

Tsunami And Diabetes Mellitus: A Story

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Introduction

Editor, a present big crisis in focus is the Japanese Tsunami in early March 2011. This is believed to be the biggest tsunami in the human history. For sure, tsunami causes several problems to health system. It is interesting to know the effects of tsunami on the diabetic medicine. It is no doubt that there are several problems in diabetic management in the post-earthquake situation (1). However, the knowledge in the specific cases of tsunami is still low. Indeed, there are some publications in the literature mentioning the effect of tsunami on diabetic care. Interestingly, it is reported that tsunami could significantly induce hyperglycemia and resulted in increased diabetes mortality (2). Ramachandran et al. also noted for a high prevalence of undetected diabetes and impaired glucose tolerance among the survivors from tsunami (3). What is the exact contributing factor to this observation is very interesting and requires clarification. The relation between hyperglycemic episode and stress is mentioned but it might not be the whole solution to the query (3). The problem might be due to the immediate destruction of the health facilities, including the diabetic care system, as seen in earthquake situation (1).

Key words: Tsunami, diabetes

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