From The Two Realms: Disaster and Humanitarian Medicine

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Disaster Medicine: Crisis Healthcare When Needs Outweigh Resources
The Evolution of Disaster Medicine
And Then There’s AI ........
21st Century: Escalating hazards AND vulnerabilities
Some Concerning Firsts

• 2015-2023 were warmest on record
• Sea levels reached record high in 2022
• First time over 630 million people live at elevation of 10 meters or less from sea level
• First time airborne-transmission pandemic with $R_0 > 2$ in era of modern air travel
• First time large-scale active warfare in and around nuclear power stations
• First time AI-empowered weapons can kill humans autonomously
• First time entire healthcare systems’ IT can be brought down from continents away. Ditto for power grid
• First time a chemical weapon capable of killing hundreds of thousands to millions can be purchased on the street or from the dark web
Global reported natural disasters by type, 1970 to 2023

The annual reported number of natural disasters, categorised by type. The number of global reported natural disaster events in any given year. Note that this largely reflects increases in data reporting, and should not be used to assess the total number of events.

Data source: EM-DAT, CRED / UCLouvain (2023)
Note: Data includes disasters recorded up to September 2023.
There will always be a need for response but also for building local infrastructure.
Readiness is the key.

- **Mitigation**: Preparedness
- **Preparedness**: Response
- **Response**: Recovery

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Pre- and Post-Acute Phase Disaster Medicine: Blurring The Lines With Humanitarian Medicine
Disaster and Humanitarian Medicine Must Work Hand-in-Hand
THANK YOU!