

**Emergency Health Professionals Attitudes towards Caring for Patients with Chest Trauma: A Qualitative Study**

سلوكيات كادر الطوارئ الصحي تجاه رعاية مرضى اصابات الصدر : دراسة نوعية

By

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## **ABSTRACT**

**Introduction:** Chest traumas are very serious and life threatening and affect the working-age group. They need immediate diagnosis and intervention in the emergency phase (pre-hospital and in-hospital) following a protocol to manage such injuries effectively and successfully. There is no research on the positions of emergency health professionals in dealing with chest traumas in Jordan and the factors that improve the expertise of these emergency health professionals in dealing with traumas.

**Aim:** To explore the attitudes of emergency health professionals in Jordanian hospitals and in the Jordanian Civil Defense regarding the care of patients with chest traumas. The study also aims to understand the factors that affect the care for patients with chest traumas among emergency health professionals.

**Methodology:** A qualitative exploratory approach was adopted in this study. Individual, semi-structured, face-to-face interviews were conducted with 30 emergency health professionals (physicians, nurses, and paramedics). These were selected for participation from the emergency departments of government, military, and private hospitals, and pre-hospital paramedics from the Civil Defense in Jordan.

**Findings:** The results showed that emergency health professionals usually have negative attitudes towards caring for patients with chest traumas due to a lack of knowledge and clarity in their job description and duties assigned to them as a team. Moreover, some organizational and training factors were discussed and their impact on the attitudes of emergency health professionals towards caring for patients with chest traumas. The use of a qualitative design helped generate suggestions from the participants about the problems they encountered in caring for patients with chest trauma.

**Conclusion:** The results of this study indicate that the reason for the negative attitudes of emergency health professionals towards the care of patients with chest traumas was the lack of knowledge and the absence of a clear guideline that gives the team members working in the care of patients with chest traumas a clear job description for dealing with traumas, as well as the lack of training and continuous education on the care of patients with chest traumas. These findings can be beneficial to stakeholders, managers, and organizational leaders. They can understand the challenges in the work environment.

Considering all of the above issues may be useful when planning new programs and in the accreditation process. These plans are expected to increase emergency health professionals' productivity and reduce their negative attitudes toward chest trauma care.

**Keywords:** chest ,trauma, emergency ,health professional, attitude, nurse, paramedic, physician , Jordan , and Thoracic injur