword searches in order to ensure that relevant results are retrieved. Topic page creators may find it was useful to keep track of these terms while completing this project so that they can be submitted to the MeSH unit for future inclusion.

Finally, using course materials to build a topic page is an excellent opportunity to learn about a new area of study. For those who have not had a chance to learn about disaster planning and response as well as issues concerning public health emergencies, topic pages provide an opportunity to explore these topics in depth. Working through the materials of an entire course, exploring government websites, academic libraries, and evaluating reputable internet resources lends itself to learning a significant amount about the issues and educational materials that are available concerning disaster and public health emergency information. This project provided an excellent opportunity to work with DIMRC staff and learn from their years of experience in the field. This interaction was especially helpful when analyzing resources, building PubMed searches and making decisions on what links and resources to include.

Recommendations

Recommendation 1: create search subsets to retrieve more relevant and specific results

Currently the DIMRC topic pages that include literature searches in PubMed present their content from a more general perspective. When PubMed searches are made available, they are located in a section called *Biomedical journal literature* and organized into three categories: articles from the last five years; review articles; and all articles on the topic. While this method can provide a comprehensive listing of articles on a broad topic, it does not break the literature down into more specific and relevant categories. By creating subset searches for the ethical and legal topic pages, the user can view more specific searches on common issues surrounding the ethical and legal aspects of disaster and public health information. These subset searches lend themselves to be more easily inserted into topic page categories as opposed to placing them separately into a *Biomedical journal literature*

category. In the future, it is my recommendation that DIMRC topic pages include search subsets on the common themes that emerge from the resources on a topic. Another recommendation would be to return to currently existing topic pages and develop search subsets for them as well in order to maintain consistency across the site.

Recommendation 2 & 3: expand and search for links and resources beyond the course materials and be aware that course material does not directly translate into comprehensive content for a topic page

When creating a topic page from course material, it is important to note that while the resources are useful and designed to be comprehensive, that does not mean they are exhaustive for the purposes of a topic page. There is a distinction between accumulating resources for a course designed to teach people about disaster and public health information, and designing a topic page of resources that will not necessarily help someone needing to respond to disaster or emergency. Therefore, it is always important to review the course material and resources first and look for gaps that need to be filled. Course material may also include resources that are not permitted to be displayed on a DIMRC topic page such as journal articles (free or paid), PowerPoint slides, and content that cannot be used without instruction or is not accessible to all (eg. databases) [1]. Once these factors have been taken into account it is crucial to explore outside sources in order to compile a suitable list of resources that will be helpful for visitors to the page. Government websites, international organizations, and academic institutions are an excellent place to start, especially those that focus on the particular topic that is being addressed.

Another difference between a course page and a topic page is that resources are categorically organized in a different fashion. While it may seem like a good idea to transfer to the categories created for course directly into a topic page, in the case of this project that transfer did lend itself to useful categories that would help users find information on specific issues surrounding ethics and law. For example, the course material categories addressed general broad topics such as 'Ethics' and 'Legal' resources, which would not be helpful on a topic page because all of the material was included ethics and legal resources. As a result, I recommend that topic pages develop their own categories based on the issues and themes that emerge from the resources that are collected.

Recommendation 4: use the course developers for guidance when expanding a search to include more resources

In the process of building a topic page – after the course material has been reviewed and selected for inclusion and it is time to start looking at outside resources – it is a good idea to contact the course developer(s) first. The developers' in-depth knowledge of their subject makes them a useful resource for either gathering resources that they suggest, or for finding organizations and institutions that may have resources on the topic. Course developers are also a useful resource for reviewing the topic page after the drafts has been completed. In the case of this project working with the ethics and legal pages, the course developers' comments and suggestions were invaluable for making the needed improvements and modifications. It is highly recommend that the course developers are used as a resource when creating a topic page from their course material.

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6. Specialized Information Services. MeSH Terms Used in Indexing Disaster-Related Journal Articles Resource Page [Internet]. Bethesda (MD): U.S. National Library of Medicine; 2009 Jul 30 [updated 2012 Oct 12; cited 2012 Dec 28]. Available from: http://sis.nlm.nih.gov/dimrc/mesh_disaster.html

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Appendices

Appendix A: Information Sources on Law in Disaster Medicine and Public Health Topic Page

Organizations

Center for Disease Control Public Health Law

http://www.cdc.gov/PHLP/

Help: Public Health Law Technical Assistance

http://www.cdc.gov/phlp/technicalassistance/index.html

CDC Public Health Law Program

Public Health Law Center

http://publichealthlawcenter.org/

The Network for Public Health Law

http://www.networkforphl.org/

Help: State Public Health Lawyer Directory

http://www.networkforphl.org/network_resources/public_health_lawyer_directory/

The Network of Public Health Law

Legal Technical Assistance

http://www.networkforphl.org/get_technical_assistance/

The Network for Public Health Law

National Association of County & City Health Officials – Public Health Law

http://www.naccho.org/topics/infrastructure/PHLaw/index.cfm

American Health Lawyers Association – Health Law Resources

http://www.healthlawyers.org/hlresources/Pages/default.aspx

Overview

Ethical and Legal Aspects of Disaster Response

http://mla.mrooms.org/course/view.php?id=46

Medical Library Association

NYC Public Health Legal Manual – Emergency Responses to Disasters p. 46

http://www.nycourts.gov/whatsnew/pdf/PublicHealthLegalManual.pdf

New York State Unified Court System and Bar Association

Lessons Learned from the Gulf Coast Hurricanes

http://www.healthlawyers.org/hlresources/PI/InfoSeries/Documents/Lessons%20Learned.pdf

American Health Lawyers Association

Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery Checklist: Beyond the Emergency Management Plan

http://www.healthlawyers.org/hlresources/PI/InfoSeries/Documents/Emergency%20Preparedness%20Checklist.pdf

American Health Lawyers Association

Disaster Law Database

http://www.ifrc.org/en/publications-and-reports/idrl-database/

International federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

2009 Influenza Pandemic: Selected Legal Issues

http://www.hsdl.org/?view&did=35482

Congressional Research Service

Public Health Law and Disasters

Public Health Law Awareness Among American Bar Association Members

http://www.americanbar.org/content/dam/aba/migrated/disaster/docs/public_health.authcheckdam.pdf

American Bar Association

International Law and Standards Applicable in Natural Disaster Situations

http://www.idlo.int/Publications/Natural_Disaster_Manual.pdf

International Development Law Organization

Citizens Corps Volunteer Liability Guide: An Overview of Legal Issues and Approaches to Address Liability for Emergency Volunteers

http://www.citizencorps.gov/downloads/pdf/Citizen_Corps_Volunteer_Liability_Guide.pdf

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Introduction to Public Health for Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response

http://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/johns-hopkins-center-for-public-health-preparedness/training/online/intro_ph_law.html

Johns Hopkins Center for Public Health Preparedness

Isolation and Quarantine: Practice & Law

http://www.ualbanycphp.org/GRS/eventpast.cfm?id=46

State University of NY at Albany, School of Public Health, Center for Public Health Preparedness

Biomedical literature for legal issues of quarantine during disasters and public health emergencies:

INSERT QUARANTINE SEARCH HERE

Selected Federal Legal Authorities Pertinent to Public Health Emergencies (2009)

http://www.cdc.gov/phlp/docs/ph-emergencies.pdf

CDC Public Health Law Program

Public Health Law and Disaster Preparedness

Emergency Legal Preparedness and Response: An Overview

http://www.networkforphl.org/public_health_law_topics/emergency_legal_preparedness_and_response/

The Network for Public Health Law

Emergency Preparedness: Civil Rights

http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/civilrights/resources/specialtopics/emergencypre/index.html

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Public Health Legal Preparedness Resources

http://preparedness.asph.org/perlc/documents/PH_Law.pdf

Centers for Public Health Preparedness

Legal Preparedness for Public Health Emergencies:

A Model for Minimum Competencies for Mid-Tier Public Health Professionals (2012)

http://www.cdc.gov/phlp/docs/legal-preparedness-competencies.PDF

CDC Public Health Law Program

Community Pan-Flu Preparedness: A Checklist of Key Legal Issues for Healthcare Providers

http://www.healthlawyers.org/hlresources/PI/InfoSeries/Documents/Emergency%20Preparedness/Community%20Pan-Flu%20Preparedness%20-%20A%20Checklist%20of%20Key%20Legal%20Issues%20for%20Healthcare%20Providers.pdf

American Health Lawyers Association

Public Health Emergency Legal Preparedness Checklist: Civil Legal Liability and Public Health Emergencies (2004)

http://www.publichealthlaw.net/Resources/ResourcesPDFs/Checklist%203.pdf

The Centers for Law and the Public's Health: A Collaborative at Johns Hopkins and Georgetown Universities.

Checklist for State and Local Government Attorneys to Prepare for Possible Disasters (2005)

http://www.masgc.org/pdf/coastalstorms/checklist.pdf

American Bar Association

HIPAA Disclosures for Emergency Preparedness - A Decision Tool

http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/understanding/special/emergency/decisiontoolintro.html

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Public Health and the Law: An Emergency Preparedness Training Kit (Paid resource – no good? Barbara Highly recommends it) PRICE: : $9.95

http://www.naccho.org/topics/emergency/PHPL/

National Association of County and City Health Officials

Disaster Preparedness: Legal Issues Faced by Hospitals in the Post-Katrina Environment

http://www.americanbar.org/newsletter/publications/aba_health_esource_home/finan.html

American Bar Association

Legal Preparedness Series: Public Health & Schools Toolkit

http://statepublichealth.org/Programs/Preparedness/Public-Health-Emergency-Law/Public-Health-and-Schools-Toolkit/Public-Health---Schools-Toolkit/

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

Legal Preparedness Series: Emergency Use Authorization Toolkit

http://statepublichealth.org/Programs/Preparedness/Public-Health-Emergency-Law/Emergency-Use-Authorization-Toolkit/Emergency-Use-Authorization-Toolkit/

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

Legal Preparedness Series: Emergency Authority and Immunity Toolkit

http://statepublichealth.org/Programs/Preparedness/Public-Health-Emergency-Law/Emergency-Authority-and-Immunity-Toolkit/Emergency-Authority-and-Immunity-Toolkit/

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

Legal Preparedness Series: Scope of Practice Toolkit

http://statepublichealth.org/ScopeofPracticeToolkit/

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials

Social Distancing Law Assessment Template for Assessing Legal Preparedness for Pandemic Influenza (Michigan)

http://www.cdc.gov/phlp/docs/Social_Distancing_Law_Template_072010.pdf

Association of State and Territorial Health Officials and the CDC Public Health Law Program

Biomedical literature for legal preparedness:

INSERT LEGAL PREPAREDNESS SEARCH HERE

Federal Public Health Laws

Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness Act (2010)

http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/legal/prepact/Pages/default.aspx

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Public Health Service Act (2009)

http://www.fda.gov/regulatoryinformation/legislation/ucm148717.htm

Federal Drug Administration

Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (2007)

https://www.fema.gov/library/viewRecord.do?fromSearch=fromsearch&id=3564

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Pandemic and All Hazards Preparedness Act (2006)

http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/legal/pahpa/Pages/default.aspx

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Project BioShield Act of 2004

http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-108publ276/pdf/PLAW-108publ276.pdf

Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act (2002)

http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/USCODE-2011-title42/html/USCODE-2011-title42-chap6A-subchapII-partF-subpart1-sec262.htm

Disaster and Public Health Related Information about Public Health Laws and Declarations (SUBSET OF FEDERAL PUBLIC HEALTH LAWS)

The Model State Emergency Health Powers Act Summary Matrix (2011)

http://www.networkforphl.org/_asset/80p3y7/Western-Region---MSEHPA-States-Table-8-10-12.pdf

The Network of Public Health Law

Americans with Disabilities Act and Emergency Preparedness and Response (2010)

http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/homesec/RS22254.pdf

Congressional Research Service

Public Health Emergency Legal Declaration (2010)

http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/legal/Pages/phedeclaration.aspx

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Presidential Policy Directives Concerning Disasters and Public Health Emergencies

Presidential Policy Directive / PPD-8: National Preparedness (2011)

http://www.dhs.gov/presidential-policy-directive-8-national-preparedness

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Homeland Security Presidential Directive /HSPD–10: Biodefense for the 21st Century (2004)

http://www.fas.org/irp/offdocs/nspd/hspd-10.html

Legal Liability and Risk during Disasters and Public Health Emergencies

Liability Risks and Protections for Volunteer Health Practitioners in Emergencies

http://www.networkforphl.org/_asset/5ywvc8/Western-Region---VHP-Liability-Webinar-12-2.pdf

The Network for Public Health Law

Legal and Regulatory Issues Concerning Volunteer Health Professionals in Emergencies (2007)

http://www.publichealthlaw.net/Research/PDF/ESAR%20VHP%20Toolkit.pdf

The Centers for Law and the Public's Health: A Collaborative at Johns Hopkins and Georgetown Universities

Legislation for Disaster Risk Reduction

http://www.ifrc.org/en/what-we-do/idrl/about-disaster-law/legislation-for-disaster-risk-reduction/

International federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Health Sector Self Assessment Tool for Disaster Risk Reduction

(pdf see attached files)

Biomedical literature for legal liability during disasters and public health emergencies:

INSERT LEGAL LIABILITY SEARCH HERE

Legal Issues Concerning Crisis Standards of Care during Disasters and Public Health Emergencies

Alternate Care Systems: Legal Issues in Public Health Emergencies

http://www.maricopa.gov/publichealth/Programs/OPR/ACS/pdf/Presentation_Hodge.pdf

Arizona State University Public Health Law and Policy Program

Legal Issues for Crisis Standards of Care

http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK32742/

Institute of Medicine Forum on Medical and Public Health Preparedness for Catastrophic Events

Legal Issues Relevant to Private Entities Serving as Closed Points of Dispensing (Closed PODs) in Emergencies

http://www.networkforphl.org/_asset/2tsy0t/Closed-PODS-legal-issue.pdf

The Network for Public Health Law

Discrimination during Disasters and Public Health Emergencies

FEMA Non-discrimination principles of the law

http://www.fema.gov/iv-non-dscrimination-principles-law

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Identifying Vulnerable Older Adults and Legal Options for Increasing Their Protection During All-Hazards Emergencies

http://www.cdc.gov/aging/emergency/pdf/guide.pdf

Center for Disease Control and Prevention

Biomedical literature for discrimination issues during disasters and public health emergencies:

INSERT DISCRIMINATION SEARCH HERE

Appendix B: Information on Ethics in Disaster Medicine and Public Health Topic Page

Organizations

Bioethics Research Library at Georgetown University

http://bioethics.georgetown.edu/

Hastings Center

http://www.thehastingscenter.org/

Presidential Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues

http://www.bioethics.gov/

University of Minnesota Center for Bioethics Academic Health Center

http://www.ahc.umn.edu/bioethics/

United Nations International Bioethics Website

http://www.unesco.org/new/en/social-and-human-sciences/themes/bioethics/

John Hopkins Berman Institute for Bioethics

http://www.bioethicsinstitute.org/research/public-health-research

Overview

Statement on Medical Ethics in the Event of Disasters

http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/d7/

World Medical Association

Principles of the Ethical Practice of Public Health

http://www.apha.org/NR/rdonlyres/1CED3CEA-287E-4185-9CBD-BD405FC60856/0/ethicsbrochure.pdf

Public Health Leadership Society

Ethical and Legal Aspects of Disaster Response

http://mla.mrooms.org/course/view.php?id=46

Medical Library Association

Ethical Principles on Disaster Risk Reduction and People's Resilience

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/majorhazards/ressources/pub/Ethique_Text_EUR-OPA_EN.pdf

European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA)

Ethics of Health Care Disaster Preparedness.
http://pandemic.wisconsin.gov/docview.asp?docid=14447&locid=106

Wisconsin State Expert Panel on the Ethics of Disaster Preparedness in collaboration with the Wisconsin Hospital Association and the Hospital Preparedness Program

Ethical Guidance for Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response: Highlighting Ethics and Values in a Vital Public Health Service

http://www.cdc.gov/od/science/integrity/phethics/docs/White_Paper_Final_for_Website_2012_4_6_12_final_for_web_508_compliant.pdf

Ethics Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee to the Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Introduction to Ethical Frameworks for Public Health Emergencies and Disasters

http://www.sph.umn.edu/details/course/9456/

University of Minnesota, School of Public Health, Center for Public Health Preparedness

The Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement

http://www.unhcr.org/43ce1cff2.html

United Nations Commission on Human Rights

Codes of Professional Conduct and Ethical Standards

Ethical Disaster: How Health Care Professionals May React Ethically in a Disaster

http://www.adph.org/CEP/assets/Ethicspapercontinuous.pdf

Alabama Department of Public Health

Code of Conduct for International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief

http://www.ifrc.org/en/who-we-are/vision-and-mission/the-seven-fundamental-principles/

International federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Code of Ethics for Emergency Physicians

http://www.acep.org/Clinical---Practice-Management/Code-of-Ethics-for-Emergency-Physicians/

American College of Emergency Physicians

Disaster Management Ethics

http://iaemeuropa.terapad.com/resources/8959/assets/documents/UN%20DMTP%20-%20Ethics.pdf

United Nations Disaster Management Training Programme

Sphere Handbook: Humanitarian Charter and Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response

http://www.spherehandbook.org/

The Sphere Project

Ethical Considerations for Pandemic Influenza and Other Infectious Diseases

Pandemic Flu Preparedness: Ethical Issues and Recommendations to the Indiana State Department of Health

http://www.in.gov/flu/files/PandemicInfluenzaEthicalIssuesAndRecommendations.pdf

Indiana University Center for Bioethics

Stand on Guard for Thee: Ethical Considerations in Preparedness Planning for Pandemic Influenza

http://www.jointcentreforbioethics.ca/people/documents/upshur_stand_guard.pdf

University of Toronto Joint Centre for Bioethics

Ethical Considerations in Developing a Public Health Response to Pandemic Influenza (2007)

http://www.who.int/csr/resources/publications/WHO_CDS_EPR_GIP_2007_2c.pdf

World Health Organization

Ethical Guidelines in Pandemic Influenza

http://www.cdc.gov/od/science/integrity/phethics/panFlu_Ethic_Guidelines.pdf

Ethics Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee to the Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Pandemic Influenza Ethics Fact Sheet

Scroll down to link on Ethics Subcommittee Documents page.
http://www.cdc.gov/od/science/integrity/phethics/ESdocuments.htm

Ethics Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee to the Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Pandemic Influenza Ethics Checklist

Scroll down to link on Ethics Subcommittee Documents page.
http://www.cdc.gov/od/science/integrity/phethics/ESdocuments.htm

Ethics Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee to the Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Stockpiling Antivirals For Pandemic Influenza: The Key Ethical Principles

Scroll down to link on Ethics Subcommittee Documents page.
http://www.cdc.gov/od/science/integrity/phethics/ESdocuments.htm

Ethics Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee to the Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Community Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Mitigation

http://www.flu.gov/planning-preparedness/community/mitigation.html#

Homeland Security

Applying Ethical Frameworks During Severe Pandemic Influenza (Free course online)

http://www.sph.umn.edu/details/course/9761/

University of Minnesota, School of Public Health, Center for Public Health

Crisis (or Altered) Standards of Care

Guidance for Establishing Crisis Standards of Care for Use in Disaster Situations: A Letter Report (2009)

http://www.iom.edu/~/media/Files/Report%20Files/2009/DisasterCareStandards/Standards%20of%20Care%20report%20brief%20FINAL.pdf

Institute of Medicine

Altered Standards of Care in Mass Casualty Events

http://archive.ahrq.gov/research/altstand/

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Adapting Standards of Care Under Extreme Conditions: Guidance for Professionals During Disasters, Pandemics, and other Extreme Emergencies (American Nursing Association)

http://nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/WorkplaceSafety/DPR/TheLawEthicsofDisasterResponse/AdaptingStandardsofCare.pdf

American Nurses Association

Crisis Standards of Care: A Systems Framework for Catastrophic Disaster Response

http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=13351&page=R1

Institute of Medicine of the National Academies

Crisis Standards of Care in Disasters and Pandemics: A Community Conversation

http://www.iom.edu/~/media/Files/Activity%20Files/PublicHealth/Crisis-Standards-of-Care/Public%20Engagement_Lead%20Facilitator%20Guide.doc

Institute of Medicine of the National Academies

Crisis Standards of Care Workshop Series

http://books.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=12787&page=R11

Institute of Medicine of the National of Academies

Biomedical Literature for Crisis Standards of Care:

INSERT CRISIS STANDARDS OF CARE SEARCH HERE

Ethics, Disasters and the Disabled

Accommodating Individuals With Disabilities in the Provision of Disaster Mass Care, Housing, & Human Services

http://www.fema.gov/accommodating-individuals-disabilities-provision-disaster-mass-care-housing-human-services

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Preparing for Disaster for People with Disabilities and other Special Needs

http://www.redcross.org/images/MEDIA_CustomProductCatalog/m4240199_A4497.pdf

Federal Emergency Management Agency and the American Red Cross

Elderly Populations in Disasters: Hospital Guidelines for Geriatric Preparedness

http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/downloads/pdf/bhpp/hepp-geriatrictoolkit-nov2009.pdf

New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Disasters, disability and rehabilitation

http://www.who.int/violence_injury_prevention/other_injury/disaster_disability2.pdf

World Health Organization

A Guide for Including People with Disabilities in Disaster Preparedness Planning

http://www.ct.gov/ctcdd/lib/ctcdd/guide_final.pdf

Connecticut Developmental Disabilities Network

Disability, natural disasters and emergency situations

http://www.un.org/disabilities/default.asp?id=1546

United Nations Enable Program

Disaster Planning for Elderly and Disabled Populations

http://disaster.ifas.ufl.edu/pdfs/chap02/d02-09.pdf

University of Florida Cooperative Extension Service

FEMA Non-discrimination principles of the law

http://www.fema.gov/iv-non-dscrimination-principles-law

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Biomedical literature for disabled persons during disasters and publich health emergencies:

INSERT DISABLED PERSONS SEARCH HERE

Allocation of Scarce Resources and Triage

Allocation of Scarce Resources During Mass Casualty Events

http://www.effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/ehc/products/400/1151/EvidenceReport207_Allocation-of-Scarce-Resources_FinalReport_20120716.pdf

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Medical Care with Scarce Resources: The Essentials

http://archive.ahrq.gov/prep/mmcessentials/

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ)

Ethical Considerations for Decision Making Regarding Allocation of Mechanical Ventilators during a Severe Influenza Pandemic or Other Public Health Emergency

http://www.cdc.gov/about/advisory/pdf/VentDocument_Release.pdf

Ethics Subcommittee of the Advisory Committee to the Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Allocation of Scarce Resources

http://www.wha.org/scarceResources.aspx

Wisconsin Hospital Association

Guide for Planning the Use of Scarce Resources During a Public Health Emergency in Kansas

http://www.kdheks.gov/cphp/download/GuideforPlanningUseofScarceResources.pdf

Kansas Health Institute

Critical Resource Shortages: A Planning Guide

http://www.troutmansanders.com/files/upload/Critical%20Resource%20Shortages-A%20Planning%20Guide.pdf

Virginia Department of Health, Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association

Pandemic Influenza: Triage and Scarce Resource Allocation Guidelines (Draft)

http://www.doh.state.fl.us/demo/bpr/PDFs/ACS-GUIDE-Ver10-5.pdf

Florida Department of Health

Preliminary Report on the Role of Flu Information and Triage Lines in Reducing Surge in Healthcare Facilities and Increasing Access to Antiviral Medication During the 2009 H1N1 Pandemic

http://www.naccho.org/topics/emergency/pandemicinfluenzaprep/loader.cfm?csModule=security%2Fgetfile&pageID=229905

National Association of County and City Health Officials

Home Health Patient Assessment Tools: Preparing for Emergency Triage

http://www.ahrq.gov/prep/homehealth/

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

Health Emergency Assistance Line and Triage Hub (HEALTH) Model

http://archive.ahrq.gov/research/health/health.pdf

Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality

2009-2010 Influenza Season Triage Algorithm for Adults (>18 Years) With Influenza-Like Illness

http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/clinicians/pdf/adultalgorithm.pdf

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Criteria for Mechanical Ventilator Triage Following Proclamation of Mass-Casualty Respiratory Emergency

http://www.adph.org/CEP/assets/VENTTRIAGE.pdf

Alabama Department of Public Health

Biomedical literature on allocation of scarce resources and triage:

INSERT ALLOCATION OF SCARE RESOURCES SEARCH HERE

Duty to Care, Willingness to Respond, Role Conflict and Role Abandonment

Who Will Be There?: Ethics, the Law, and a Nurse's Duty to Respond in a Disaster

http://www.nursingworld.org/MainMenuCategories/Policy-Advocacy/Positions-and-Resolutions/Issue-Briefs/Disaster-Preparedness.pdf

American Nurses Association

Reporting for Duty? A Synthesis of Research on Role Conflict, Strain, and Abandonment among Emergency Responders during Disasters and Catastrophes

http://www.udel.edu/DRC/current_projects/Documents/Report%20for%20Duty%20%28Compressed%29.pdf

University of Delaware Disaster Research Center

Duty to Care in an Emergency, Disaster or Pandemic – Principles

http://cms.tng-secure.com/file_download.php?fFile_id=6202

College of Registered Nurses of Manitoba

Biomedical literature on the duty to care and willingness to respond during disasters:

INSERT DUTY TO CARE SEARCH HERE