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Management of Emergencies by General Practitioners in Australia

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General practitioners (GPs), primary care physicians in Australia, often find themselves in the unique position of providing first response emergency care in their communities. GPs represent an essential component of the Australian health care infrastructure, while playing a crucial role in coordinating the care of patients between health care providers for illnesses and injuries arising both during and after emergencies.

This presentation will introduce the audience to a series of fact sheets produced by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners to manage emergencies brought on by natural disasters such as bushfires and extreme weather conditions including heatwaves, thunderstorms and floods. The focus will be on the necessity of planning and preparation that can easily translate into a variety of international settings.

Audience participation will be encouraged during the presentation through the sharing of common experiences in order to advance the practice of emergency medicine for better outcomes in community-based emergency situations, due to but not confined to natural disasters.

Biography:

Dr. Milana Votrubic is a general medical practitioner, pain management consultant, Senior Clinical Lecturer for the Graduate Medical Programs at both Sydney and Notre Dame Universities and Editor of the journal *Pain Medicine Today*. She is currently the Chair of the Specific Interest in Pain Management, and Life Member, of the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners. She is also a Fellow of the Faculty of Pain Medicine of the Australian and New Zealand College of Anaesthetists. Main interest is in chronic non-malignant pain as a result of physical and emotional trauma.