School Nurse Leadership in Promoting Emergency Preparedness and Response

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We disclose the absence of personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this educational activity within the past 12 months.

The Issue:
How can school nurses prepare students, staff, and members of the community to respond to emergencies?

The Need:
Each year schools deal with both natural and manmade disasters. Well-prepared school nurses are more likely to manage emergencies appropriately. Being prepared can reduce fear, anxiety, and losses that accompany disasters.

Federal Resources (available at no cost):

Social Media Preparedness Toolkits:
 Resolve to be Ready Toolkit
 Life Saving Skills Toolkit
 Severe Weather Preparedness Toolkit
 Community Preparedness Toolkit
 Ready.gov

You Are the Help Until Help Arrives

Federal Resources for Students (available at no cost):

21st Century School Nurse Leadership Role:
School nurses provide leadership in all phases of emergency preparedness and response. They “are a vital part of the school team responsible for developing emergency response procedures for the school setting” and are usually the first health professional to respond to an emergency in a school.

Implementation Strategies:

NASN Position Statements:
• Emergency Preparedness and Response in the School Setting—The Role of the School Nurse (2014)
• School Violence—The Role of the School Nurse (2018)
• Naloxone Use in the School Setting—The Role of the School Nurse (2015)

NASN Position Statements:

Other Resources:

References:


Debenham, S., Fuller, M., Stewart M., & Price, R.R (2017). Where there is no EMS: Lay providers in emergency medical services care - EMS as a public health priority. Prehospital and Disaster Medicine, 32(6), 593–595.

