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The Categorization of Emergency Management in China

According to the Emergency Response Law of the People's Republic of China, there are 4 types of emergencies:

- Natural disasters
- Workplace incidents
- Public health incidents
- Public security incidents
Recap of COVID-19 in China

Wuhan is in the central part of China and has a population of 15 million.
A Disaster Perspective

Hazard:
- New infectious virus
- Very limited knowledge

Exposure:
- Huge population: a permanent population of 11.081 million and a floating population of over 5 million in Wuhan

Vulnerability:
- Limited healthcare infrastructure: 81,700 hospital beds by 2018
- Aging society: 14% population are 65 years old+
- Low public awareness
Four priorities for actions in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction

1. Understanding disaster risk;

2. Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk;

3. Investing in disaster risk reduction for resilience;

4. Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response, and to "Build Back Better" in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.
Measures in China - All governments, all societies

- Identify the source of infection, control the source of infection
  - Cut off the long-range transmission link (airline, railway, high-speed train etc.) to prevent and control the spread;
  - Rapid epidemic investigation and information sharing
- Control transmission
  - Initialize the city/community/family isolation/quarantine plan in early stage
  - Risk assessment and zoning
  - Popularize the knowledge of sanitization and epidemic prevention
- Resource allocation
  - Hospital beds: 50,000 by Feb. 15th, 100,000 by Feb. 20th
  - Medical Team: paired assistance program, 40,000+ Medicare people
  - Military force
  - Emergency Logistics
- Investment in research and development of drugs and vaccines
- Protect the vulnerable: Hospital, Nursing house, Prison, …
Understanding Risk

Risk Assessment and Zoning

The guiding opinions on novel coronavirus pneumonia prevention and control in the district classification and scientific control and precision measures

Announced by the Joint defense-joint control mechanism of the State Council (2020.02.18)

- Scientific prevention and control
- Precise policy implementation
- Regionalization and classification
  - Dynamic Risk zoning
  - Diversified control measures and different schedule for factory resumption
Recurrent outbreaks of COVID-19 strongly correlated to the imported infected cases from overseas in China’s mainland.
Cumulative infected cases vs. Government response index

Recurrent outbreaks of COVID-19 are strongly correlated to the relaxation of the government policies in 44 countries around the world.
Recurrent outbreak index and stringency index are strongly correlated with the consumer confidence index

(A) shows the scatter plot between recurrent outbreaks of COVID-19 and recurrent consumer confidence. (B) shows the scatter plot between relaxation of stringency index and recurrent consumer confidence. (C) shows the scatter plot between change of consumer confidence index and change of GDP index in the first three quarters.
The Ministry of Emergency Management of China was newly established in March 2018 as part of the institutional reform of the Chinese government. It consolidated the functions of emergency management departments in various ministries.

**The role of MEM**

To organize the preparation of the national overall emergency plan  
To guide all departments in all regions to deal with emergencies  
To promote the construction of the contingency plan system and the drill.  
To establish a disaster reporting system and release the disaster information  
To coordinate the construction of emergency forces, material warehouses and relief dispatching  
To organize the construction of disaster relief system  
To undertake the work of the national response headquarters for major disasters
The COVID-19 outbreak is a public health incident, and the National Health Commission (NHC) is responsible for its management as stipulated in the Infectious Diseases Prevention and Treatment Law of the People's Republic of China.

The MEM is not the competent authority for public health emergency response in China. However, it plays a vital role in the COVID-19 prevention and control as a member institution of the joint prevention-joint control mechanism of the State Council. The MEM's participation is an integral part of China's whole-of-government approach to fight COVID-19.
Role of the MEM in COVID-19 prevention and control

✓ Rapid allocation of emergency relief supplies

Jointly with National Food and Strategic Reserves Administration, tens thousands of tents, blankets, coat and folding beds were allocated to support the local governments' fight against COVID-19.
Role of the MEM in COVID-19 prevention and control

✓ Ensures the safety of makeshift hospitals and designated hospitals.

Makeshift hospitals are temporary medical sites converted from public venues such as exhibition centers and gymnasiums for treating patients with mild symptoms. In the design stage, the MEM offers suggestions for site selection, structure construction, emergency evacuation plans, etc. In the operation stage, MEM offers supportive management to ensure safety.
✓ Guarnettes the workplace safety of enterprises that produce anti-epidemic materials

The MEM streamlined the application process for resuming production to quickly increase the supplies of anti-epidemic materials. And also it strengthened precautions against accidents in production, sending 1,655 teams to 1,096 enterprises to identify potential risks in workplace safety.
✓ Provides local anti-epidemic assistance, including transferring affected people, transporting anti-epidemic supplies and disinfecting public venues

The number of emergency calls from the public increased substantially after Hubei practiced closed-off community management. The MEM expanded the function of fire services departments in Hubei to respond to the calls in cooperation with local command centers for outbreak control. By March 4, 2020, fire services departments in Hubei had transported 8,885.85 tons of anti-epidemic materials and daily necessities and had disinfected 4.27 million square meters of public venues. The ministry also formed 10 standby teams with a total of 500 people from neighboring provinces to support the COVID-19 prevention and control in Hubei.
Thanks