

COVID response have been important to creating more partnerships with federal agencies around situational awareness and considering social and physical determinants of health that affect children and families. The partnerships with state agencies and other key stakeholders have been valuable to close the gaps in the pediatric/family disaster cycle. There has been a multitude of tools and products that have been created and disseminated from this PCOE, including educational tools, behavioral health training and tools, virtual exercises and quality improvement projects. The best practices and ongoing projects highlight how to improve coordinated care for children and families within a region and is an example for the United States and beyond. There are also challenges to coordinated preparedness due to jurisdictional barriers and these are as important to highlight and create mitigation strategies.

**Conclusion:** This US supported PCOE is an example of a regional disaster coordination to mitigate and prepare for response concentrating on the needs of children and families in the larger disaster cycle.

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### Pediatric Disaster Science: Pediatric Specific Considerations, A Global Imperative, A WADEM Opportunity

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**Introduction:** Pediatric disaster science is critical to provide data and discovery to guide evidence-based preparedness, response, mitigation and recovery to best serve children, families and society. With the increasing frequency, severity and global scope of disasters, there is now an unprecedented imperative and opportunity to build a sustained pediatric disaster science workforce and infrastructure. The expertise, perspective and collaboration of the international, multidisciplinary community, including WADEM members, is integral to supporting effective, efficient, ethical, high quality pediatric disaster science and its implementation.

**Method:** A landmark Pediatric Disaster Science Symposium was convened in-person/virtually by the US National Academies of Science Engineering and Medicine in August 2022. Forty-eight pediatric disaster focused invited speakers, collectively representing government, non-governmental organizations, academia and community attended, and online. Attendees were polled during the two-day meeting to assign priority ratings to the topics discussed.

**Results:** Symposium topics included the importance, history and scope of pediatric disaster science, and research across

the disaster management cycle. Research considerations specific to children included medical and psychosocial vulnerabilities and manifestations; ethics and protections; protocol development and deployment; research tools; and data collection/integration. Scientific methodology topics addressed pediatric considerations for basic science, surveillance, clinical trials, applied sciences, community-engaged research, dissemination and implementation. Infrastructure needs described leveraging disaster centers, research networks, disaster response teams, government agencies and professional societies integratively across disciplines. Building a sustainable workforce, including training and engaging pediatric scientists with disaster-focused/disaster-relevant research, funding streams, regulation and advocacy were also discussed. Research priority ratings yielded preliminary data to inform pediatric disaster science priorities.

**Conclusion:** The meeting provided insights that can further guide discussions among global disaster experts and scientists, including WADEM members, to prioritize, build and scale sustainable pediatric disaster science that yields evidence-based strategies, plans, resources, and actions that improve disaster preparedness, response, mitigation, and recovery for children, families and societies worldwide.

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### Pediatric Casualties in Terrorist Attacks: A Semi-Quantitative Analysis of Global Events through the Lens of Counter-Terrorism Medicine

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**Introduction:** Terrorism remains a major threat and concern in many countries around the world. Children represent approximately 30% of the world population and in the event of a terrorist attack can either be primary targets, to include the possibility of abduction, or unintended victims. Children are unique in their vulnerabilities and therefore, require special consideration.

**Method:** This study is a semi-quantitative epidemiological analysis of all terrorism-related pediatric fatalities and injuries sustained between 1970–2019. Data collection was performed using a retrospective database search through the Global Terrorism Database (GTD). Summaries of events including search terms associated with children were individually reviewed and those describing the deaths, injuries, or abduction of children were tallied.

**Results:** Of the over 200,000 terror events, 2,302 events met inclusion criteria. This represented 1.14% of total events which