1.1
Introduction

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Objectives

This chapter provides an introduction to

- the WHO Thematic Platform for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Research Network (Health EDRM RN)

- the WHO Guidance on Research Methods for Health Emergencies and Disaster Risk Management

WHO Thematic Platform for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management Research Network (Health EDRM RN)

- Coordinate activities
- Promote information-sharing
- Develop partnerships
- Provide technical advice to strengthen Health EDRM research
- Discussed further in chapter 1.2 of the *WHO Guidance on Research Methods for Health EDRM*

Annual research fund

Publication & policy suggestion

Annual report Annual forums

Expert meeting to examine the status of Health EDRM evidence (January 2016)

Highlighted the vast challenges facing the academic and research community, including
- overlap in research activities
- lack of strategic research agenda
- lack of coordination between key stakeholders
- lack of resources

First Lancet letter on 'Health EDRM'

- By Professors Emily YY Chan and Virginia Murray in October 2017
- Indicated the strong requirement for Health EDRM research and global collaboration to implement the Sendai Framework

Lancet 2017;390:e35-e36

First paper recommending a Health EDRM research field

- Scope of research to include (1) all-hazards approach, (2) holistic all-needs approach, (3) research during all phases, (4) risk identification of vulnerable populations and (5) community resilience
- Multidisciplinary, multisectoral approach
- Plans for needs assessments, evaluation methodologies and common terminology

International Journal of Disaster Risk Science 2017;8 145-9

Hong Kong Research Summit (July 2018)

Kobe Expert Meeting to Identify Key Research Questions (October 2018)

Highlighted five key research themes:

1. Health data management and disasters

2. Mental health and psychosocial support

3. Addressing needs of sub-populations

4. Health workforce development

5. Research methods and ethics

Area 5. Research methods and ethics

- Establish the WHO Thematic Platform for Health EDRM Research Network
- Prepare WHO Guidance on Research Methods for Health EDRM
- Launch Knowledge Hub on Health EDRM Research Methods, to contain
  - Guide to the book
  - Audio podcasts by chapter authors
  - Video lectures by chapter authors

WHO Guidance on Research Methods for Health EDRM

- First WHO textbook on Health EDRM research methods.
- 43 chapters online since September 2020.
- 'Living' document with contents to be regularly reviewed and updated, including addition of a COVID-19 chapter.

Guidance on Research Methods for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management

World Health Organization
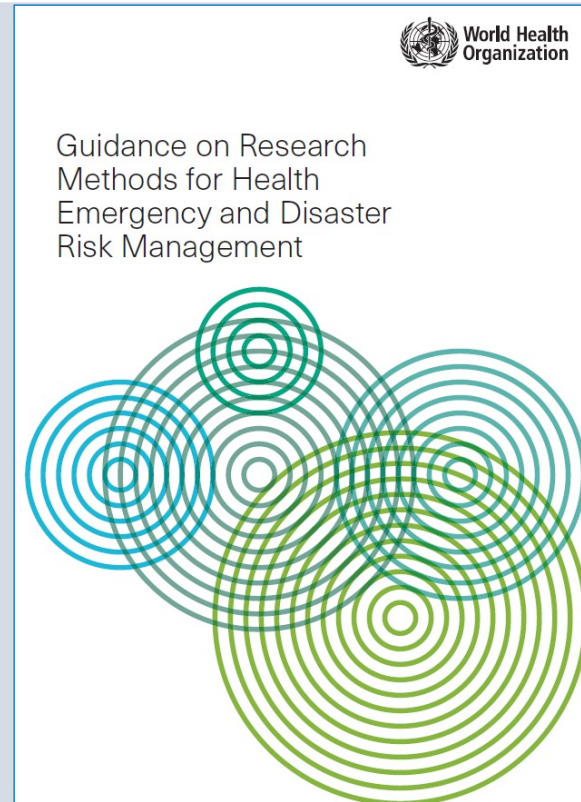
Production

- **Editors:** Ryoma Kayano (WHO WKC), Virginia Murray (Public Health England), Mike Clarke (Queen's University Belfast) and Emily Y.Y. Chan (The Chinese University of Hong Kong).
- **Associate editors:** Tracey O'Sullivan (University of Ottawa) and Jonathan Abrahams (WHO WHE)
- **Authors and peer reviewers:** 164 authors and peer reviewers from 30 countries, including WHO Headquarters and Regional Offices (PAHO, AFRO, EMRO, EURO, SEARO, WPRO).

World Health Organization

Guidance on Research Methods for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management
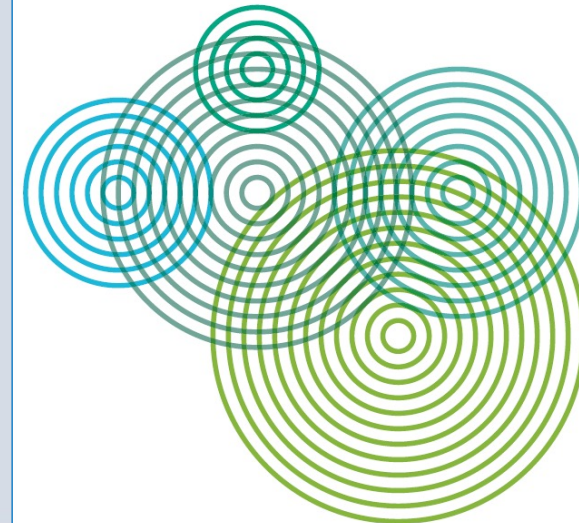
Production process

- Chapters written (ideally a senior and a junior author).
- Editorial team review led by a lead editor for each chapter.
- Peer review by at least two experts for each chapter.
- Response and revision by the authors.
- Technical editing.
- Copy editing.
- Publication.
- **USE.**
- Revision.

Guidance on Research
Methods for Health
Emergency and Disaster
Risk Management

World Health
Organization
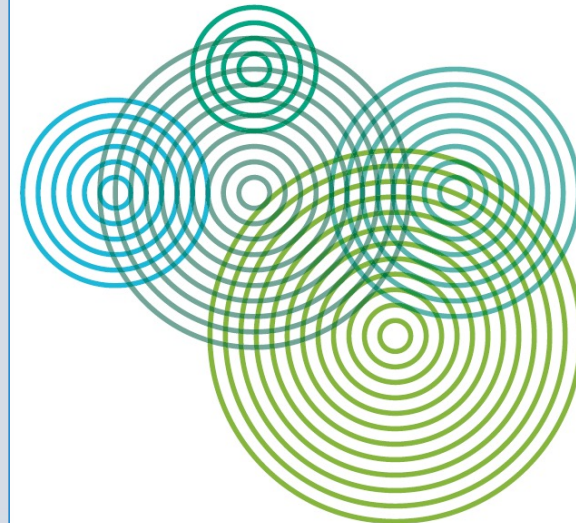
Transformative and innovative

- Improving the quality of research in Health EDRM.
- Improving the quality of the policy, practice and guidance that is supported by evidence from this research
- Increasing research capacity among researchers and the research community, including new researchers experienced researchers and teachers of research.
- Strengthening collaboration and engagement between the research community and policy-makers, practitioners and stakeholders for improved Health EDRM.

World Health Organization

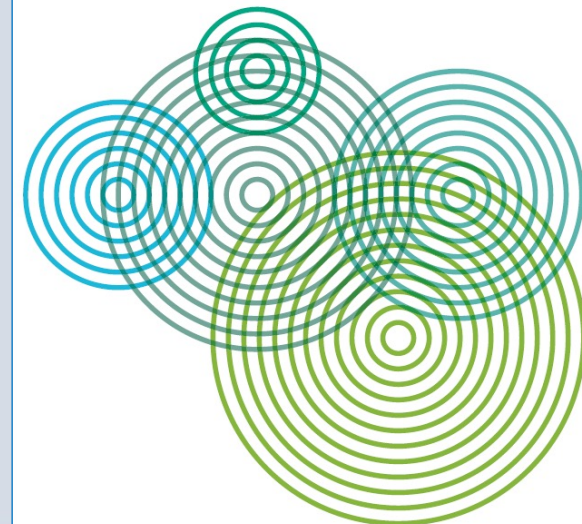Guidance on Research Methods for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management

Structure of the book

1. Introduction (3 chapters)
2. Identifying and understanding the problem (7)
3. Determining the scope of your study (7)
4. Study design (15)
5. Special topics to demonstrate research processes and benefits (4)
6. How to become a researcher (7)
Glossary

Guidance on Research Methods for Health Emergency and Disaster Risk Management

World Health Organization

Structure of each chapter

World Health Organization

Guidance on Research
Methods for Health
Emergency and Disaster
Risk Management

- Learning objectives
- Main text
- Case studies
- Key messages
- Further reading
- References
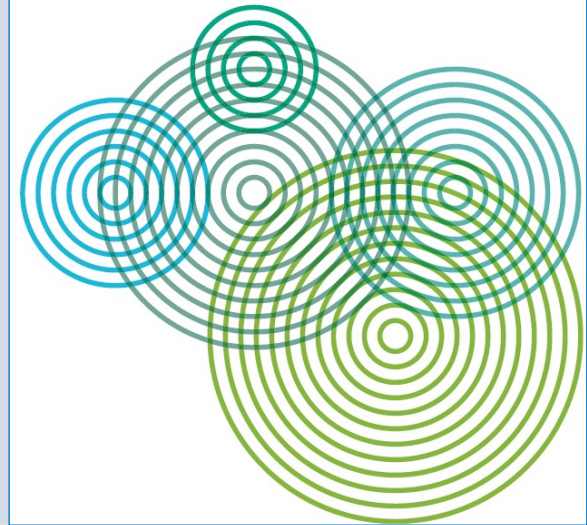
Examples

1.1 2.1 3.1 4.1 5.1 6.1

How to become a successful researcher

Authors

Paul Barach, Jefferson College of Population Health, Thomas Jefferson University, Philadelphia, USA; The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

André AJ Van Zundert, Department of Anaesthesia and Perioperative Medicine, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital, University of Queensland, Brisbane, Queensland, Australia.

6.1.1 Learning objectives

To understand the lifelong joys and challenges of becoming a successful researcher, by appreciating the importance and value of:

1. Gain a mastery of varied research methodologies to answer timely scientific questions.
2. Field research conducted in real-world and natural environments, which can give the researcher a deeper understanding and appreciation of the research topics and a respect for the research subjects.
3. The ability to work autonomously, set clear goals, be organized, and have a good research plan while meeting deadlines and expectations.
4. Mentorship and of working collaboratively with other researchers, mentors, learning to lead with questions using mature listening and communication skills.

6.1.2 Introduction

Acknowledgements

Key messages

Evidence is vital to well-informed decision making in Health EDRM. The research that provides this evidence must be high quality and fit for purpose. This book aims to provide guidance for researchers, would-be researchers, policy-makers and practitioners in order to:

- improve the quality of research in Health EDRM,

- improve the quality of the policy, practice and guidance that is supported by evidence from such research,

- increase research capacity among researchers and the research community, including new researchers, experienced researchers and teachers of research, and

- strengthen collaboration and engagement between the research community and policy-makers, practitioners and stakeholders for improved Health EDRM.

Contact Information

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