



CTM-SIG Newsletter - June 2021

Dear friends, colleagues, and fellow WADEM members,

It has been a disruptive but interesting past 12 months, especially for WADEM members. The pandemic has certainly highlighted the importance of the work we all do in the disaster and emergency sector and has given many of us new perspectives, both personally and professionally.

Covid-19 has also created unanticipated consequences. Debates around personal rights, masks, and social isolation due to prolonged lockdowns gave rise to anti-government sentiments around the world, something that terrorist and extremist groups have exploited. The resulting societal unrest has become more visible, vocal, and brazen and helped to recruit those more susceptible to radical groups.

Extremism is an ever-present threat and becoming more so with the relative ease of access to modern-day technology such as drones, and other non-conventional modalities like vehicle ramming devices and chemical weapons. The changing face of terrorism and the increasing availability of technologies and modalities are posing new threats. The cyber-attacks on water supplies in Florida, the increasing use of drone warfare by both state and non-state actors, and other novel attack methodologies once discussed as theoretical risks have now surfaced as real-world events and our counter-terrorism colleagues are predicting a surge in terrorist events in the near future.

CTM aims to address these changes, discuss the healthcare impacts of novel attack methodologies, and mitigate the risks posed by asymmetric terrorist attacks. We have been reaching out to our counter-terrorism and tactical medicine colleagues to discuss these new threats and continue to collaborate in a wide array of subspecialized areas to develop and research the field of CTM.

Through our WADEM CTM-SIG, we hope to give you all a platform to learn, discuss and collaborate with one another so we can be better prepared for the inevitability of another terrorist attack. We also aim to use these updates to present the latest research and discussions in the field of CTM, and hope you find these recent CTM articles from our colleagues interesting:

- [Counter-Terrorism Medicine: Creating a Medical Initiative Mandated by Escalating Asymmetric Attacks](#)
- [Terrorism in Australia: A Decade of Escalating Deaths and Injuries Supporting the Need for Counter-Terrorism Medicine](#)

Best regards,



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