

KHANNA, MONA

Physician, Desert Regional Medical Center, USA

Panel 4.3: Building Resilience in Families and Communities

Resilience in the Face of Natural Disasters

More than 2,200 natural disasters have struck Asia in the past 20 years, claiming close to one million lives. From the 2004 Indian Ocean tsunami that claimed more than 200,000 to The Philippines' 2013 Typhoon Haiyun to the 2011 Great Tohoku Earthquake, Tsunami and Fukushima Nuclear Crisis that claimed 20,000, to the flooding in Bangkok in 2011... Point being that Asia is no stranger to catastrophe. The region occupies 30% of the world's land mass, but 40% of the world's disasters occurred there in the past decade. And even though almost half the deaths from natural disasters in Asia during the last 10 years were due to earthquakes and tsunamis, resilience can be strengthened to mitigate the devastating effects of these disasters.