



**Minutes of Inaugural Meeting of the
INDO-US Academic Council for Emergency and Trauma – North Zone**

The Inaugural meeting of ACET – North Zone was held on 28th February and 1st March, 2009 at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. The meeting was supported by the INDO-US Emergency & Trauma Collaborative and promoted by All India Institute of Medical Sciences (New Delhi), the University of South Florida (Tampa), and the SUNY Downstate University (New York). The following Academic Councilors, appointed by the heads of their respective MCI recognized medical colleges of North India (Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Rajasthan, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu-Kashmir) attended the meeting:

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| Dr. Abu Nadeem | Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, AMU, Aligarh |
| Dr. Aditya Agarwal | University College of Medical Sciences, Delhi |
| Dr. Amit Gupta | JPNA Trauma Center, AIIMS, Delhi |
| Dr. Anita Sharma | Himalayan Institute of Medical Sciences, Dehradun |
| Dr. Arun Gupta | University College of Medical Sciences, Delhi |
| Dr. Ashish Bhalla | Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh |
| Dr. Azaz Rather | Sher-I-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, Srinagar |
| Dr. Kedar Singh Shahi | Uttarakhand Forest Hospital Trust Medical College, |
| Dr. L.R. Murmu | All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi |
| Dr. Medha Mohta | University College of Medical Sciences, Delhi |
| Dr. Monica Gupta | Govt. Medical College & Hospital, Chandigarh |
| Dr. Nishat Ahmad | All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi |
| Dr. Praveen Aggarwal | All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi |
| Dr. Prerna Batra | University College of Medical Sciences, Delhi |
| Dr. Probal Neogi | Moti Lal Nehru Medical College, Allahabad |
| Dr. R.K. Sharma | Government Medical College, Amritsar |
| Dr. Rakesh Kumar | Maulana Azad Medical College, Delhi |
| Dr. Richa Dewan | Maulana Azad Medical College, Delhi |
| Dr. S. Anuradha | Maulana Azad Medical College, Delhi |
| Dr. Sanjeev Bhoi | JPNA Trauma Center, AIIMS, Delhi |
| Dr. Syed Amer Zahoor | Sher-I-Kashmir Institute of Medical Sciences, Srinagar |
| Dr. Syed Moied Ahmed | Jawaharlal Nehru Medical College, AMU, Aligarh |

Dr. V.M. Katoch, Director General of Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) was the Chief Guest.

Dr. O.P. Kalra, Principal of University College of Medical Sciences was the Guest of Honor.

Dr. Aggarwal welcomed the Chief Guest, the Guest of Honour and the Councilors to the first meeting of ACET – North. He briefly informed about the activities of ACET.

In his inaugural address Dr. Katoch recognized the need for developing the Science of Emergency Medicine in India and lauded the efforts made by Councilors in this regard. He however cautioned the Councilors about the challenges as the existing faculty of other specialties might feel threatened with the loss of control on areas which Emergency Medicine (EM) would encompass. He emphasized that for innovation to occur, challenges would have to be faced and conquered and this would be the cornerstone of developing this new science in India. He assured the Council of the ICMR commitment to support research in the area of translational science.

Dr. O.P. Kalra echoed Dr Katoch's thoughts and added that we must formulate guidelines regarding the faculty recruitment and accrediting a residency program which can then be submitted to the MCI for its consideration.

Dr. Sagar Galwankar Chief Academic Officer of the INDUS Collaborative discussed the past, present and future activities of ACET and also emphasized the need to have Council meetings in different zones of India. It was stressed that the ACET Councilors must work towards achieving the goal of having a separate specialty of Emergency Medicine in India via their medical colleges.

Councilors from some of the colleges presented their work done till date.

- *Dr. Aggarwal* informed the Councilors that the creation of specialty of EM has been agreed upon by several Standing Committees of AIIMS.
- *Dr. Syed Amer Zahoor* from SKIMS informed about the difficulties being faced by him in proceeding with Council's agenda.
- *Dr. Richa Dewan, Dr. Rakesh Kumar and Dr. Anuradha* from MAMC presented activities being carried out by them to promote the specialty of EM.
- *Dr. Syed Moied* from JLNMC, Aligarh presented the progress in having a new building for EM at his college.
- *Dr. Anita Sharma* informed that she was trying hard to have a separate specialty of EM and was applauded by the Councilors for her commitment towards the specialty.
- *Dr. Sanjeev Bhoi* from JPNA Trauma Center gave a brief presentation on the functioning of trauma center and how the mortality has changed using protocol-based care.

Dr. Bonnie Arquilla from SUNY Downstate discussed briefly about the disaster curriculum as relevant to emergency medicine.

Dr. O.P. Kalra informed the Councilors that University Grants Commission had agreed to his proposal to have a separate specialty of EM at his college i.e. the University College of Medical Sciences, New Delhi. He however pointed out lack of clear guidelines about the qualifications of faculty members for the specialty of EM. He also stressed that a curriculum for EM needs to be submitted to the MCI so that whenever anyone approaches Medical Council of India (MCI) for recognition of EM specialty, the MCI would already have with it the essential qualifications of the Faculty and the curriculum.

The Councilors discussed various points related to development of specialty of EM in India.

Following decisions were taken regarding the advancement of specialty of Emergency Medicine in India, some of which may be sent to MCI for its consideration:

1. A curriculum agreed upon by the Councilors and covering 36 rotations of one month each over 3-year period towards a post graduation in the specialty of Emergency Medicine, was planned to be submitted to the MCI. The MCI should be urged to recognize the specialty of Emergency Medicine with MD degree after residency for 3 years in this specialty.
2. At the end of 3 years of residency, the assessment would include theory and practical assessment. The theory would consist of four papers. Paper-I would include Basic Science related to EM, Paper-II and III would include Principles and Practice of EM (related to Medicine, Surgery, Anesthesia, Trauma, Toxicology, Pediatrics, Obs. & Gynecology, Psychiatry, Dermatology, otolaryngology, Ophthalmology etc.) and Paper-IV for recent advances in EM. The questions in theory will be multiple choice questions and short answer questions. The practical would be based on simulated models as the OSCE and OSPE.
3. Each department should have faculty at all levels viz. Professor (at least 1), Additional Professor/Associate Professor/Reader (at least one) and Lecturer/Assistant Professor (at least 2). Initially, the faculty could be drawn from the specialties of Medicine, Anesthesia, Surgery, Pulmonary Medicine, Orthopedics, and Pediatrics. Since it would take several years before trained emergency physicians become available for faculty job, this system of recruiting faculty from various specialties may continue for a period of 25 years after which, the faculty job would be offered only to those with MD in Emergency Medicine. Meantime, preference should be given to those with MD in Emergency Medicine with 3 years experience in this field as Senior Resident. Emergency physicians with ACLS, ATLS, AHLS, PALS, NALS (or equivalent) training would also be given preference at the time of faculty recruitment.
4. Minimum resources for Emergency Medicine Department should include 30 fully-equipped beds for observation, additional 5 beds for pediatric patients, supply of commonly used emergency drugs and equipments (including cardiac monitors, defibrillators, pulse oximeters, ventilators, etc.)
5. Each shift should have a bed: nurse ratio of 4:1.
6. The total number of beds devoted to emergency admissions should be at least 15% of total bed strength of the concerned hospital.

The meeting came to end with thanks to all the Councilors present.

Praveen Aggarwal

**Praveen Aggarwal
National Chair, ACET**