



WITS University Campus Health Emergency Medical Services (EMS): Sharing Good Practice



Introduction

- Overview of Campus Health Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- WITS University provides a critical Campus Health EMS service for students, staff, and visitors.
- These services include first aid, emergency response, and ongoing health care.
- We'll explore good practices, challenges, and future directions to enhance this critical service.



Core Services Provided by WITS EMS

Emergency Medical Response:

- Immediate care for injuries and acute medical conditions.
- On-site assessments and treatments, ensuring rapid response times.



Core Services Provided by WITS EMS

Transport to Hospitals:

- Safe and professional ambulance services for cases requiring further medical intervention.

First Aid Support:

- On-campus first aid stations equipped with essential medical supplies.
- Trained personnel available for assistance.



Core Services Provided by WITS EMS

Health Promotion and Prevention:

- Preventive care initiatives like health screenings, activations and educational programs.

Mental Health and Psychological Support:

- Counseling services as part of emergency care for trauma or mental health crises, including attending emergency medical calls (suicide attempts) at residences.



Good Practices in EMS at WITS

Trained and Certified Staff:

- All emergency personnel are fully certified in ACLS, BLS & ITLS.

- Rapid Response System:

A dedicated WITS Emergency line - ensuring minimal response times across the campus.



Good Practices in EMS at WITS

Collaboration with Local Health Networks:

- Partnership with local hospitals and private ambulance services to ensure seamless transfers and advanced care when necessary.
- WhatsApp group with CMJAH, BARA for P1 cases.

Student Peer Educators:

- Trained students act as peer educators, providing first-line support and promoting health literacy among the student body.

Emergency Drills and Simulations:

- Regular emergency preparedness drills in collaboration with OHS, staff and students know what to do in emergencies.



Technology Integration in EMS

Digital Health Records:

- Use of digital platforms for keeping health records of patients (currently in development stage).
- This will ensure quick access to vital information during emergencies.
- SIMS system – allow us to easily access student information, next-of-kin details, etc.



Case Studies: Successful Interventions

Cardiac Arrest Response:

- A student collapsed on campus. Immediate response and use of an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) led to successful resuscitation.

Mental Health Crisis Intervention:

- Quick response to a mental health crisis helped avert a suicide attempt, and this demonstrate the importance of the integrated approach to mental health in EMS services.



Challenges Faced by WITS EMS

Resource Limitations:

- Limited budget for staffing, equipment, and ambulances.

Increased Demand:

- Growing student and staff populations increase the demand for EMS services.

Coordination with External Services:

- Challenges in managing handovers to external hospitals and health services.



Future Directions and Improvements

Strengthening Collaboration:

- Enhance partnerships with local health departments and hospitals.

Expanding Services:

- Assessing the feasibility of extended hours of operation, including night shifts, to cover emergencies outside regular hours.

Training and Awareness Programs:

- Increase the number of trained peer educators and first responders.

Sustainable Funding:

- Seek additional funding sources to improve and expand EMS resources.



Conclusion

Commitment to Excellence:

- WITS University CHWC EMS is dedicated to providing high-quality, responsive, and integrated emergency medical services.

- By sharing good practices and addressing challenges, the WITS CHWC EMS continues to improve and ensure the health and safety of the campus community.



Thank You

Questions & Discussions...

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