The National Academies of
SCIENCES · ENGINEERING · MEDICINE

Committee on Best Practices in Assessing Mortality and Significant Morbidity Following Large-Scale Disasters

Webinar: Methodological Considerations for the Estimation of Disaster-Related Morbidity and Mortality at a Population-Level

Tuesday, February 11, 2020
2:30–4:30pm ET

The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Committee on Best Practices for Assessing Mortality and Significant Morbidity Following Large-Scale Disasters is hosting this webinar as part of the committee's broader effort to learn from the perspectives of researchers who are using a variety of analytical approaches to estimate population size and disaster impact on human health. The committee's statement of task can be found on the last page of this agenda. The committee is specifically interested in learning more about the following:

1. Generalizing from your experience with custom analyses of individual disasters, what best practices or standards may exist for estimating disaster-related mortality and morbidity across different disaster types, sizes, and locations?
2. Experiences with the challenge of measuring disaster exposure and selecting methodological approaches for addressing issues like in- and out-migration.
3. Perspectives on leveraging existing federal surveys (barriers, necessary data items, etc.) in such studies, as well as essential role of spot, custom survey data collection.
4. Potential roles that researchers can play to support state and local stakeholders in analyzing morbidity and mortality data?
5. Recommendations on what is needed (resources, tools, partnerships, etc.) to develop more accurate and timely estimates of disaster impact.

2:30 pm	**Welcome and Panel 1 Introduction**
	Elizabeth Frankenberg, Carolina Population Center, Committee Member
2:40 pm	**Panel 1: Survey-Based Methods for Assessing Mortality and Morbidity**
	Rafael Irizarry, Harvard University
	Jessica Ho, University of Southern California
3:00 pm	**Discussion with Committee**
3:30 pm	**Panel 2 Introduction**
	H. Russell Bernard, Arizona State University, Committee Member
3:40 pm	**Panel 2: Methods for Estimating Hard-to-Count Populations**
	Adrian Raftery, University of Washington
	Tyler McCormick, University of Washington
4:00 pm	**Discussion with Committee**
4:30 pm	**Adjourn Webinar**

Statement of Task

An ad hoc committee will conduct a review and assessment of the current state of the field and best practices in assessing and quantifying mortality and significant morbidity following large-scale disasters, with a specific focus on disasters declared under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. The purpose of this study is to describe the current landscape of mortality and significant morbidity data collection and information sharing processes used by state, local, tribal and territorial (SLTT) public health agencies, and to propose areas for future resource investment to enhance these practices. In identifying and evaluating best practices and resources, the committee will focus on those applicable to SLTT public health preparedness and response practitioners. Specifically, the committee will:

- Describe the importance of mortality and significant morbidity data after disaster impact, their use, and the organizations that capture these data or could benefit from use of the data.

- Describe the current architecture, methodologies, and information systems currently in use or available to SLTT public health agencies for the sharing and reporting of this data, highlighting the diversity of processes and identifying potential best practices. In doing so the committee may consider current guidance for attributing deaths directly and indirectly to a specific disaster, the role of information technology systems, including limitations, and continuity mechanisms to ensure continued data collection in a post-impact environment.

- Identify current challenges to collecting, recording, and reporting mortality and significant morbidity data after disasters, including, as feasible, challenges related to lack of standardization for data collection and disaster attribution, coordination, and training. This shall include an analysis of timing for attribution of death to a specific incident (e.g. acute, delayed) and potential impacts on individuals and organizations.

- Identify best practices for collecting, recording, and reporting mortality and significant morbidity data after disasters, and recommend priority areas of emphasis and allocation of resources to enhance SLTT mortality and significant morbidity data collection and reporting after disasters, considering feasibility, sustainability and impact to SLTT and healthcare organizations.

- Review analytic approaches and statistical methods for disaster-related mortality and significant morbidity and identify best practices for conducting prospective tracking and retrospective studies.

This study is intended to focus on non-infectious disease related disasters (e.g. hurricanes, earthquakes, etc.) as defined in the Stafford Act. Syndromic surveillance, long-term surveillance and surveillance of responders are outside the scope of this study.

Call in details:

Time: Feb 11, 2020 2:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android: https://nasem.zoom.us/j/563320414

Or iPhone one-tap: US: +16465588656,,563320414# or +16699006833,,563320414#
Or Telephone: 646-558-8656 or 877-853-5257
   Meeting ID: 563 320 414
   International numbers available: https://nasem.zoom.us/u/abfWVl463K