

The Role of Libraries and Librarians in Disaster Risk Reduction and Response

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Disaster Information Management Research Center (DIMRC) @ NLM

- Collecting, organizing, and disseminating health information for all types of disasters
- Developing online disaster information tools
- Training librarians to serve as "disaster information specialists"
- Planning and training to ensure that during a disaster operations continue at NLM, its eight regional medical libraries, and the 5,800 libraries that are part of the National Network of Libraries of Medicine



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DIMRC, continued

- Conducting informatics research to explore and develop new and better ways to communicate, access information, and share information during disasters and emergencies (ref: WISER, REMM, CHEMM)*
- Collaborating with other federal, state and local government agencies

* Wireless Information System for Emergency Responders (WISER)

(<http://wiser.nlm.nih.gov/>)

Radiation Emergency Medical Management (REMM)

(<http://www.remm.nlm.gov/index.html>)

Chemical Hazards Emergency Medical Management (CHEMM)

(<http://www.chemm.nlm.nih.gov/>)



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Disaster Information Specialist

Building a community of practice, a culture of preparedness

- Roles for librarians in providing information outreach to their communities for all-hazards
- Assess needs for a national training curriculum and certification program for librarians interested in providing disaster health information
- DISASTR-OUTREACH Listserv, over 500 subscribers (<http://sis.nlm.nih.gov/dimrc/dimrclistserv.html>)
- Encourage development of library partnerships and library preparedness
- Learning from experiences in disasters



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Disaster Information Specialist Pilot Project NIH Library

- Informationist to HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response office; numerous requests on a wide variety of topics including ethics, public policy, special populations, etc.
- Enhance collection (book and journal) for HHS/ASPR and NIH Library
- Developing survey of public health officers (Commissioned Corps) to understand information needs
- Member of Bethesda Hospitals' Medical Library Emergency Preparedness Partnership



Disaster Information Specialist Pilot Project USU and NNMC Libraries

- Developing a “traveling classroom” for training on disaster resources such as WISER, REMM, etc.
- USU, along with NIH library, interviews and surveying public health officers and military personnel of information needs during deployment
- NNMC enhancing collection
- Member of BMLEPP



Disaster Information Specialist Pilot Project NYU

- Disaster Resource Development
 - Blog
 - Delicious
 - Online training class
 - Collection development
- Informationist assigned to Agents of Opportunity grant
- Active in Hospital disaster preparedness activities
 - EP committee
 - Credentialing



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Emergency Access Initiative

The Emergency Access Initiative (EAI) is a partnership of the National Library of Medicine, the National Network of Libraries of Medicine, and the Professional/Scholarly Publishing Division of the Association of American Publishers and other publishers. EAI provides temporary free access to full text articles from major biomedicine titles to healthcare professionals, librarians, and the public affected by disasters.

Access to biomedical literature through the Emergency Access Initiative is only available to those affected by the disaster and for those providing assistance to the affected population. Other users should contact their local medical library or the National Network of Libraries of Medicine by calling 1-800-338-7657 for biomedical literature.

Active Event: **Japan - earthquake and tsunami**

Free access period: **March 14, 2011 - May 6, 2011**

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Contact Information

Phone:
(800) 338-7657

Web Address:
<http://nml.gov>

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[Biomedical Literature Resources for Libraries Outside the U.S.](#)

[MedlinePlus: Disasters Topics](#)

[NLM Disaster Information Management Research Center](#)

[Radiation Emergency Medical Management](#)



OTHER RESOURCES

- American Library Association
<http://www.ala.org/ala/issuesadvocacy/advocacy/federallegislation/govinfo/disasterpreparedness/index.cfm>
- Medical Library Association (MLA)
<http://www.mlanet.org/education/dis/>
- NN/LM Emergency Preparedness & Response Toolkit
<http://nnlm.gov/ep/category/memorandum-of-understanding/>
- NLM Disaster Information Outreach Symposium
<http://videocast.nih.gov/summary.asp?live=9836>



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