



---

## CTM-SIG Newsletter #5 - January 2025

Greetings Friends and Colleagues,

I hope that 2024 treated all of you well, and that the prospect of 2025 is looked upon with anticipation and joy. Despite the continued advances in disaster and counter-terrorism medicine (CTM), there have undoubtedly been significant challenges as well. The conflicts in Ukraine, the Middle East, and Africa continue to cause heartache and destruction, and the recent events in New Orleans and Las Vegas remind us that intentional attacks on soft targets are only limited by the minds of those bent on these heinous acts.

CTM practitioners continue to study the evolution of threats toward civilian and non-civilian targets. Advancements in technology, such as UAS-based delivery systems and artificial intelligence dominate the news, while tried and true techniques such as targeted automobile ramming mass casualty attacks and conventional explosive devices continue to prove their lethality. Cyberattacks disrupt health systems on a regular basis, while political rivalries, economic disparities, climate change, and social unrest fuel the fires of conflict.

Health care professionals stand at the forefront of this fight. Our voices and experience are invaluable, not only to our patients, but also to society as a whole. The upcoming 2025 WADEM congress in Tokyo will provide a fantastic opportunity for us to connect and collaborate, to review the latest research and seek practical solutions to the myriad of problems that terrorism presents.

As we move into the future the WADEM CTM Special Interest Group will continue to study the health care impacts of such attacks and support efforts to prevent, mitigate, respond, and recover as effectively and efficiently as possible. I look forward to seeing many of you in Tokyo, and wish you all safe travels and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,



Ryan Hata, MD  
Chair, WADEM CTM-SIG  
[rhata1978@gmail.com](mailto:rhata1978@gmail.com)