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Environmental health in the western Iran earthquake: a scoping review

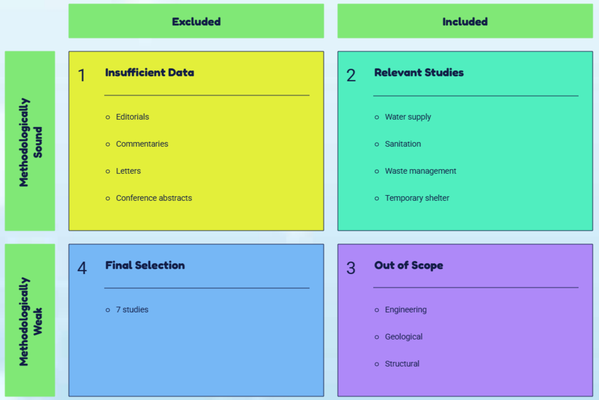
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Backgrounds

Earthquakes disrupt environmental health systems by interrupting water supply and sanitation, generating large volumes of disaster waste, and damaging temporary and permanent shelter. The 21 November 2017 Kermanshah earthquake offers a clear case for examining these effects. This scoping review aimed to identify the main challenges and requirements related to environmental health and community resources after this event.

Methods



Findings

Category	Key Findings
Emergency water supply and quality	Disruption of urban networks, contamination risks, spatial risk assessment, and proposed support centers.
Sanitation and environmental hygiene	Effective initial coordination but persistent unmet needs for safe water, sewage, and solid-waste management.
Disaster waste management	Large volumes of debris, logistical difficulties, lack of preparedness plans, and weak coordination.
Temporary housing and community health needs	Challenges in shelter provision, high reconstruction costs, and needs for hygiene education and disease control.

Conclusion

Strengthening pre-disaster preparedness for emergency water systems, integrated waste management plans, sanitary infrastructure resilience, affordable temporary housing strategies, and coordinated environmental health responses may support continuity of community health services and reduce secondary public health risks after disasters.

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