

Changes in disaster preparedness beliefs and risk perception following practical disaster training among district health directorate employees

Submission date 01/10/2026	Recruitment status No longer recruiting	☐ Prospectively registered ☐ Protocol
Registration date 05/10/2026	Overall study status Completed	☐ Statistical analysis plan ☐ Results
Last Edited 05/10/2026	Condition category Other	☐ Individual participant data ☒ Record updated in last year

Plain English summary of protocol

Not provided at time of registration

Contact information

Type(s)

Principal investigator, Public, Scientific

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Additional identifiers

Study information

Scientific Title

Evaluation of the effect of face-to-face practical disaster training on disaster preparedness beliefs and disaster risk perception among district health directorate employees in Istanbul, Türkiye

Study objectives

This study aimed to evaluate whether a two-day face-to-face practical disaster training programme, delivered to district health directorate employees through collaboration between the health directorate and the local municipality, changes disaster preparedness beliefs and disaster risk perception, and whether the response differs across sociodemographic subgroups. The training was an existing component of the national disaster volunteer training system and was not designed for research purposes.

Ethics approval required

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Ethics approval(s)

Approved 04/07/2024, Istanbul Medipol University Non-Interventional Clinical Research Ethics Committee (Istanbul Medipol University, Kavacik Campus. Kavacik Mah. Ekinciler Cad. No:19. Beykoz, Istanbul, 34810, Türkiye; +90 2164448544; etik.kurul@medipol.edu.tr), ref: 666

Primary study design

Interventional

Allocation

N/A: single arm study

Masking

Open (masking not used)

Control

Uncontrolled

Assignment

Single

Purpose

Health services research

Study type(s)

Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Disaster preparedness of the primary-level public health workforce in an earthquake-prone urban setting

Interventions

Participants completed the online Basic AFAD Volunteer Training Programme through the national Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD) e-learning platform in the two weeks before the face-to-face component. They then attended a two-day Support AFAD Volunteer Training delivered by an AFAD-authorized search and rescue team at a municipal disaster training centre, coordinated by the district health directorate training unit.

Classroom sessions covered light urban search and rescue, first aid in disasters, fire safety, disaster psychology, disaster ethics, shelter, hygiene, communication skills and teamwork. Practical field exercises included tent assembly, patient transfer and stretcher fixation, familiarisation with search and rescue tools, knot tying, and a simulated debris search and rescue drill.

Questionnaires were completed immediately before the face-to-face training began and immediately after it ended. No control or comparison group was included.

Intervention Type

Behavioural

Primary outcome(s)

1. Disaster preparedness beliefs measured using General Disaster Preparedness Belief Scale (GDPBS), a validated 31-item Turkish scale with six subscales, scored from 31 to 155, with higher scores indicating more positive preparedness beliefs at Immediately before and immediately after the two-day training

Key secondary outcome(s)

1. Disaster risk perception measured using Disaster Risk Perception Scale (DRPS), a validated 21-item Turkish scale with four subscales (threat, fatalism, controllability, anxiety), scored from 21 to 105, with higher scores indicating greater perceived risk at Immediately before and immediately after the training

2. Self-reported disaster readiness measured using Single-item yes/no questions on perceived competency to intervene in a disaster, feeling prepared for a disaster, knowledge of regional disaster risks, possession of a disaster emergency bag, and having a personal or family disaster plan at Immediately before and immediately after the training

Completion date

31/07/2024

Eligibility

Key inclusion criteria

1. Active staff member of Eyüpsultan District Health Directorate, Istanbul, Türkiye, during the training period
2. Aged 18 years or over
3. Able to take part in the two-day face-to-face training, including its physically demanding field exercises
4. Willing to complete the pre-training and post-training questionnaires

Healthy volunteers allowed

Yes

Age group

Mixed

Lower age limit

18 Years

Upper age limit

65 Years

Sex

All

Total final enrolment

63

Key exclusion criteria

1. On leave during the training period
2. Physical disability or acute physical or mental health condition that made participation in the field exercises unsuitable

Date of first enrolment

08/07/2024

Date of final enrolment

31/07/2024

Locations**Countries of recruitment**

Türkiye

Sponsor information**Organisation**

Istanbul Medipol University

ROR

<https://ror.org/037jwzz50>

Funder(s)**Funder type****Funder Name**

Investigator initiated and funded

Results and Publications**Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan**

IPD sharing plan summary

Not expected to be made available