

Abdullah Alhadhira

Chair, Department of Operational Medicine

Competitive Division - Academic

Cross Sectional Study Evaluating Healthcare Business Continuity in Saudi Arabia

In 2020 the global healthcare system faced unprecedented disruption impacting staff, space, structure, services, supply chain, finance, legal and ethical values. In response, hospitals implemented variable Business Continuity (BC) measures without a unified framework. Johns Hopkins ARAMCO healthcare assessed healthcare BC resilience in Saudi Arabia, benchmarking against ISO 22301-the gold standards of Business Continuity Management System (BCMS). A retrospective cross-sectional survey evaluated alignment with ISO's 10 clauses. Thirty-four subject matter experts (SME) participated, with 84% effectively implementing key clauses. Highest compliance was seen in Clause 4 (Organizational Context), 5 (Leadership), and 6 (Planning). Clause 3 (References) showed the lowest at 31%, indicating it as a critical gap. An average standard deviation of 0.71, a mean of 15.8, a variance of 1.45, and a 95% confidence interval of 26.3. The margin of error is 8.26 with a p-value 0.12. BC model in healthcare remains inconsistent driven by internal SMEs and overlaps with Emergency Management System. This merits more international research on References to generate a standardized framework, involve leaders to establish knowledge acquisition. Finally,

engaged healthcare accreditation agencies evaluate standards in the field of Disaster Medicine and BC.

Presentation Theme: Research, experience, practice.

Collaborators, Advisor(s) and Department(s) that assisted with this research: Ms. Sandy Rizk, RN. MsMD. Co-Researcher