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## **Response Capacity of Professionals In The Central Surgical Ward of a Hospital in the Event of a fire Risk. Paraguay 2021**

### **ABSTRACT**

Fire is the ignition of uncontrolled fire, generated by flammable and explosive materials, causing serious damage due to improper use of combustible substances, faulty electrical installations and/or inadequate storage and transfer of hazardous substances. Historically, the need to have fire and flammable elements in the operating room has meant a great risk. In most hospitals fire drills are conducted regularly, all employees must know how to respond to the emergency, emergency exits, fire extinguishers and fire hoses. The objective of this study was to evaluate the response capacity of the professionals of the Central Surgical Pavilion of a public hospital in Asunción in the event of a fire risk. Paraguay 2021. Methodology: descriptive, quantitative, primary source study. A questionnaire was adapted from the International Labor Organization, International Council of Nurses and accepted by the Ethics Committee of the Faculty of Nursing and Obstetrics, National University of Asuncion, and 69 professionals were interviewed. Results: 60 professionals did not know the firemen's telephone number, 62 did not know the evacuation protocol, 67 had not participated in evacuation protocols, and 67 professionals responded that they knew the emergency exits and 32 that they knew how to use fire extinguishers. Conclusions: although the incidence of fires in the operating room is low, the consequences can be serious; therefore, the findings allow us to affirm that the response capacity of the operating room professionals in the event of a fire risk is insufficient, due to the lack of knowledge of mechanisms to deal with them.

**Keywords:** fires, fire prevention and protection, surge capacity, hospitals, operating rooms, Paraguay.

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