



WADEM

WORLD ASSOCIATION FOR DISASTER AND EMERGENCY MEDICINE



Emergency Medical Response Section Newsletter

November 2014

Chair's Message

By now many health care professionals would be aware of the current Ebola virus disease (EVD) outbreak in West Africa that has spread internationally. Our best wishes go out to all health care staff involved in containing and treating EVD. It is a timely reminder to all of our colleagues of the importance of personal safety and PPE when providing care and in the setting of EVD to be informed and engaged with organizational infection control practices and local policies and arrangements. Transportation of patients with suspected EVD presents a risk to attending health care workers.

Prehospital patient care is frequently provided in an uncontrolled environment where transport is affected in an enclosed environment with close patient contact and unique operational challenges. Following recent cases in United States, the CDC has provided interim guidance for EMS services regarding caller triage, patient care, transportation, PPE, and infection control. For those whom are seeking further guidance the links below to WHO and CDC may provide useful resources in regards to this.

<http://www.who.int/csr/disease/ebola/en/>

<http://www.who.int/csr/disease/ebola/protective-measures-staff/en/>

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/>

<http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/interim-guidance-emergency-medical-services-systems-911-public-safety-answering-points-management-patients-known-suspected-united-states.html>

Emergency Medical Response Section Area of Practice/Interest

The Emergency Medical Response Section of WADEM exists to foster collaboration among scientists and practitioners with an interest in research, education, management and practice in prehospital, transport, emergency and /or disaster health care.

Goals:

- Foster professional growth of members of the Emergency Medical Response Section.
- Increase the profile of the WADEM Emergency Medical Response Section.
- Promote the scientific investigation of Emergency Medical Response practice.

Objectives:

- Define and promote relevant Emergency Medical Response research (including disaster response).
- Promote the function and importance of Emergency Medical Response within disaster preparedness and response activities.
- Exchange scientific and professional information relevant to Emergency Medical Response practice.
- Develop disaster health co-operation globally amongst Emergency Medical Response practitioners and organizations.
- Network and integrate Emergency Medical Response into WADEM activities and programs.
- Inform and advise WADEM on matters related to Emergency Medical Response.

EMR Webpage

The Emergency Medical Response Section now has its own webpage. We welcome any suggestions to assist in building engagement and interaction. You can view the webpage at:

<http://wadem.org/emr.html>

19th World Congress on Disaster and Emergency Medicine EMR Section Meeting

21-24 April 2015 - Cape Town, South Africa

We look forward to holding our first meeting at 19th WCDEM in Cape Town. 2015 is an important year in Disaster Health practice, and we encourage as many section members to attend and participate as possible. We would also encourage members to submit abstracts to the conference and hope to see research in the prehospital field well represented within the program.

Emergency Medical Response Research

The goals and objectives of the Emergency Medical Response Section identify the importance of research in this field. Amongst the noteworthy resources available, in this communique we have identified three reporting guidelines specifically of note for researchers in this area:

- Utstein-Style Template for Uniform Data Reporting of Acute Medical Response in Disasters
- Recommended guidelines for reporting on emergency medical dispatch when conducting research in emergency medicine: the Utstein Style
- Recommended guidelines for uniform reporting of data from out-of-hospital cardiac arrest: the Utstein Style

We recommend these guidelines to researchers in this field to achieve consistency in reporting and definition.

Please send any comments, questions or feedback to - joecuthbertson@hotmail.com.