

Method/Description: There are three main challenges for EMTs to deliver rehabilitation in emergency settings. Firstly, a universal definition of ‘rehabilitation’ remains absent. Secondly, advocacy to integrate rehabilitation into EMTs is often not enough to ensure success. Thirdly, various rehabilitation needs may not match current offerings in EMTs.




Results/Outcomes: First, ‘rehabilitation’ must be defined based on its impact, interventions, and goals to encompass both specialized services and services integrated into the wider health system and a universal definition which creates wider understanding must follow. Second, the end recipients of rehabilitation service delivery prior, during or following emergencies, should be clearly accounted for at the outset of emergencies. Planning exit strategies post-emergencies involves choosing the appropriate iteration of rehabilitation in the local context that is socially acceptable and sustainable. Examples include modularization of rehabilitation services outside of traditional field hospitals, and extending services beyond traditional time frames.

Conclusion: The role of rehabilitation in EMTs is often overlooked due to three key challenges which may be addressed through clearly defining rehabilitation and its role in EMTs, adequately preparing for sustainable post-emergency rehabilitation handovers in local contexts and creating and delivering various rehabilitation offerings within EMTs. Research should explore the effect of these potential solutions in emergency settings.

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Enhancing KDRT’s Administration and Organizational Management through SWOT Analysis: A Systematic Review

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Background/Introduction: The Korea Disaster Relief Team (KDRT) plays a crucial role in international humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. Effective administration and organizational management are vital for the success.

Objectives: This study compares KDRT’s administration and organizational management with other emergency medical teams (EMTs) through a comprehensive literature review, ultimately providing recommendations to strengthen KDRT’s framework.

Method/Description: Using PRISMA methodology, a comprehensive literature search was conducted across major databases including PubMed, EMBASE, Cochrane Library based on their relevance to EMT initiatives, administration and organizational management, and disaster response strategies. Articles were analyzed to identify governance structures, defined roles and responsibilities, and regular organizational evaluations with SWOT analysis.


Results/Outcomes: Out of 20,343 articles, 18 were selected. The review identified key aspects of effective administration and organizational management in EMTs, including clear governance structures, well-defined roles, and continuous evaluations. For articles not included in the KDRT system, the SWOT analysis revealed strengths such as local knowledge (Japan), strong frameworks (USA), and clear funding strategies (Finland). Weaknesses included limited scalability (Japan), bureaucratic delays (USA), and funding limitations (Finland). Opportunities were found in community engagement (Japan), streamlined processes (USA), and increased donor engagement (Finland), while threats included policy misalignment (Japan), administrative burdens (USA), and financial instability (Finland).

Conclusion: This study highlights the need to reinforce KDRT’s administration and organizational management to improve its disaster response efficiency. Recommendations include improving resource allocation, integrating local knowledge, simplifying processes, diversifying funding, and enhancing transparency. By addressing these areas, KDRT can enhance its capability to provide effective humanitarian assistance and disaster relief internationally.

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Criteria for Deployment of the United States National Guard to Domestic Sudden-Onset Natural Disasters: A Scoping Review

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Background/Introduction: This study is a scoping review to identify literature pertinent to the question: “What are the criteria for deployment of the United States National Guard (USNG) to domestic sudden-onset natural disasters (SODs)?” As this question relies on factors across many disciplines—legal, medical, technical, cultural—and as there is no

foundational body of academic literature or unified governmental or USNG policy addressing this question, a scoping review was designed to identify the body of literature on which further research and policy decisions surrounding this question may be based.

Objectives: To perform a scoping review identifying the criteria for the deployment of the United States National Guard (USNG) to domestic sudden-onset natural disasters to identify the body of literature on which further research and policy decisions may be based.

Method/Description: On January 23, 2023 a modified PRISMA-ScR search was performed using an online search engine of the following databases: Academic Search Premier, Google Scholar, JSTOR, PubMed, Web of Science, and WorldCat. The inclusion criteria included the involvement of the USNG response to U.S. domestic SOD. Non-SOD results were excluded. Results from all years and of any type of literature were considered and were limited to the English language. First, titles and abstracts were screened by 2 independent reviewers. Then, a full-text review was performed by 2

independent reviewers. Finally, data were extracted from included texts by 2 independent reviewers. A third reviewer resolved any discrepancies at each stage. This study did not require approval of an institutional review board.

Results/Outcomes: Out of the 886 results identified by the original search, after the complete review process, 34 sources were relevant to the research question. Fifteen criteria for the deployment of the USNG to SODs were identified. Overwhelmed local responders, utility failure, the need for the provision of security, and the need for logistical coordination were the most commonly identified criteria. Hurricanes were the most common SOD addressed in the included literature, and most results were event reports.

Conclusion: This modified PRISMA-ScR identified a foundation on which elected officials, USNG leadership, and the larger disaster response community may develop policies and disaster response plans to optimize available resources through the activation of the USNG when responding to SODs.

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