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Diploma in Pharmacy 1st Year
Social Pharmacy
Important Questions
Chapter 6 : Disaster Management

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Chapter 6
Disaster Management
IMPORTANT Questions

Q1. Write the detail on Disaster management.

Ans.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT

- The term disaster comes from the French word desastre, which is a combination of two words, ile, des (means bad) and aster (means star).
- So, the word refers to a bad or evil star.
- Though, this is a very constricted conception of disaster, a disaster in this context refers to any circumstance in which normality in a society is abruptly disrupted, resulting in widespread harm to life and property.
- Disaster management refers to a coordinated effort to plan and implement strategies to eradicate disasters, be prepared for them, successfully handle them, and to prevent them in order to reduce or eliminate the disaster effects, Prevention, preparedness, reaction, and recovery are the four key stages of disaster management.

Advantages of Disaster Management

I. It involves predicting a forthcoming threat and taking prior safety measures to reduce the disaster effects,
II. It involves mitigation and responsive measures to reduce the disaster effects.
III. It involves recovery measures that help the community in recovering and returning to their normal lives.
IV. It involves people and offers them a sense of ownership over the materials provided or methods incorporated in education and public awareness.
V. It targets particular communities to fulfil their urgent requirements.
VI. It empowers or boosts people with the knowledge and abilities they need for helping themselves at the time of disaster when outside help is still on the way.

Types of Disasters

- Natural hazards, such as earthquakes, landslides, cyclones, volcanic eruptions, fires, floods, and cyclones, kill many people and destroy property each year.
- Natural disasters have become more frequent and severe because of the world's rapidly growing population and its growing concentration in dangerous environment.

Q2. Write the short note on Earth quake.

Ans. **Earthquake**

→ One of the most dangerous natural disasters is an earthquake, which is the sudden shaking of the earth crust.

→ It can strike at any time of the year, at any hour of day or night, with sudden impact, and little or warning sign, because of which forecasting becomes difficult.

→ The vibrations of an earthquake have a varied frequency and The actual rupture process last for a few seconds to 1 minute (for a major earthquake), An earthquake has the to demolish buildings and infrastructure within few seconds, and kill or injure the residents.

→ It destroys entire communities, and also has the potential to destabilise the government, economic status, and social structure of the country

Effects of an Earthquake

Earthquakes have primary violent effects, accompanied with long-lasting secondary effects. Following are the primary and secondary effects of earthquakes:

I. Destruction of Nature and Property: Buildings and the surrounding environment are devastated as a result of shaking and rupturing of the ground during an earthquake, Buildings and bridges can collapse, and fires, avalanches as well as mudslides may occur. These are the primary effects.

II. Initial Casualties: These are the primary effects of earthquakes, People present near to the collapsing buildings, fires, or mudslides may die or get trapped under falling rubble. The damage may cause the dead to be buried. Because of the primary destruction, injured people may not find quick medical assistance.

III. Diseases : It is the secondary effect of earthquakes. Fresh water may not be available due to breakage in water lines. Wounds of the injured victims, who do not get immediate medical help, may become infected. Dead bodies may infect the water supply.

IV. Lack of Resources: | Shortage of resources is a secondary effect of earthquakes. Water lines may break, and fresh food may not be readily available. Hospitals and residences might get destroyed. People become homeless and need medical assistance.

Following precautions should be taken before, during, and after an earthquake:

Before an Earthquake :

i) Bottled drinking water non-perishable food items, a first-aid kit. torch light, and a battery operated radio (with extra batteries) should always be kept in a designated area.

ii) All the family members should be taught to turn off electricity, gas, and other utilities.

iii) Areas of the house where family can take shelter during an earthquake should be identified.

During an Earthquake:

- People should take cover under a table or other strong furniture: kneel, sit, or stay close to the floor. They should hold on to furniture legs for balance, and be prepared to move if the cover
- They should kneel or sit close to the floor next to a structurally strong interior wall, if a sturdy cover is not near. They should keep their hands. on the floor for balance.
- iii)They should not run outside if inside, and should never use the elevator.

After the Earthquake:

♦ People should protect their feet from debris by wearing shoes or slippers.

♦ They should be prepared for aftershocks, following the initial tremor,

♦ They should check for fire hazards and should not use caindles or lanterns.

Q3. Write the short note on cyclone.

Ans.

Cyclone

- Cyclone is a low atmospheric pressure area surrounded by high atmospheric pressure areas, resulting in swirling atmospheric disturbances and violent winds moving in the Northem Hemisphere in anticlockwise direction and in the Southern Hemisphere in clockwise direction. It mostly occurs in tropical and temperate climates around the world. Based on the strength and speed of cyclonic winds, cyclonic disturbances (low pressure zones) are classified

Effects of a Cyclone

i) Strong Winds: Various damaging agents of cyclones are influenced by the powerful winds. In the Northern Hemisphere, low-level winds are normally stronger on the right side of a cyclone; but wind strength varies highly, irrespective of the area where a cyclone hits.

ii) Rainfall and Flooding : Intense rainfall can be produced by cyclone thunderstorms, resulting in severe flooding, mudslides, and landslides. Due to poor preparedness, flooding is more severe and damaging inland.

Remedial Measures for a Cyclone

Following precautions should be taken before, during, and after a cyclone:

Before a Cyclone:

I. People should watch on weather and listen to radio or TV. They should be alert about the community warning systems loudspeakers, bells, conches, drums or any traditional warning system.

II. They should know the safest route to reach the nearest cyclone shelter/safe house.

During a Cyclone:

I. People should disconnect all electrical appliances and turn off gas.

II. If the building starts crumbling, they should protect themselves with mattresses, rugs or blankets under a strong table or bench or hold on to a solid fixed object.

III. They should listen to the transistor radio for updates and advice.

After a Cyclone:

I. People should not go outside until officially advised to be safe.

II. They should check for gas leaks, and should not use electric appliances, if wet.

III. They should listen to local radio for official warnings and advice.)

Q4. Write the note on management of floods and management of landslide.

Ans.

Management of a Flood

- Floods are one of the most common natural disasters that result in death.
- Each year, over 200 flood-related deaths are reported, with more than half of them involving vehicles as people attempt to drive through floodwaters.
- Floods can destroy houses and farms, displacing families, pets, and livestock, damaging crops, and disrupting agriculture processes.

Management of a Landslide

- Landslides refer to the mass movement of rocks, rubble, or earth down a slope, and include a wide range of motions whereby falling, sliding and flowing under the influence of gravity dislodges earth material.
- They frequently occur in association with earthquakes, floods, and volcano eruptions. Prolonged rains might cause a major blockage of the flow or river for a period of time.
- When river blocks build, they cause destruction on populations downstream on exploding.
- Landslides have been a major and extensively spread natural disaster in India's steep terrain, notably the Himalayas.
- They frequently damage life and property and are a major source of concern.

Following steps can be taken for landslide management:

Before a Landslide:

1. People should prepare an emergency kit and a family communication strategy.
2. They should be prepared for landslides by following proper land-use procedures and not building their houses near steep slopes, close to mountain edges, near drainage ways, or along natural erosion valleys.

During a Landslide:

- People should stay inside
- They should take cover under a desk, table, For other sturdy furniture.

After a Landslide:

I. People should stay away from the sliding area.
II. They should inspect the area around the slide for injured or trapped people. If trained, they can provide first aid.

Q5. Write a role of pharmacist in Disaster management.

Ans.

Role of Pharmacist in Disaster Management

- Role of Pharmacist in an Emergency Response Team (ERT)
- Pharmacists play a critical role in the healthcare system as they are dependable and approachable healthcare providers. They are on hand to assist the treatment of incoming patients and to ensure that other patients in the containment zones continue to receive care.
- Following are some of the reasons why a pharmacy emergency response team should be established:
- Skilled Manpower
- Drug Knowledge
- Community Liaison
- Access to Chemicals and Laboratories
- Counselling and Support

Roles and Responsibilities of National Pharmacy Emergency Response Team (NAPERT)

NAPERT's functions and responsibilities are designed to reduce and control the effects of a healthcare

1. Provision of Medicines and Medical Support without Interruption
2. Providing Medical Information without Bias
3. Community Healthcare Professional
4. Medicine and Medical Devices Distribution and Management

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