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## Introduction

- Despite numerous attacks and threats both in the US and around the world, there is no standardized disaster preparedness curriculum for health profession students
- This project is the development and implementation of an IPE disaster preparedness curriculum with both a mandatory component and additional training as an elective at Thomas Jefferson University (TJU) in Philadelphia
- Upon completion of the elective component, students are Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hospital Emergency Response Team (HERT) certified and become part of the hospital's disaster response and decontamination team

## Methods

- The disaster preparedness curricula from the various health profession programs at Jefferson and national program recommendations or requirements for disaster preparedness training were reviewed
- Surveys were sent to program directors at Jefferson to gauge their interest in disaster preparedness training
- A curriculum was developed with both didactic and experiential learning components, including participation in a large scale disaster exercise

## Results

- Program directors were very supportive of the need to have disaster preparedness training for their students
- In addition, the students also believed that this type of training was important
- Pretests identified significant knowledge gaps in disaster preparedness and response, and more than half of the 386 surveyed students wanted to volunteer to be part of a disaster response team, requiring additional didactic and simulation training
- A HERT team composed entirely of students living on campus was developed and on call for the 2017 July 4th festivities in Philadelphia

## Willingness to Volunteer for HERT Team

	N	Yes	No	Percent Yes
Medical Students	256	133	123	52
Nursing Students	122	102	20	84
Totals	378	235	143	62



## Conclusions/Future Directions

- IPE disaster preparedness training is widely supported by both health profession program faculty directors and students
- Significant gaps currently exist for health profession student training in this area
- Recent natural disasters and terrorist attacks as well as the current threats of attacks further support the need for a national standard IPE program on disaster preparedness

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