

Advancing Emergency Preparedness for people with disabilities and chronic health conditions

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INTRODUCTION

Individual preparedness is an effective way to decrease disaster risk.

More must be done to ensure that people with disabilities are prepared.

Efforts now seek to explore practical and effective ways to: (a) include people with disabilities in emergency preparedness and (b) match preparedness planning to their support needs.

One way is to leverage the roles of the service providers that already, routinely support the health, disability and rehabilitation needs of this population at home and in the community.

METHOD

This study combined a scoping review of the literature and stakeholder consultations with community-based service providers and managers.

Disability and rehabilitation professionals can use study findings to self-assess their capacity and develop opportunities to embed emergency preparedness into routine practice with

Community-based service providers have skills that are well-suited to enabling emergency preparedness with clients but they lack sufficient tools to enable preparedness in others.

The Person-Centred Emergency Preparedness (PCEP) Toolkit targets planning for the capabilities and support needs of people with disability



Figure 1: Person-Centred Emergency Preparedness Framework (Villeneuve et al., 2018)

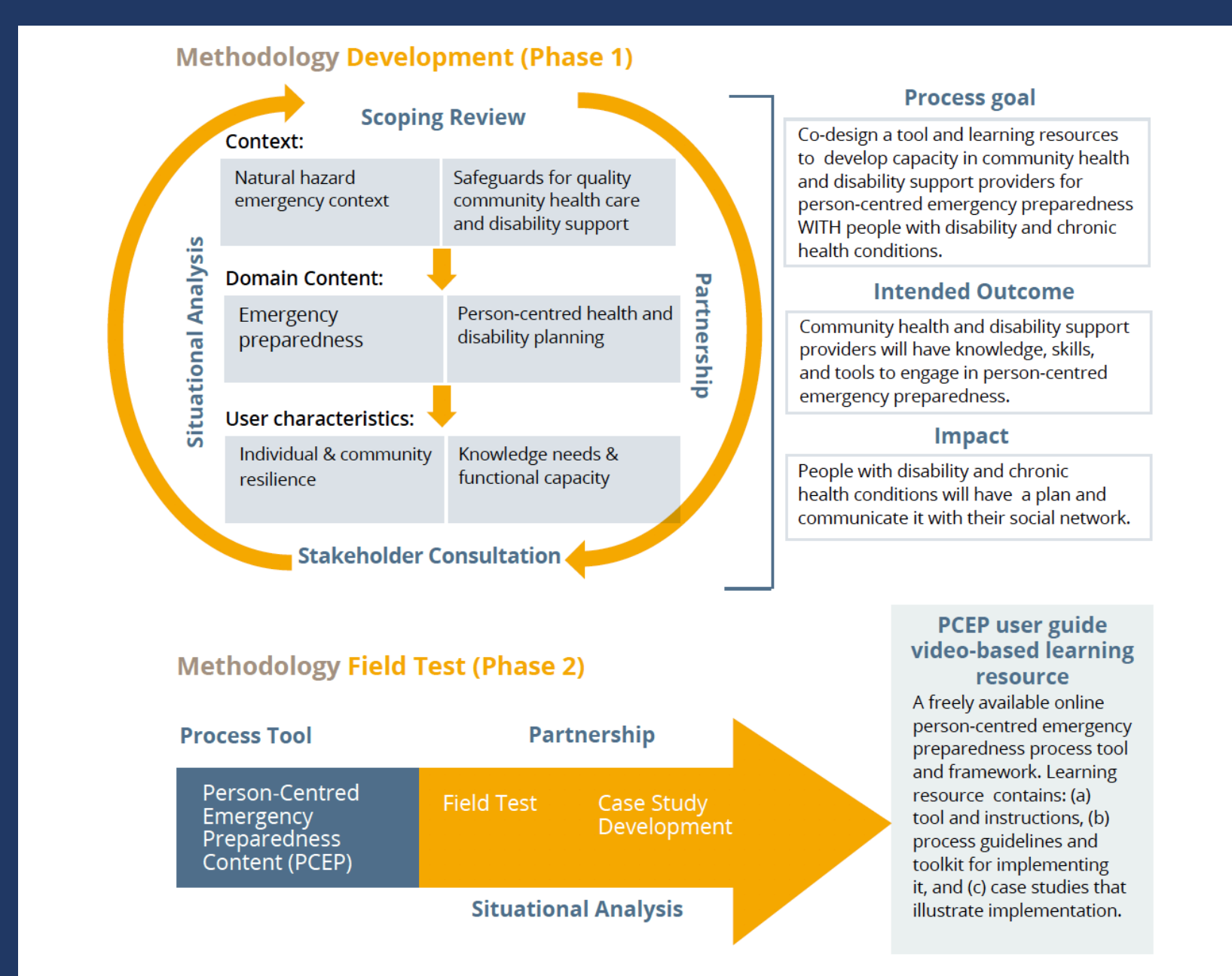


Figure 2: Co-design methodology involving stakeholder consultation

IMPLICATIONS

Strengths-based tools increase client self-sufficiency in preparing for and responding to emergencies.

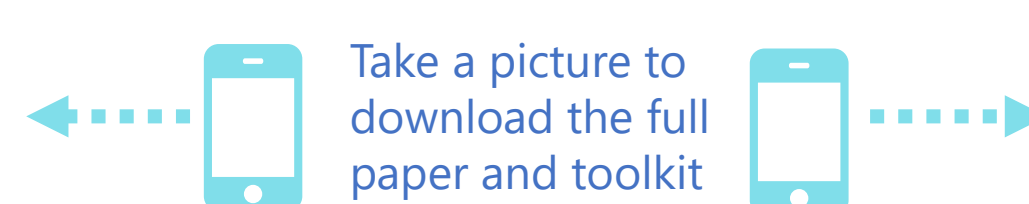
Enablement processes should guide the development of emergency preparedness as a critically important and emerging role for community-based service providers.

NEXT STEPS

Research is needed to understand how to optimise the expertise of diverse health care, disability and rehabilitation providers in facilitating emergency preparedness with clients.



Manuscript



Toolkit

The PCEP offers a strengths-based planning Toolkit for enabling emergency preparedness in others. The toolkit is an open-access resource for you to use.