

Abstract

Background: The disaster Preparedness and response division is a key regulatory body which is responsible for health sector disaster management. The disaster Management Health Information System (DMHIS) in the unit has been designed to manage the information generated by the disaster management process. But some critical data needed within the first 24hrs is still collected without an efficient system which results in poor coordination and allocation of resources. As such, developing a digital module to collect those data and integrate them into existing systems will be an appropriate solution to address this problem.

Method: Study was conducted in mixed – method approach. Data flow during disasters was identified by process observations in the Disaster Preparedness and Response Division(DPRD). Assessing requirements for the module was done by conducting focus group discussions in the unit and by conducting descriptive cross-sectional for the medical officers involved in the disaster management process in the Western province. The software was designed by configuring the DHIS2 platform and tested in DPRD. During testing, the usability of the software was assessed using the System Usability Scale.

Results: Data collection in emergency disaster management is done at the MOH level, and needs approval by the relevant RDHS before sending to DPRD. Considering the requirements elicited by focus group discussions and descriptive cross-sectional study, a module was designed in the existing system by configuring the DHIS2 platform. A customized data entry form was designed and tested in the unit. According to scores in the System Usability Scale, it is accepted by the end-users.

Conclusion: A module to collect critical data in the first 24 hours following a disaster was developed as a component of the Disaster Management Health Information system and It was accepted by the end-users.