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| **Category** | **Sub-Category** | **Definition Used** | **Suggestive Terms** |
| Not-Disaster-Related | None | Outside assistance not required | emergency; emergency medical services; emergency medicine; emergency nursing; medical care; prehospital |
| Disaster-Related | Multiple | Outside assistance required | decontamination, disaster; emergency; epidemic; health crisis; major incident; mass casualties; multi-casualty incident; pandemic; preparedness; public health; risk; risk-reduction; terrorism, triage; war  |
| Epidemiological | None | The incidence and distribution of diseases and of other factors related to health.8 | absorbing capacity; buffering capacity; characteristics; comparison; damage; effects; etiology; event; hazard; incidence; lessons learned; morbidity; mortality; needs; prevalence; resource utilization; resilience; response capacity; susceptibility, vulnerability |
| Interventional |  | Actions taken to create change | contingency; costs; effects; evaluation; function; impact; intervention; needs; operations; outcomes; output; plans; process; resources; response; status; transformation |
|  | Relief Responses | Temporary actions to mitigate/prevent further deterioration in levels of function and/or fill gaps in provision of essential functions | competence; course; decontamination; emergency department (room); emergency medical services; field hospital/clinic; knowledge; medical care; military; mobilization; operations; relief; rescue; response; response capacity; simulation; surge; surge capacity; surveillance |
|  | Recovery Responses | Temporary actions to promote recovery towards pre-event levels of function | improvement; pre-event status reconstruction; recovery; rehabilitation; restoration |
|  | Risk-Reduction | Actions to decrease risk(s) | absorbing capacity; buffering capacity; contingency; curriculum; education; exercise/drill; plan; preparedness; readiness; response capacity; risk; scenario; simulation; training |
| Syntheses |  | Amalgamation of multiple studies/reports | analysis; bias; Cochrane; combination; comparison; conclusion; evidence; interpretation; opinion; putting it together; recommendation; review; systematic review; synthesis; summary |
|  | Meetings, Congress; Conference  | Summary of outputs of meetings, congresses, workshops, focus group; panel discussion; etc. | conclusions; conference; congress, discussion; focus group; meeting; session; summary; workshop |
|  | Opinion | Perceptions/beliefs of experts based on interpretations of the literature combined with experience(s) of the author(s) | belief; interpretation; perception; review; summary; thoughts; trends |
|  | Literature Review | Descriptions of trends supported by reviews of published literature | amalgamation; articles; combination; papers; review; synthesis; summary; summation |
|  | Model | Descriptions of preliminary work derived from review of available facts/information that could be used to provide a simplified description of a system, etc. in order to assist in calculations and predictions10 | assemblage; design; example; logic; model; modeling; plan; prediction; solution; system |
|  | Framework | A set of assumptions, concepts, values, and/or practices derived from the review that provided a supporting structure. 11,12 | criteria; form; format; guideline; matrix; outline; structure; system; template |
|  | Guideline | A statement or other indication of policy or procedure to determine a course of action; a principle or criterion guiding or directing action13  | assist; criteria; guide; helpful; method; outline; rule; template |
|  | Protocol  | The rules, formalities, etc. of any procedure14  | algorithm; critical pathway; framework; instruction; method; order; pathway; procedure; protocol; recipe; rule  |
|  | Tool | Something regarded as needed for carrying out an occupation or profession15 | equation; form; instrument; method; questionnaire; survey; template; tool |
|  | Systematic Review | Summary of available studies and information based on a peer-reviewed protocol and pre-determined questions that provide a high level of evidence on the effectiveness of interventions28,29 | assess; benefit; bias; costs; effectiveness; efficacy; efficiency; evaluation; evidence; interpret; method; process; protocol; quality; review; selection; summary |

**Appendix A (available online only).** Matrix of Definitions and Criteria Used to Suggest Assignment to an Appropriate Category/Sub-Category.