




## MEETING ABSTRACTS

### Enhancing Disaster Response of Emergency Medical Teams through “TEAMS 3.0” – Does the Multidisciplinary Training Make a Difference?

Arielle Kaim MPH<sup>1,2</sup> , Moran Bodas PhD<sup>1,2</sup> , Kobi Peleg PhD<sup>1,2</sup>, Consortium TEAMS 3.0<sup>3</sup>, Luca Ragazzoni MD, PhD<sup>4</sup> 

1. Israel National Center for Trauma & Emergency Medicine Research, The Gertner Institute, Ramat Gan, Israel
2. Department of Emergency and Disaster Management, Faculty of Medicine, School of Public Health, Sackler Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel
3. Karolinska Institutet, Novareckon, Istanbul Medeniye University, INEM, Johanniter International Assistance, HelseDirektoratet Norwegian Directorate of Health, Gertner Institute, UPO Crimedim, N/A, Italy
4. Crimedim- Research Center in Emergency and Disaster Medicine, Universita del Piemonte Orientale, Novara, Italy

**Background/Introduction:** In the aftermath of disasters, Emergency Medical Teams (EMTs) are dispatched to help local rescue efforts. Although EMTs are recognized to be a critical component of the global health workforce, concerns have emerged over their functioning and effectiveness.<sup>1</sup> For example, lack of cooperation and coordination between different EMTs has been a longstanding issue, resulting in fragmented disaster management.<sup>2</sup> To enhance the provision of EMT's field teamwork, the Training for Emergency Medical Teams and European Medical Corps (TEAMS) project was established,<sup>3</sup> and later further updated with novel scenarios and exercises (ie, adapting EMT operations to a sudden disaster; becoming a modular team; reflecting on ethical dilemmas) in the complementary “TEAMS 3.0” project where a more comprehensive training package was developed.

**Objectives:** The aim of this study was to assess the effectiveness and quality of the TEAMS 3.0 training package in four training programs in Portugal, Germany, Norway, and Turkey.

**Method/Description:** Participants completed a set of questionnaires designed to assess self-efficacy, teamwork, and quality of training.

**Results/Outcomes:** The results from the Portugal and German training suggest an improvement for both teams' self-efficacy and teamwork. The quality of training is regarded as high and deemed as an appropriate tool package for addressing the objectives of the project and the perceived needs of EMT disaster deployment.

**Conclusion:** Thus far, the TEAMS 3.0 project has demonstrated to be effective in promoting EMT teamwork capacities. The Norwegian and Turkish training results are expected to be available by the time of the WHO EMT Global Meeting 2022.

### Tables and Figures (optional)

	Germany <sup>a</sup>			Portugal			Norway			Turkey		
	Before (Mean score (± SD))	After (Mean score (± SD))	p-value	Before (Mean score (± SD))	After (Mean score (± SD))	p-value	Before (Mean score (± SD))	After (Mean score (± SD))	p-value	Before (Mean score (± SD))	After (Mean score (± SD))	p-value
Team	2.910	3.222		3.286 ±	3.624							
Self	±	±	0.002	0.1023.624	±0.1396	0.002	*	*		*	*	
Efficacy	0.158	0.091		±0.139								
Team	0.281	1.988		3.253 ±	3.776 ±							
Work	±	±	0.001	0.101	0.108	0.001	*	*		*	*	
Quality of training (after only)		3.144 ±			4.875 ±							
		±			0.083			*			*	
		0.313										

Notes: Germany training was conducted in a modular format, and evaluation was conducted solely on new exercises developed. \*The Norwegian and Turkish training results will be available by the time of the WHO EMT Global Meeting 2022.

Kaim © 2022 Prehospital and Disaster Medicine

**Table 1.** Comparison of Means Before and After the TEAMS 3.0 Training, per Country, for the Team Self-Efficacy Scale, Teamwork Scale, and Quality of Training Scale

### References (optional)

1. Hamilton AR, Södergård B, Liverani M. The role of emergency medical teams in disaster response: a summary of the literature. *Natural Hazards*. 2021;110:1417-1426.
2. Rodríguez-Espíndola O, Albores P, Brewster C. Disaster preparedness in humanitarian logistics: a collaborative approach for resource management in floods. *European Journal of Operational Research*. 2018;264(3):978-993.
3. Bodas M, Peleg K, Adini B, Ragazzoni L. Training package for Emergency Medical Teams deployed to disaster-stricken areas: has ‘TEAMS’ achieved its goals? *Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness*. 2022;16(2):663-669.

*Prehosp Disaster Med*. 2022;37(Suppl. 2):s82.

doi:10.1017/S1049023X22001819