Storms, Floods, Fires & Tsunami’s – the Human Consequences

Rosemary Hegner
Director
NSW Health Emergency Management Unit
Overview of Emergency Management

- Comprehensive
  - Prevention
  - Preparation
  - Response & Recovery

- All hazards
- All agencies (within NSW Health this is all clinical streams)
- Local capability, community resilience.
Overview of EM in Australia

Australian Emergency Management Committee
National Response Plans
National Working Parties

State Emergency Management Committee

District Emergency Management Committees

Local Emergency Management Committees

Australian Health Ministers Committee
Australian Health Ministers Advisory Council
Australian Health Protection Principle Committee
National Health Emergency Management Subcommittee

NSW State Health Emergency Management Committee

Local Health District Disaster Committees
Public Health, Mental Health, Health Communications, Pathology, Logistics

Hospital Disaster Plans and Committees
Impact & Grief

Kübler-Ross Grief Cycle

Denial
Avoidance
Confusion
Elation
Shock
Fear

Anger
Frustration
Irritation
Anxiety

Depression
Overwhelmed
Helplessness
Hostility
Flight

Bargaining
Struggling to find meaning
Reaching out to others
Telling one's story

Acceptance
Exploring options
New plan in place
Moving on

Information and Communication

Emotional Support

Guidance and Direction

RACP CONGRESS 2018
Sydney
14 – 16 May 2018

www.racpcongress.com.au
The Challenges

• Culture
• Geography
• Communication
• Media & Social media
• Social cohesion
• Logistics
Australian Examples

• 2013 – Blue Mountains Bushfire
• 2014 – Lindt Café Siege
• 2015 – Hunter & Central coast storms & flooding (power & phone outages)
• 2016 – Severe Heatwave (NSW)
International Examples

• Christchurch New Zealand, Earthquake March 2011

• Fukushima Japan, Earthquake/Tsunami/Radiological incident March 2011