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13A. SCIENCE: PUBLIC HEALTH |AMP| EPIDEMIOLOGY

PREVENTION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN NATURAL DISASTERS

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Background

As a result of natural disaster-flood the most documented and commonly occurring diseases are water-borne diseases with the children.

Methods

The study involves 1 rural regions in the Republic of Macedonia hit by flood in February 2016. It includes 230 children age 1 to 14 years. 120 are female children while 110 are male ones. Analytic and descriptive methods have been used for data processing

Results

When Macedonia was struck by the flood in February 2016 in one rural region the health of 230 children had been jeopardized. With symptoms of vomiting and diarrhea where 27 children got. Later, 4 children got hepatitis of type A. Due to the timely take measures from the competent authorities, outburst of epidemic was prevented. Drinking water from taps in the flooded regions was banned, and the inhabitants were given bottled water. Also, the inhabitants of the regions were trained about some hygienic and epidemiological measures and the flooded houses were disinfected.

Conclusions

Assuring access to safe water and primary healthcare services is crucial, as are surveillance and early warning to detect epidemic-prone diseases known to occur in the disaster-affected area. Practically, prompt and adequate prevention and control measures, and appropriate case management and surveillance systems are essential for minimizing infectious disease burdens.

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