

Scientific Rationale for the IDMA (International Disaster Medicine Association) Congress "Vision of Disaster"

Introduction:

The Congress "Vision of Disaster" aims to explore emergency response strategies and victim management in scenarios of natural and man-made disasters. In a context where climate change and geopolitical tensions may increase the frequency and impact of such events, enhancing preparation and cooperation between military and civilian sectors is crucial.

Congress Objective:

The objective of the congress is to provide a forum for sharing knowledge, experiences, and best practices in crisis management. It aims to strengthen intersectoral collaboration, encouraging innovation and strategic planning to improve the effectiveness of responses in emergency situations.

Main Themes:

- Triage and Medical Response: The first morning session will focus on the importance of triage in emergency contexts. Through presentations on historical events such as the Irpinia earthquake, participants will explore how triage strategies can influence resource allocation and victim treatment.
- Post-Traumatic Stress: The second session will address the crucial topic of psychological support for survivors. Presentations will focus on how to provide effective psychological first aid, essential for the long-term recovery of victims.
- Military Healthcare in Hostile Environments: The third session will highlight the role of military healthcare in managing emergencies in resource-limited scenarios. Shared experiences will provide valuable insights into community resilience and preparedness.
- Mass Casualty Management: The afternoon sessions will discuss the management of mass casualty incidents in recent catastrophic events. Analyzing cases such as the Boston Marathon bombing and the collapse of the Vela di Scampia will offer critical perspectives on the logistical and operational challenges faced.
- Preparation for the Future: The final discussion will focus on how institutions can improve their preparedness for future disaster scenarios, particularly regarding the volcanic risk posed by Vesuvius and the Campi Flegrei. Presentations will address the preparedness of hospitals and emergency services.
- Conclusions: The congress "Vision of Disaster" represents a crucial opportunity to share experiences, tackle common challenges, and build a network of professionals engaged in emergency management. Collaboration between the civilian and military sectors is essential to ensure effective and timely responses in the event of disasters, thus enhancing the resilience of our communities.
- Invitation to Participate: We encourage all interested professionals and organizations to participate in this important event to contribute to the discussion and improve collective preparedness for crisis management.

Giuseppe Noschese MD

Scientific director of the Congress

IDMA Presidente

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