



Epidemiology of Pediatric Deaths in 2017 Kermanshah Earthquake

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Introduction: Children, as a vulnerable population in society, are at greater risk of injury compared to others. One of the unpredictable events causing death every year in the world is earthquake. This study aimed at investigating the epidemiology of pediatric deaths in 2017 Kermanshah Earthquake.

Methods: Adopting a descriptive method, the present study was conducted in 2017 in Imam Reza Hospital, Kermanshah, Iran after the earthquake. The target community was all the children under the age of 18 who were referred to Imam Reza Hospital due to the injuries caused by the earthquake. To collect information, the resources available at the hospital and the referral server were reviewed.

Results: The results showed that from among 60 children who were referred to the hospital, five ones (8.33%) were died. On average, they were $37.06 \pm 34/19$ months old, and included three boys (60%) and 2 girls (40%). Also, three patients (60%) lived in the city and two ones (40%) in the rural areas. Two patients (40%) were diagnosed with multi-trauma, two patients (40%) with infectious diseases, and one (20%) with pneumonia. One patient (20%) was injured in the head and limb, and one patient (20%) in the abdomen and limb. All the dead children who were referred to the hospital had GCS below 15, from among whom two patients had GCS below 10. The admission period for 40% of the patients (2 individuals) lasted one day and for 60% of the patients (3 individuals) was less than 10 days.

Conclusion: It seems that using previous managerial experiences is inevitably necessary to reduce injuries to individuals, especially children, in the possible upcoming crises.

Keywords: children, earthquake, pediatric, Kermanshah.

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