

Emergency Medicine Residents' Attitudes Towards Chemical/Biological/Nuclear Accidents: Education and Knowledge of Casualty Management

MAJ David Siegel, MD; CPT Bradley N. Younggren

Department of Emergency Medicine, MAMC
Madigan Army Medical Center (MAMC), Tacoma,
Washington, USA

Emergency medicine residents lack crucial knowledge necessary to adequately manage chemical, biological, and nuclear casualties, but appreciate the need for this training during their residency. We sought to survey emergency medicine residents' basic knowledge in chemical, biological, and nuclear casualty management. In addition, we gathered information on emergency medicine residents' attitudes concerning training in the field of chemical/biological/nuclear terrorism, in order to standardize the mechanism by which the training is executed. We feel that a comprehensive form of teaching encompassing didactic lectures, as well as practical exercises, will best facilitate education in this emerging field.

Keywords: accidents; attitudes; casualties; emergency medicine; residency training; terrorism; weapons of mass destruction

Issues in Disaster Medicine Education in Canada

Lorraine Davies