

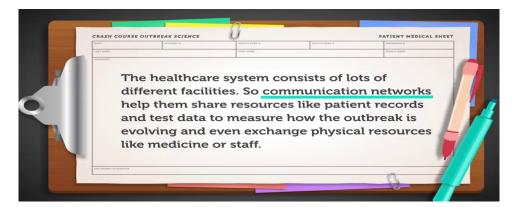
The wave of new infections changes the resources they need, the way they provide care, and the kinds of jobs people do there by considering what changes are needed during outbreaks and how to plan for them. More resilient against shocks like these so in this episode we're going to explore how hospitals and other health care facilities can adapt to the challenges that arise during an outbreak and the decisions that need to be made to get them there. Hospitals have two main goals. The same is true of other facilities like individual clinics, community health centers, nursing homes and pharmacies which make up the health care system. Whether there's an outbreak or not, health care facilities need well. Broadly speaking, the ability of well managed resources and health care workers. During an outbreak, we want the health care system to have enough capacity to keep performing or adapt its usual role in providing care and also meeting the new added care needs caused by the outbreak. There is a lot to consider about the running of a hospital, and more than we could cover here, but by broadly considering what happens to resources and workers. We'll start with a closer look at why we need additional resources during an outbreak. Being infected by a disease. What's more. Finally, we need to organize our supplies and the information we've gathered to make effective decisions. So we should see what resources a hospital might need to overcome these obstacles. It's likely that extra patients will create a need for more hospital beds.Meanwhile, pathogens from infected patients might spread through the air on surfaces from bodily fluids or direct contact with others. It's also wear personal protective equipment or PPE comes in. It consists of things you wear like gloves, face Shields, gowns and masks and also supplies like hand sanitizer by supplying staff with enough PPE hospitals can limit the spread of disease to others.



Finally, this information and communications technology or ICT like computers and phones ICT can help manage data during an outbreak tracking the stocks of other supplies we mentioned.



Overtime as we saw in our first episode. Which brings us to communication.



Similarly, other kinds of health care facilities will have their resource needs changed too.Community health centers and pharmacies, for example, might need to set up physical barriers like plastic screens at the point where patients pick up their medicines from staff to block pathogens that spread through droplets in the air that protects both patients and staff.



One way is to stockpile them. Another way to get resources to hospitals is to anticipate what resources hospitals may need and ensure we have an effective supply chain to get them. That involves establishing relationships with distributors beforehand and making sure arrangements are in place to deliver extra resources if needed. To undertake certain rules, like vaccinating patients as well as bringing in more staff, we can also request more of their time. That means asking them to work longer hours changing contracts from part time to full time and rearranging work schedules to try and increase capacity. Without that, workers might not be able to maintain high quality of care or burnout and a hospital can quickly lose capacity. Early stages of an Ebola outbreak in Liberia.



With fewer health care workers willing to work under such conditions, health care capacity was reduced, making it harder to tackle the outbreak. Each worker's time is spent. This process is especially important during an outbreak, since a significant amount of a hospitals workforce capacity will need to focus on infected patients. We've mentioned that for both physical resources and health care workers, response capacity can be increased by simply. Well, that sounds perfectly sensible and practice. We have to turn to economics. In other countries like the US, private healthcare also plays a big role, with patients paying for some of their treatment, usually in the form of medical insurance which funds the hospital.



In either case, a hospital can increase its resource and staffing when its funding is steady, reliable and sufficient. Another way for facilities to increase capacity is by creating a reserve of money or securing a loan at short notice in the event of an outbreak in privately run hospitals.



Both economics and politics play a role in these decisions because there are lots of competing uses for money. One off purchases like.



One off purchases like. Governments use tax spending for all sorts of purposes like building physical infrastructure, Social Security and education, which, as we've seen in previous episodes, can also reduce the likelihood and impacts of outbreaks in the 1st place. For now, I'll point out that wherever money. Health care systems can be more resilient.ca and by engaging with your local indigenous and Aboriginal nations through the websites and resources they provide.



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