

2nd WHO Global Forum on Medical Devices Presentation Abstract Submission

Title: **Disaster Preparedness for Health Technology Managers**

Yadin David, Cari Borrás
IUPESM-HTTG/ACCE

Type of presentation: Tutorial

Jurisdictions of all sizes, from tribal to national governments and global institutions, are concerned about saving life, protecting property, preserving the economic base of the community and the environment. When disaster strikes, those who have emergency plans and practice them routinely will be in a better position to help the community. The burden is magnified when it comes to protecting the lives of patients and the staff who take care of them due to the critical dependency of the hospital community on its technology and the increased demand for medical services during disasters. The three stages; those of pre-disaster, the disaster response and the disaster recovery must include specific strategies for protecting systems and devices, especially those that are critical to life and those that present unique hazards like radiation devices and radioactive materials. Healthcare professionals need plans, management tools, and training to help them deal with man-made or natural disasters in the most effective and safe way possible. The understanding of system and device vulnerability is critical, especially in the case where radiation and contamination containment are necessary. Backup support prioritization and strengthening the resilience of the technology prior to and during disasters are all crucial for the hospital mission. The role of the clinical engineering and medical physicist's community is highly important.

This tutorial will provide its audience with knowledge on the variety of vulnerabilities faced by hospitals exposed to earthquakes, flooding, and high-winds risks, as well as the best ways to mitigate the risk of damage and disruption of hospital operations caused by these events. The information will be present by experts from the clinical engineering and medical physicist's communities and will offer solutions that can improve the safety of hospitals in disaster events