

Syllabus for the Course in Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine, 2023

Objectives and Syllabus for the Course in Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine, 2023 Diploma in the Medical Care of Catastrophes Faculty of Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine Society of Apothecaries, London

The objectives and syllabus for the part time course in conflict and catastrophe medicine address contextual, public health and medical issues in low and middle income countries in the following scenarios: conflict, refugees, displaced people, drought, famine, epidemics, and fragile states.

Objectives of the Course in Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine, 2023

By the end of the 2023 course the participant should:

- Understand the principles of humanitarianism, localisation in humanitarian health, sustainability, governance especially accountability and safeguarding, and adapting knowledge and skills to a specific context.
- Know where and how to access resources to support interventions.
- Be equipped with core skills required to support interventions such as for a needs assessment, a surveillance system and a reporting system, and common health and disease issues.

Syllabus for the Course in Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine, 2023

Subject	Components	Issues specific to conflicts and catastrophes
	Definitions	Refugee, displaced, vulnerable groups, and others e.g. those who stay / are unable to move; types of conflict and categories of disasters, the thin line between man-made and 'natural' disasters; The definition of humanitarianism used in this course
	Key national and international stakeholders	Host government and ministries; Local and international NGOs; United Nations including the health cluster; ICRC, LRCS and National Societies; Local community groups; Peacekeepers and the military; Humanitarian-military interaction. Coordination

Apply for the course to: facultycc@apothecaries.org.org

For more information about the Society of Apothecaries and the Faculty go to: www.apothecaries.org

Syllabus for the Course in Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine, 2023

The wider context	Legal framework; Ethics of humanitarian action	International Humanitarian Law; Geneva Conventions; World Health Resolution 2012 65.20; UN Security Resolution 2016 2286; The role of ICRC and care of detainees and prisoners of war; UN international Resolution on cross-boarder aid delivery Sanctions and sieges Attacks on health facilities and personnel; WHO Healthcare Facilities Dashboard; The seven humanitarian principles
	The history of, and current trends in, humanitarian aid	Humanitarian health - localisation, decolonisation. Which conflict and disasters receive attention and who responds; Role of UNOCHA; Disaster risk reduction and climate change
	Closing the gap between humanitarian assistance and development aid	Sustainable humanitarian responses – breaking down the divide between humanitarian health and health development; The ‘how’ and ‘what’ approach; Integrating with and building on local strengths; Resilience; Giving advice, mentoring, continuing education, mutual learning
	Factors affecting humanitarian aid and its effectiveness	Politics, power, people and equity; International responses to health emergencies; Governance of, and communication by, international organisations especially regarding accountability and safeguarding; Foreign policy objectives of donors; Attacks on health facilities and personnel;
	Medical and health related funding and types of donations	Principles; Appropriateness and acceptability; Calculating types and amounts of medicines and other resources needed based on epidemiological profile; Use of pre-determined packages of medicines and equipment
	Health systems	Myths, realities, and possible ways forward; Direct support to national health authority at different levels of the health system; Decentralised support as needed; Community workers and links to health systems
	Epidemiology of disasters	How the severity of conflict and disasters is measured. What disasters get attention and which don't? Role and influence of traditional media, social

Apply for the course to: facultycc@apothecaries.org.org

For more information about the Society of Apothecaries and the Faculty go to: www.apothecaries.org

Syllabus for the Course in Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine, 2023

		media, and disinformation; Risks, mitigation, and preparedness; Growing influence of climate change
Practical epidemiology	Health status and setting priorities	Needs assessment; Pre-existing demography, status, and trends at national and sub-national level in home and/or host country; Current demography, vulnerable groups, common conditions, and likelihood of outbreak(s) at local level e.g. among displaced, refugees, or those who stayed; Likely top ten priorities for response
	Vulnerable groups	Who is considered vulnerable and why it matters. Assessment and planning implications; Special consideration of the elderly and disabled
	Reporting and surveillance systems	Use and feedback into national routine health information system in large camps for refugees or displaced; Help for national authorities to collect data on emerging trends e.g. war injuries and deaths; Development of simple systems among small populations e.g. below 10,000 but still with reporting to local authority; International Health Regulations; Types of surveillance used in times of conflict and other crises; Development of ownership of conflict and other new systems among national and local personnel; Reporting and acting on what the data shows
	Monitoring and evaluation	Paucity of monitoring and evaluation (M&E) of interventions; Desirability and feasibility of monitoring delivery, access, quality, and/or coverage of an intervention; Supportive responses with realistic and resourced suggestions for change
Health services and interventions	Prevention, control and treatment of communicable diseases	Types of communicable diseases and their transmission; control measures, prevention and treatment; Diarrhoeal diseases; Vector-borne diseases and zoonoses; Airborne diseases; Blood-borne diseases; Sexually transmitted infections; HIV and AIDS: Recognition, prevention and control of outbreaks and epidemics; Resources and coordination; Local and international sensitivities; International obligations. Wound and skin infections; Systemic infections following injury

Apply for the course to: facultycc@apothecaries.org.org

For more information about the Society of Apothecaries and the Faculty go to: www.apothecaries.org

Syllabus for the Course in Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine, 2023

Health services and interventions	Prevention and treatment of non-communicable diseases	Disruption of treatment for chronic diseases such as hypertension, epilepsy, diabetes, etc.; Diagnosis and initiating treatment among a refugee, displaced or isolated community; Use of national essential medicines list; The ethics of screening for diseases among in conflict, and/or among a refugee or displaced population
	Mental health	Common consequences of conflict and disasters; Stress, depression and trauma; Prevention and psychosocial resilience; Institutional care; Longer term and intergenerational issues; Ethical and effective mental health care; Community based and health system interventions; Use of national essential medicines list; The ethics of screening for diseases among in conflict, and/or among a refugee or displaced population
	Sexual and gender-based violence	UN definition of gender-based / sexual and gender-based violence; trends in humanitarian settings; causes, recognition and appropriate responses; Physical, psychological and trans-generational impact; Primary medical response
	Maternal and child health	Safe Motherhood; Family Planning; Neonatal care; Integrated responses; Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) Under-5 health; Immunisations; common diseases Adolescent health Use of national essential medicines list
	Management of pain	Application of the WHO pain ladder; Amputation phantom pain; Use of national essential medicines list; Legal aspects of using morphine
	Emergency care	Triage; Primary first aid; Medical evacuations during war and/or siege; Burns care
	Nutrition and food security	Child malnutrition: Measurement, appropriate feeding, ready-to-use foods; General rations and cash transfer programmes; Food insecurity: Anticipation, timely and coordinated response

Apply for the course to: facultycc@apothecaries.org.org

For more information about the Society of Apothecaries and the Faculty go to: www.apothecaries.org

Syllabus for the Course in Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine, 2023

	Water, sanitation, hygiene, and waste management	Types of response, immediate to longer term; Best practice including cultural and gender sensitivities; Maintenance and education; Impact on the environment
	Mass gatherings and casualties	Implications for public health, policy, and planning
	Hazardous chemicals, biological warfare agents, nuclear radiation etc. (CBRN)	Public health implications and clinical effects
Topical issues (can change year by year)	Rescue, triage and onward care of boat people in British waters	
	Medical concerns during the evacuation, Kabul airport, August 2021	
	Consequences of disasters in the UK for health personnel e.g. flooding and terrorist attacks	
Pre-recorded lectures on subjects of interest	Medical care in extreme environments: Hot environments	
	Medical care in extreme environments: Cold environments	
	Surgery in resource deprived settings	
	General surgery in the austere environment	
	Plastic surgery in the austere environment	
	Logistics in humanitarian surgery	
	Orthopaedics in the austere environment	
	Anaesthesia in the austere environment	
Aeromedical evacuation		

Apply for the course to: facultycc@apothecaries.org

For more information about the Society of Apothecaries and the Faculty go to: www.apothecaries.org