Developing a Model for Public Health Nursing Data Management in Public Health Emergencies Linked to US Public Health Nurse Competencies

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Background

During many recent public health emergencies/disasters, public health nursing data has been missing or delayed, potentially impacting the decision-making and response. Model was developed to address the issue.

Aim of the study

Link the model for Public health nursing data usage to public health nursing competencies to allow for integration into practice.

Methods

A grounded theory thematic coding of data management best practices, 'Disaster Standards of Care' and documentation standards was used to develop model of data management and use for public health nursing in public health emergencies. Model was then linked to US public health nursing competencies.

Results

A competency based model for public health nursing data management and use in emergencies.

Conclusions and implications

Improved use and management of data during public health emergencies by public health nurses involved in decision-making as part of response, planning and mitigation.