CONFERENCE REPORT

Article 990244

**4th Asian Conference on Emergency Medicine
Holistic and Quality Care....**

“The Emergency Medicine Brand”

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia 23rd to 25th March 2007

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Organised by the Malaysian Society for Traumatology and Emergency Medicine (MSTEM) and the Asian Society of Emergency Medicine (ASEM), the 4th Asian Conference on Emergency Medicine (ACEM) was held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia from 23rd to 25th March 2007.

The conference was sponsored by MSTEM and the Ministry of Health, Malaysia, with the theme “Holistic and Quality Care” – The Emergency Medicine Brand, aiming to challenge the key issues confronting emergency medical service providers. Dr. Hj Mohd Ismail Bin Merican, the Director General of Health Services in Malaysia, officially opened the conference and further proposed that quality in emergency medical and health care is a global issue and should not only be judged on the level of services provided by one country. He stressed the importance of developing international standards and norms, and that “quality is everyone’s business”, including those working in the private sector. Dr Hj Mohd Bin Merican’s key note address also promoted the importance of emergency health professionals committing to holistic and quality care and developing a culture of teamwork, research, education and a caring attitude and welfare to those they serve and treat. His ministry of health is committed to lead individuals and organisations to improve the services available in Malaysia.

The conference proper, was held at the Putra World Trade Centre in Kuala Lumpur over a period of three days, with pre-conference workshops including, Advanced Life Support Instructors course, Disaster Management course for hospital managers, advanced airway course, and an ECG interpretation short course.

In addition to a comprehensive trade exhibition, the conference comprised of invited speakers in plenary sessions, symposium sessions, short presentations and poster sessions. Speakers from Europe, Asia, US and Australia also presented on a wide range of themes and topics, from trauma, critical care and disaster management, to EMS training, service delivery, ethical and medico-legal issues.

Symposium sessions ran for 90 minutes to 2 hours and allowed excellent opportunities for the exchange of valuable information between delegates from a broad range of professions and culturally diverse environments. Key topics of international interest and importance were

presented, explored and diversified within the symposium sessions, and chaired by key experts in the field.

The program for the 4th Asian Conference on Emergency Medicine provided delegates with an excellent opportunity to collaborate and share expertise in a variety of fields in emergency health care, while contributing to the objectives of the ASEM by:

- Promoting the science and art of emergency medicine in Asia;
- Promoting, studying, researching and engaging in discussion in all areas of emergency medicine;
- Representing the views of the members of the society and acquainting the Asian & international community and other bodies of such views.

The next ACEM Conference will be held in Busan, Korea in 2009 and is highly recommended for all health professionals.