

FIP recommendations for enhancing pharmacist-led supply chain management in disaster and emergency settings

Summary of the main recommendations



This resource is derived from insights shared by our members during the FIP digital event titled “Pharmaceutical supply chain resilience in humanitarian crises”, held on 23 July 2024.



How can proactive communication and needs assessment enhance disaster response?

- Establishing regular communication with government officials and aid organisations before disasters ensures that the specific needs of affected populations are understood and that the received donations are relevant and useful.
- Conducting regular healthcare needs assessments helps identify essential medicines and supplies, enabling tailored response strategies for at-risk communities.

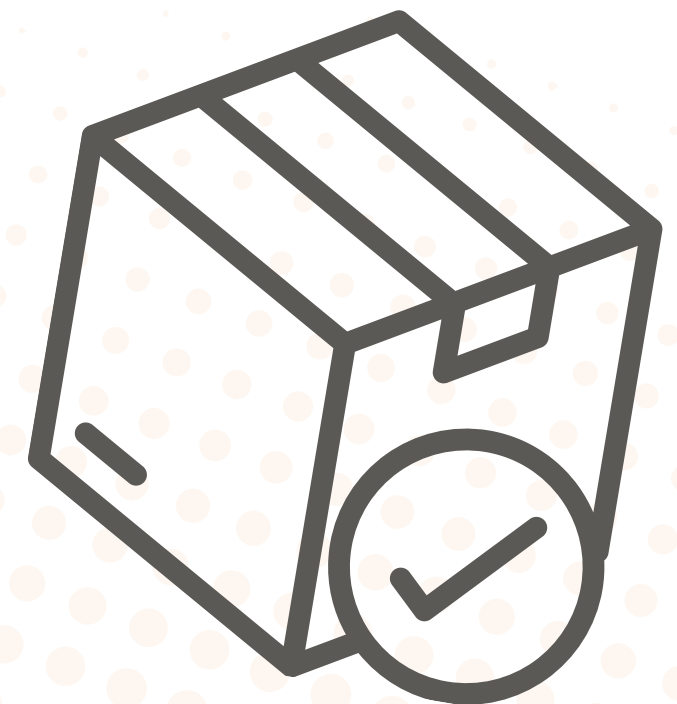




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How can strengthening supplier relationships aid response efforts in emergency and disaster settings ?

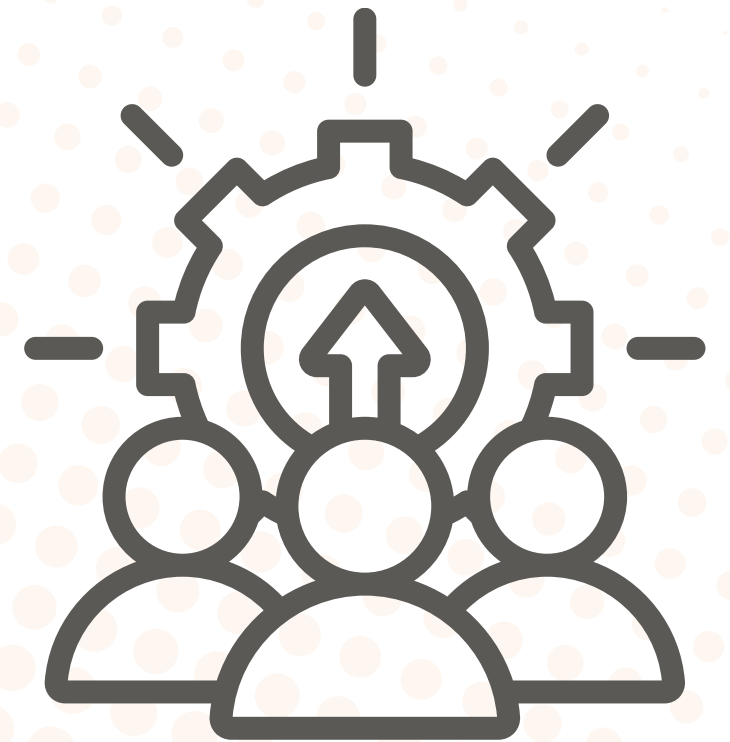
- Developing reliable networks with suppliers and stakeholders facilitates quicker procurement during emergencies.
- Familiarity with local and international regulatory frameworks ensures smooth transportation of pharmaceuticals, including compliance with customs processes and emergency waivers.





What training and skills development are crucial for pharmacists in disaster settings?

- Specialised training in operating mobile pharmacies, managing medications without prescriptions, and good storage practices is vital.
- Additionally, focusing on anticipatory skills development using historical data can help pharmacists predict potential crises and prepare stockpiles of essential supplies in advance.





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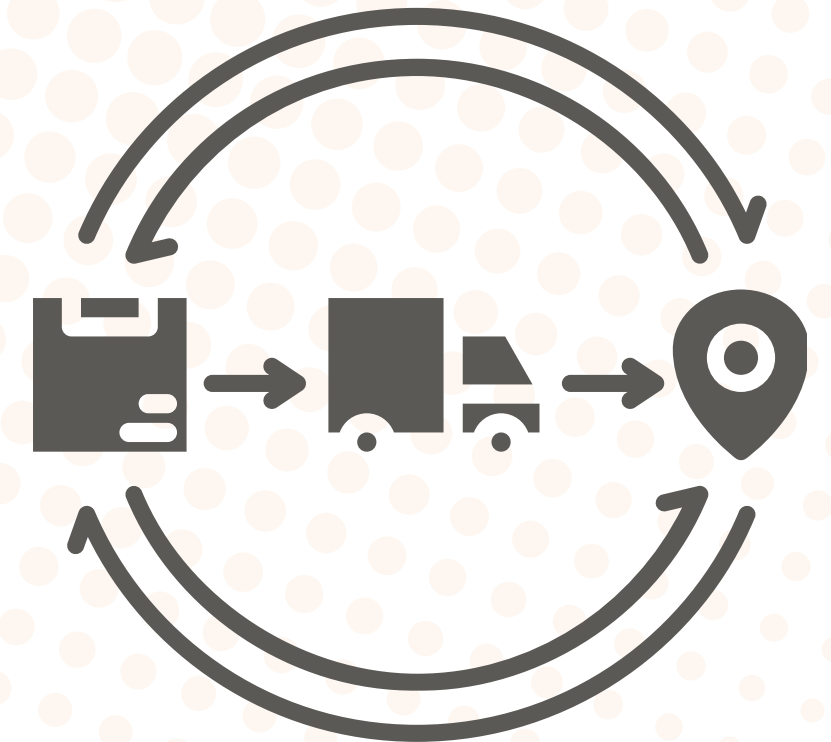
How can effective pharmacy preparedness plans support emergency responses?

- Preparedness plans should address potential supply chain interruptions, patient safety, and communication with public health authorities. Regular reviews ensure adaptation to emerging challenges.
- Empowering pharmacists through regulatory frameworks allows them to make clinical decisions, such as refilling prescriptions without prescriber authorisation.



Why is cold chain management critical in emergency responses?

- Maintaining cold chain integrity ensures the efficacy of temperature-sensitive medications, such as vaccines.
- Pharmacists should also be prepared to adapt to regulatory changes, including adjustments to medication expiration dates and handling controlled substances in crises.



How does collaboration with logistics teams improve supply chain efficiency?

- Working closely with logistics experts ensures efficient supply chain management, including proper storage, distribution, and maintaining pharmaceutical quality.
- Sharing best practices across teams enhances coordination and the overall effectiveness of humanitarian responses.



For more information, please visit our website at <https://humanitarian.fip.org> or use the QR code below.





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