Task force members
Photo taken: November, 2014
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Prof. Alice Yuen Loke
Professor & Associate Head
(Postgraduate Education)

Prof. Alice Yuen LOKE is Professor and Associate Head (Postgraduate Education) at the School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. She is also the lead of the Family and Community Health Research Theme. She received her PhD from the Department of Community Medicine (now School of Public Health), Faculty of Medicine, at The University of Hong Kong. She is specialized in Community Health, particularly on women and family health. She published widely on ‘women’s and family health’, ‘preparedness of nurses for disaster’, and ‘community preparedness for disaster’.

Dr. Olivia Fung
Assistant Professor

Dr. Olivia FUNG is an Assistant Professor at the School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU). She received her Doctoral degree in Health Science at PolyU. Her research interests and publications are mainly in disaster nursing and nursing education. Her publications are related to nurses’ willingness and readiness to report to work in a disaster, as well as the disaster preparedness of different community groups.

Dr. Vico Chiang
Assistant Professor

Dr. Vico CHIANG has worked as an Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University since 2011. He is currently a co-investigator of projects that aim to develop advanced simulators for teaching, and interprofessional learning of nursing students. Dr Chiang has published in Journal of Advanced Nursing; Intensive and Critical Care Nursing; Disaster Medicine & Public Health Preparedness; Collegian: The Australian Journal of Nursing Practice, Scholarship and Research; and Nurse Education Today, etc.

Dr. Margaret O'Donoghue
Assistant Professor

Dr. Margaret O'DONOGHUE is currently the Deputy Director of the Squina International Centre for Infection Control, School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Her research has focused on surveillance of multidrug resistant pathogens particularly Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA). Current research interests include environmental decontamination and hygiene interventions for prevention of Multi-Drug Resistant Organisms (MDROs), food hygiene, and prevention and control of infectious diseases in disaster settings.
Dr. Sijian Li
Teaching Fellow

Dr. Sijian LI has been actively involved in post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation program, as a Co-Investigator of "An Action Research Approach to Developing Community-based Rehabilitation and Health Promotion Strategies for Quake Survivors and Capacity Building of Health Workers" between 10/2008- 10/2011. Currently Dr. LI is the program leader of Master of Science in Disaster Nursing, co-supervisors of two Joint PhD students from School of Nursing under the Institute for Disaster Management and Reconstruction (IDMR), and as an honorary consultant for the Sichuan Expanded Mental Health Network started in May 2014.

Ms. Sunshine Chan
Nurse Consultant

Ms. Sunshine CHAN is a nurse consultant at the School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. She had experience in providing disaster related education to front-line rescue workers, public health nurses, and undergraduate students. In collaboration with The Institute for Disaster Management and Reconstruction (IDMR), training programs for undergraduate students are offered each summer since 2008. She is currently a core member of the Asia Pacific Emergency and Disaster Nursing Network – WHO Western Pacific Region.

Dr. Maria Hung
Senior Clinical Associate

Dr. Maria HUNG has specialty trained for emergency nursing for more than 20 years. She is currently the Basic Life Support and Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support instructor of American Heart Association. She is actively involved in teaching undergraduate and postgraduate emergency and disaster nursing subjects for years. Besides, she is supervising students’ disaster research projects of PhD programme and Master of Science in Disaster Nursing programme in Hong Kong and Mainland China respectively. She is also participated in Hong Kong community disaster preparedness activities.

Mr. David Chan
Senior Clinical Associate

Mr. David CHAN is a Senior Clinical Associate (Critical Care) in School of Nursing The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He is mainly responsible for teaching the Master of Science in Nursing Programme. His expertise includes teaching Critical Care, Resuscitation, Disaster and Trauma Nursing. He is the council member of Critical Care Association in Hong Kong, and in China. He is also the council member of the Medical Rescue Association of China. He is responsible for teaching the Medical and Public Health Response in Disaster both locally in PolyU, and also for the China Sichuan programme.
Ms. Annie Yip
Senior Clinical Associate

Ms. Annie YIP has been serving in psychiatric nursing for over 30 years in mental health care. She has involved in community resilience projects for Sichuan earthquake since 2008 and developed subjects on Disasters and Mental Health for Summer Training Programme on Disaster Nursing and Master of Science in Disaster Nursing.

Mr. Kevin Leung
Clinical Associate

Mr. Kevin LEUNG is a Clinical Associate at the School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Before joining the school, he has been working in the specialty of Orthopaedic & Traumatology nursing for more than 15 years. He has been actively participating in the development and teaching of disaster related programs, in Hong Kong and in collaboration with Mainland China, since joining the school in 2008.

Mr. Timothy Lai
Advanced Practice Nurse

Mr. Timothy LAI is an Advance Practice Nurse at the School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He is experienced in providing disaster and infection control related education to undergraduate students and front line nurses in Hong Kong and China. He is also a Professional Volunteer for international humanitarian relief and Psychological First Aider of Hong Kong Red Cross.

Ms. Esther Yiu
Advanced Practice Nurse

Ms. Esther YIU is an Advanced Practice Nurse at the School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. For more than 10 years, Esther participated in various disaster related services in countries including Mainland China, Philippines, Haiti, Pakistan, Indonesia, Northern Kenya and Taiwan. She served as Board of Director, Project Coordinator, Team Leader, and Health Delegate for various international humanitarian organizations.
Research Students

Mr. Stanley Lam
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Study topic:
Adaptive challenges facing emergency nurses in managing emerging acute respiratory infectious diseases: A grounded theory study.

Chief Supervisor: Prof. Samantha Pang
Co-supervisor: Dr. Maria Hung

Programme:
PhD in Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Ms. Cuiping Ni
Joint PhD student
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Study topic:
Resilience of earthquake survivors

Chief Supervisor (PolyU): Dr. Vico Chiang
Co-supervisors (PolyU): Dr. Meyrick Chow, Prof. Samantha Pang, & Dr. Li Sijian
Chief Supervisor (Sichuan): Prof. Jiang Xiaolian
Co-supervisor (Sichuan): Prof. Hu Xiuying

Programme:
Joint PhD programme of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University and Sichuan University

Ms. Lei Wang
Joint PhD student
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Study topic:
Recovery process of disabled survivors in Wenchuan earthquake: A grounded theory study

Chief Supervisor (PolyU): Dr. Vico Chiang
Co-supervisors (PolyU): Dr. Li Sijian, Prof. Samantha Pang, & Dr. Meyrick Chow
Chief Supervisor (Sichuan): Prof. Jiang Xiaolian
Co-supervisor (Sichuan): Dr. Hu Xiuying

Programme:
Joint PhD programme of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University and Sichuan University

Ms. Jianhua Ren
Joint PhD student
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Study topic:
Family Interactions of childbearing and childrearing women over the time before and after a major earthquake: A grounded theory study

Chief Supervisor (PolyU): Dr Vico Chiang
Co-Supervisor (PolyU): Prof Samantha Pang
Chief Supervisor (Sichuan): Prof Jiang Xiaolian

Programme:
Joint PhD programme of The Hong Kong Polytechnic University and Sichuan University
### Featured Publications

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<td>Boost, M. V., Wong, A., Ho, J. &amp; O'Donoghue, M.</td>
<td>Isolation of methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) from retail meats in Hong Kong.</td>
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Abstracts


Background & Aims:

The presence of methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) on meat purchased from retail outlets may allow its spread to households and represents a risk for colonization and possibly infection of consumers. Improved isolation methods have indicated that more than 10% of samples are positive. We aimed to determine rates of MRSA contamination of meat samples, including comparison of fresh and frozen samples. We characterized isolates and determined their antibiotic susceptibility.

Method:

Samples of raw meats commonly consumed in Hong Kong were investigated for MRSA contamination using a double-enrichment isolation method. Isolates were characterized by antibiotic susceptibility testing, presence of mecA, SCCmec type, staphylococcal enterotoxins, Panton–Valentin leukocidin (PVL), and spa type. Differences in rates of MRSA contamination between meat types, rearing method, locations, sources, and fresh or frozen storage were compared.

Findings:

MRSA was recovered from 21.9% of pork samples (78/355), 6.8% chicken (31/455), and 4.4% of beef (17/380). Isolation was considerably higher from fresh pork (47%) than frozen (0.6%), whereas contamination rates in fresh (6%) and frozen (7%) chicken were similar. All strains were multidrug resistant. All contaminated fresh pork and most frozen chicken originated from China. Most isolates belonged to CC9, being SCCmec IVb and spa type t899 or closely related spa types, but one chicken sample yielded ST398. Five strains carried spa types associated with human isolates. The egc enterotoxin group was present in the majority of isolates, but PVL in only three from chicken.

Conclusions:

The predominance of t899 in isolates indicates that the primary source of contamination may be pig carcasses, previously demonstrated to frequently harbor CC9-positive MRSA in Hong Kong and China. The high rates of meat contamination suggest that improvements in food safety and personal hygiene guidelines may be advisable to reduce risk of spread of these MRSA strains in the community.
Background & Aims:

The aim of this study was to examine the prevalence of psychological distress in survivors 60 years old and older by sex and analyse risk factors for psychological distress in male and female older survivors 2 years after the Wenchuan earthquake.

Method:

This was a cross-sectional study. Two hundred fifty-seven older people were involved and a multistage random sampling method was utilised. Logistic regression analysis was used to determine risk factors for psychological distress among older men and women.

Findings:

A higher prevalence of psychological distress was observed in older women than in older men. Loss of family members and displacement from pre-earthquake residence were significant risk factors for psychological distress in older men. Significant risk factors for psychological distress in older women were lower educational level, chronic diseases, loss of family members, and displacement from original residence.

Conclusions:

Health-care providers should take sex-based strategies to improve mental health among older survivors in a long-term post-disaster recovery programme.
Background & Aims:

Nurses are often called upon to play the role of first responder when disaster occurs. Yet the lack of accepted competencies and gaps in education make it difficult to recruit nurses prepared to respond to a disaster and provide assistance in an effective manner.

Method:

Based on the International Council of Nurses (ICN) Framework of Disaster Nursing Competencies and Global Standards for the Initial Education of Professional Nurses and Midwives, a training course titled "Introduction to Disaster Nursing" was designed and implemented with 150 students. A pre-post survey design was used to assess changes in participants' self-rated disaster nursing competencies. The impact of the training course on participants' attitudes toward disaster nursing and their learning experience were also assessed.

Findings:

All participants passed the assessments and examination with an average score of 70%. Pre- and posttraining self-ratings of the disaster nursing competencies increased from 2.09 to 3.71 (p < .001) on a Likert scale of 1 to 5, and the effect size was large, with Cohen's d higher than 0.8. No significant difference in both examination results (60% group assignments; 40% written examination) and self-rated competencies was noted between the senior year students and graduate nurse participants by Mann-Whitney U test (p value = .90). The majority of participants indicated their willingness to participate as a helper in disaster relief and saw themselves competent to work under supervision.

Conclusions:

The ICN Framework of Disaster Nursing Competencies was instrumental to guide the training curriculum development. This introductory training course could be incorporated into undergraduate nursing education programs as well as serve as a continuing education program for graduate nurses. The training program can be used for preparing generalist nurses of their nursing competencies in disaster preparedness, response and post-disaster recovery and rehabilitation.
Background & Aims:

Adverse phenomenon cannot be prevented. Being prepared can minimize damages to people’s health and property, or lives. Disaster preparedness is important to individuals, family as well as a community. Explore disaster preparedness of Hong Kong families with children and identify components to facilitate resources allocations and planning for disasters education of family as a unit of the community.

Method:

A study is performed between February and September 2008. A questionnaire was distributed to 220 convenient samples who were the heads of families which include the demographic data of the participants; how disaster is viewed by the participants; the disaster planning; how the participants learn about disaster preparedness and the last section ask about disaster preparedness. The return rate is 97% (220 distributed and 214 collected). 20 samples not fulfilling the selection criteria were excluded. Data from the 194 questionnaires were analyzed using the SPSS.

Findings:

The participants (75%) were aged from 26 to 35 with. Majority of the participants define disaster in term of the number of death and classify disaster into natural, manmade, epidemics and accidents. 94.3% regarded SARS as disaster event. The most likely disaster events that may happen in Hong Kong were transport accidents and infectious disease (40% each) while 55% rated ‘snow storm’ to be impossible in Hong Kong. Most families did not prepare consumable at home. Only 1% of the participants thought that they were fully prepared for disaster while 80% considered the general public in Hong Kong was unprepared. Also, 71% indicated the government resources for disaster preparation was inadequate.

Conclusions:

Family with children in Hong Kong did not show preparedness for disastrous situation as they thought disasters were not common and Hong Kong is a safe place to live. Future disaster risk assessment and education directed to the need of the Hong Kong family were indicated.
Background & Aims:

This study provides better understanding of factors affecting nurses’ willingness and readiness to report for duty in a disaster when the demand for manpower to care is high. Ensuring adequate healthcare manpower during a disaster is a challenge to healthcare managers. When disaster strikes, nurses may face a dilemma regarding whether or not to report for duty, as their personal and/or family safety is at stake.

Method:

Questionnaires were distributed to practicing registered nurses who were studying in a master’s degree program in a university in Hong Kong.

Findings:

A total of 269 questionnaires were collected. Only 68.7% and 53.2% of nurses were willing to report to work during a disaster. Male nurses were more likely to report to work than females during disaster (p=0.007) and infection outbreak (p=0.002) situations. Nurses with young children were less likely to report to work during an infectious disease outbreak (34.5% vs. 55.4%, p=0.033).

Conclusions:

About one-third of nurses indicated not reporting to work when a disaster strikes. This raised an alarm for healthcare managers to plan ahead in order to maintain adequate workforce when disasters strike.

**Background & Aims:**

The aims of the study were to identify nurses’ perception of disaster, whether they considered some of the events that have occurred in Hong Kong to be disasters and the types of disastrous events that they considered likely in Hong Kong. The frequent occurrence of disasters has caused concern internationally. When disaster strikes, the demands on nursing staff are much higher than those on other health care professionals. There is little understanding of the concept of disaster among nurses in Hong Kong.

**Method:**

A descriptive study with questionnaire to explore nurses’ perception of disaster. The questionnaire was distributed to all registered nurses studying in a master’s degree program in a university in Hong Kong.

**Findings:**

Only 123 out of the 164 respondents (75%) gave a description of disaster in the open-ended question. 61% of them described unfortunate events with large numbers of victims as disasters. The ‘Lan Kwai Fong tragedy - stampede caused by overcrowdedness’ (90.9%) and the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome outbreak (89.6%) were commonly referred to as disasters in Hong Kong. Fires in tall buildings (61.6%), infectious disease outbreaks (61%) and stampedes caused by overcrowding (48.8%) were rated as the events most likely to happen in Hong Kong.

**Conclusions:**

Understanding how nurses perceive disaster and the likelihood of disastrous events is the initial step for disaster planning and the development of a disaster nursing curriculum in Hong Kong.
Background & Aims:

This paper is a report of a survey to explore Hong Kong nurses’ disaster preparedness. Increasingly frequent global disasters are posing threats to human health and life. The World Health Organization has called for countries to have detailed plans at all levels in order to be prepared for disasters that may arise.

Method:

A questionnaire was distributed to convenience samples of practicing. Registered Nurses studying in Master’s degree programmes at a Hong Kong university in 2007.

Findings:

Of a possible 174, 164 questionnaires were returned (Response rate 94%). Almost all nurses (97.6%) considered the government health department to be the organization most involved in disastrous situations. The majority (84.8%) were aware of the existence of a protocol on disaster management at their workplace. About one-third would respond in accordance with protocol (38.4%) or rely on directions from their immediate supervisors (34.8%) if a disaster occurred. Almost all the nurses (97%) considered themselves not adequately prepared for disasters. They recognized that a protocol for disaster management (85.4%) and training and drills for disasters (both 84.1%) are useful tools.

Conclusions:

Nurses in Hong Kong are not adequately prepared for disasters, but are aware of the need for such preparation. Disaster management training should be included in the basic education of nurses.
Background & Aims:

A longitudinal study of nasal colonization and hand contamination of food handlers with Staphylococcus aureus commenced in 2002 prior to the outbreak of severe acute respiratory syndrome. In the follow up in 2003 when hygiene measures were strictly implemented, significant reductions in carriage were noted. To investigate if this change was sustained, nasal and hand carriage rates were compared between the earlier studies and a further sampling in 2011.

Method:

In 2002 and 2003, a total of 619 and 527 food handlers respectively were sampled from 15 catering establishments. In 2011, a total of 434 food handlers were recruited from 6 large catering establishments. Nasal swab and hand imprint specimens were collected from each subject and cultured for S. aureus.

Findings:

The initial nasal carriage rate was 35% and hand contamination 41.2%, decreasing to 23.5% and 11.6% respectively in 2003 (p<0.001). In 2011, nasal carriage was similar to 2003 (22.9%), whilst hand contamination dropped further to 3.7% (p<0.001). Spa typing revealed 39 types in 2002 and 42 in 2011.

Conclusion:

This study revealed that the marked reduction in colonization had been sustained. This may be attributed to reduced opportunities for spread due to enhanced hygiene and reinforces its importance for control of disease.
Introduction:

The primary aim of this study was to explore the perception of Hong Kong emergency nurses regarding their work during the human swine influenza pandemic outbreak.

Method:

In this exploratory, qualitative study, 10 emergency nurses from a regional hospital in Hong Kong were recruited using purposive sampling. Semi-structured, face-to-face individual interviews were conducted. Qualitative content analysis was utilized to analyze the transcripts.

Results:

The three following categories emerged from the interview data: concerns about health, comments on the administration, and attitudes of professionalism. Nurses viewed the human swine influenza as a threat to their personal and families’ health. However, nurses perceived that the severity of the disease was exaggerated by the public. Improvements in planning the circulation of information, allocation of manpower, and utilization of personal protective equipment were indicated. The emergency nurses demonstrated a sense of commitment and professional morale in promoting a high quality of nursing care.

Discussion:

Various factors affecting the perceptions of emergency nurses toward their professional duties during the influenza pandemic were identified. By understanding these perceptions, appropriate planning, policies, and guidelines can be formulated to meet the healthcare needs of patients during future pandemic outbreaks.
Background & Aims:

Disaster is an ongoing process that nurses participated through seeing, hearing, and touching, and constantly reflecting and learning from this process.

Method:

The following case study is to describe the incident of 512 earthquake and its impact on society, local health care institution and population’s health.

Findings:

Response to the earthquake from local and national emergency medical rescue (EMR) system was discussed in order to examine the effectiveness and less effectiveness of the existing system.

Conclusions:

Understanding nursing contribution in response and recovery is essential for educators to better prepare students for future disaster. Finally reflective lessons learned from this experience are offered.
Objectives:
To examine changes made by students in developing a survival kit in a given disaster situation.

Method:
Action learning approach was adopted. Data from reflective journals were collected. Conventional qualitative content analysis was utilized.

Results:
Changes from this learning experience was involved from less organized to well organized, and ultimately moving into the next goal in a new situation. Reflection played an essential role surrounded in this constant and iterative process.

Conclusions:
Using action learning approach required participants’ constant action and reflection. Developing a survival kit in the subject of “Disasters and Global Health Challenges” has become distinctive to foster nursing students’ problem-solving skills in disaster preparedness.
Objective:

To further analyze the experience of the earthquake relief of nursing staff in Wenchuan in 2008 and know about the problems of developing countries in the preparation of disaster ambulance.

Method:

The experience of 10 nurses in earthquake relief was analyzed by qualitative research methods using Gadamer’s philosophical hermeneutics.

Results:

Through the analysis of the experience of nurses in the earthquake, it got that the nurses in the disaster needed to play multiple roles. Three themes were summarized from the interview: fear and psychological conditions in the relief process; the challenges and coping strategies: the roles of help and care in again experience.

Conclusion:

If there were no education and disaster rescue training, nurses could not be fully prepared for disaster relief and reach to the right attitude, efficient, and good collaboration, it was impossible to make themselves reduce the pressure. This prompts that education and skills training on disaster care systems for the nurses are very essential.
Objective:

To understand the preparedness and desire of disaster rescue in nursing staff, so as to provide some strategies for training.

Method:

A total of 432 nursing staff were recruited from 2 class III grade I hospitals in Xi’an city and were surveyed by general condition questionnaire. The scale of cognition and preparedness for disasters.

Results:

The nurses were not adequately prepared for disasters. There were 346 of the nurses willing to work in disaster area (80.1%), 283 of them were willing to work in infection disease outbreak (65.5%).

Conclusions:

Administrators require understanding about the nurses’ manner, willingness and demanding in reporting to work, and emotional supporting is needed. Thereby more volunteers would be to prepared for disasters, and more wounded would be saving.
Background & Aims:

The purpose of this study was to explore Hong Kong nurses’ perceptions of competencies required for disaster nursing.

Method:

Focus group interviews and written inquiry were adopted to solicit nurses’ perceived required competencies for disaster care. A total of 15 nurses were interviewed and 30 nurses completed the written inquiry on their perceived competencies related to disaster nursing. The International Council for Nurses’ (ICN) framework of disaster nursing competencies, consisting of four themes and ten domains, was used to tabulate the perceived competencies for disaster nursing reported by nurses.

Findings:

The most mentioned required competencies were related to disaster response; with the ethical and legal competencies for disaster nursing were mostly neglected by nurses in Hong Kong. With the complexity nature of disasters, special competencies are required if nurses are to deal with adverse happenings in their serving community. Nurses’ perceived disaster nursing competencies reported by nurses were grossly inadequate, demonstrating the needs to develop a comprehensive curriculum for public health.

Conclusion:

The establishment of a set of tailor-made disaster nursing core competencies for the community they served is the first step in preparing nurses to deal with disastrous situations for the health of the public.
Background & Aims:

This study was conducted to understand the factors affecting Chinese nurses' willingness to report to work in a disaster. Ensuring adequate healthcare manpower during a disaster is a challenge to healthcare managers in Mainland China.

Method:

A cross-sectional study among a convenience sample of nurses in China was conducted to understand the factors affecting Chinese nurses' willingness to report to work in a disaster. A total of 946 questionnaires were collected. Nearly 90 percent of nurses regarded disaster self-help information, an evacuation plan, and contingency measures a must in preparing for disaster care.

Findings:

Many nurses indicated willingness to work during a disaster that may threaten the safety of their family members than when there is a life-threatening infectious disease outbreak (83.6 and 69.6 percent, p = 0.000). Nurses with longer years of clinical experience were more willing to work in both situations (p = 0.014 and 0.000). Fear of contracting an infectious disease and spreading it to family members was a major factor for nurses' unwillingness to report to work.

Conclusions:

Hospital administrators should understand their workforce's willingness in reporting to work and provide appropriate disaster training and support to maximize workforce in a disaster.
Background & Aims:

The present study aims to explore the concerns relating to disasters among the elderly in Hong Kong, as well as the extent and predictive factors of their preparedness for disasters. The elderly are considered a vulnerable population, without the ability to protect themselves during disasters. Their accurate perception and preparedness for disasters can minimize damage to their health or threats to their lives when disasters strike.

Method:

Elderly people who had installed an emergency call service in Hong Kong were contacted by telephone for an interview between the months of June to September 2010.

Findings:

A total of 1137 questionnaires were analyzed for the present study. Elderly people considered major transport accidents (54.3%), fires (47.9%) and storms/flooding (41.5%) as the disasters most likely to occur in Hong Kong. In preparing for disasters, many of the elderly reported having a survival pack easily accessible (86.9%), knowing how to shut down the water, gas and electricity (79.2%), and knowing how to contact their family members (54%). A total of 255 (22.4%) elderly people were classified as being prepared for disaster. Those who were born in Hong Kong (OR = 1.471), living with other family members (OR = 1.742), had neighbors to provide support (OR = 2.92) and perceived themselves as having the ability to help themselves (OR = 1.34) were more prepared for disasters.

Conclusion:

The majority of elderly people are not prepared for disasters. Health professionals working with the elderly should recognize their characteristics and develop strategies to cater to their special needs in preparing for disasters.
Background & Aims:

As nurses constitute the largest group of health-care providers, their readiness to respond to disasters and to participate in preparedness and disaster recovery activities will be significant for making a community more resilient against disaster. Concern is raised regarding how to build the capacity of all nurses with a knowledge base and a minimum set of skills in responding to various disasters.

Method:

Drawing on the ICN Framework of Disaster Nursing Competencies and Global Standards for the Initial Education of Professional Nurses and Midwives, a training program entitled “Introduction to Disaster Nursing” was developed. Four teaching methods including action learning, problem-based learning, skill training, and lecture were used to orchestrate a series of planned activities for helping students develop the required disaster nursing competencies in a 2-week intensive training program held in Sichuan China in July 2009.

Findings:

The pre- and post-tests which were given to assess the students' perceived level of competencies demonstrated a significant gain in relevant knowledge and skills constituting the required competencies upon completion of the program.

Conclusions:

In the program evaluation, most students indicated their willingness and capability in disaster relief work under supervision, and they were keen to advance their competencies in the field of disaster nursing.
Objective:

The aim of this review was to systematically search and critique relevant literature on the potential psychological impact of earthquakes on peripartum women to synthesize existing knowledge for further action.

Method:

A search through five databases was conducted for relevant publications in English, and the results were screened through a set of inclusion and exclusion processes.

Results:

Eight articles were included. Depression and posttraumatic stress disorder were the most often reported mental disorders. Some factors (e.g., family relationships and social support) were associated with mental disorders suffered by peripartum women after earthquakes. An assessment of the quality of the studies showed that most did not have high levels of evidence because of their cross-sectional design and limitations.

Conclusion:

Among the factors that influenced the mental health of pregnant and postpartum women after earthquakes, family function appears to be one of the most important and deserves further exploration. Other mental health conditions such as minor psychiatric disorders should also be studied for their relationship with disasters and pregnancy. Well-designed studies are needed to enable a better understanding of the relationship between earthquakes and the mental disorders of peripartum women so that the most appropriate interventions can be proposed.

**Background & Aims:**

Development of curriculum on disaster nursing is a new concern in Mainland after 2008 Wenchuan Earthquake. However, few were reported on this issue in Mainland.

**Method:**

To provide a reference for the future curriculum design on disaster nursing, this article introduced the summer course The Introduction of Disaster Nursing developed in Chinese Consortium for Higher Nursing Education in 2009.

**Findings:**

The key issues on the design principles, contents, and faculties, teaching methods and evaluation system were introduced in the article.
Background & Aims:

Roasted pork has been implicated as a major source of food poisoning caused by Staphylococcus aureus. Although various methods have been instituted to reduce contamination, outbreaks have continued. To determine the rate and source of staphylococcal contamination, roasted pork was sampled for presence of S. aureus and isolates characterized to determine their origin. Establishing the source, either as contaminants from raw meat or from food handlers, could facilitate drafting more appropriate guidelines for better prevention of food poisoning.

Method:

Samples of roasted pork, purchased from 50 sui-mei shops in Hong Kong, were enriched and cultured for methicillin-sensitive and methicillin-resistant S. aureus (MRSA). Isolates were identified and characterized for spa type and presence of Panton-Valentine leucocidin (PVL) and staphylococcal enterotoxins (SEs). MRSA isolates were confirmed by presence of mecA. Their SCCmec type and sensitivity to vancomycin was investigated.

Findings:

S. aureus was isolated from 25 (50%) of samples, with three yielding two colony types. Of the 28 isolates, three were resistant to cefoxitin, but only two were positive for mecA and belonged to SCCmec type V. The mecA-negative isolate, also lacked mecC, but had a penicillin MIC of 10 mg/L. Typing revealed only one livestock-associated spa-type (t034), all other isolates appearing to be of human origin, with 30% belonging to t189. One isolate was PVL positive and five carried genes for classical SEs.

Conclusion:

A high rate of staphylococcal contamination, probably associated with food handlers, was observed in samples of roasted pork, the strains belonging to spa types previously reported in clinical and nasal carriage isolates. The presence of enterotoxins in 18% of isolates confirms the risk of food poisoning associated with this product and emphasizes the need for improved guidelines for handling after preparation. Use of refrigerated display areas should be considered.
Background & Aims:

Emergence of methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) in the community has led to investigation of its sources and means of spread outside the hospital environment. Whilst increased nasal carriage of MRSA could enhance person-to-person transfer, there is little evidence that MRSA colonization levels have increased in line with rates of infection, as even populations at risk for community-associated MRSA do not have substantially higher colonization rates. Thus other potential sources of MRSA in the community should be investigated.

Method:

A cross-sectional study of 400 automated teller machines (ATMs) was performed to investigate the frequency of environmental contamination of ATMs with S. aureus and coagulase negative staphylococci harboring antiseptic resistant genes. Isolates were characterized for antibiotic and antiseptic susceptibility, carriage of antiseptic resistance genes (QAC genes), and spa types.

Findings:

MRSA, which was similar to local clinical isolates, was present on two (0-5%) of the 62 (15-5%) ATMs that yielded Staphylococcus aureus. QAC genes were more common in coagulase-negative staphylococci (qacA/B 26-0%, smr 14%) than S. aureus (11-3% qacA/B, 1-6% smr). QAC-positive isolates had significantly higher minimum inhibitory concentrations/minimum bactericidal concentrations to benzalkonium chloride and chlorhexidine digluconate. QAC gene presence was significantly associated with methicillin and tetracycline resistance.

Conclusion

Survival of staphylococci, including MRSA, on common access sites may be facilitated by low disinfectant concentrations, which select for disinfectant-tolerant strains, while co-selecting for antibiotic-resistance determinants. Disinfection procedures should be performed correctly to help prevent spread of resistant pathogens from reservoirs in the community.
## Invited Speeches and Presentations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Invited speeches</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loke, A. Y. (2014). Lessons learned from recent disaster in Asia-Pacific region: focusing on the cases of Recent Disaster in China. The 5th International Disaster Nursing Conference (ICDN), Enhancing Disaster Awareness on the Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and High-yield Explosive, at the 8th Asia Pacific Military Nursing Exchange (Sept 3-4, 2014) at Armed Forces Nursing Academy, Daejeon, South Korea.</td>
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<td>Year</td>
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</table>
Training Manuals and Kits


Chan, S. S. S. et al. (2008). Post-Disaster Trauma Nursing – Web based Training Kit. Hong Kong: School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Available at: http://www.chinesenursing.org/training/index_modules.htm?action=select&lng=zh&db

## Education Courses Offered

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Teaching team members</th>
<th>Courses</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>Lai KHT, Chan SSS, Leung LKK &amp; Hung SYM.</td>
<td>Community, Organisation and Globalization: Disaster and Global Health Challenges. Program conducted in Hong Kong Polytechnic University between 1 Sep to 24 Dec 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Lai KHT, Chan SSS, Leung LKK &amp; Hung SYM.</td>
<td>Community, Organisation and Globalization: Disaster and Global Health Challenges. Program conducted in Hong Kong Polytechnic University between 5 Sep to 5 Dec 2013.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Teaching team members</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Chan SSS.</td>
<td>Basic Survival Skills. Lecture delivered to nurses from Department of Health, Hong Kong, 22 Nov 2012.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Chan SSS, Chan WS, Hung SYM, Lai KHT, Leung LKK, Li S, Pang MCS, Wong YPI &amp; Yip LKA, in collaboration with School of Nursing, Xinjiang Medical University.</td>
<td>Summer Program on Introduction to Disaster Nursing, held in Xinjiang, 23 July - 3 Aug, 2012.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Chan SSS, Chan WS, Fung WMO, Hsu MWK, Lai KHT, Leung LKK Li S, Pang MCS, &amp; Yip LKA, in collaboration with West China School of Nursing, Sichuan University.</td>
<td>Summer Program on Introduction to Disaster Nursing, held in Chengdu, Sichuan, 20-31 July, 2009.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Funded Projects

“Disaster Nursing in Post-disaster Situations at Yunnan Lu Dian District”, supported by Hong Kong Jockey Club, collaborating with Sichuan University-The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Institute for Disaster Management and Reconstruction, 09/2014-09/2015 (Project A/C, 5.53.xx.6W1D).

Principal Project Coordinator: Dr. Sijian Li

“An Action Research Approach to Developing Community-based Rehabilitation and Health Promotion Strategies for Quake Survivors and Capacity Building of Health Workers”. Funded $1,820,000 by Sichuan Quake Relief Fund in 2008.

Principal Project Coordinator: Ms. Sunshine Chan

“Disaster Nursing Training Course for 60 nurses of Department of Health, HKSAR”. Funded HK$120,770.

Principal Project Coordinator: Dr. Maria Hung


Principal Project Coordinator: Ms. Sunshine Chan

“Professional Development of Disaster Health Care”. Funded HK $188,000 by Professional Services Development Assistance Scheme, HKSAR (2009-2010).

Principal Project Coordinator: Dr. Olivia Fung

“Acute Respiratory Disease Response: Community Health Promotion Programme”. WHO seed funding (2009-10).

Principal Project Coordinator: Mr. Timothy Lai

Hung, S. Y.: Psychological First Aider, Hong Kong Red Cross

Hung, S. Y.: Psychological First Aider, Hong Kong Red Cross

Lai, K. H.: Psychological First Aider, Hong Kong Red Cross

Lai, K. H.: Psychological First Aider, Hong Kong Red Cross

Hung, S. Y.: Basic Life Support Instructor, American Heart Association

Hung, S. Y.: Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support Instructor, American Heart Association

Disaster Rescue Learning Activities, January 2014

Outdoor Rescue Drill, June 2014
Community-based Preparedness First-aid Training, November 2014