



BASICS

The British Association for Immediate Care
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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

My first job as your new Chairman is to thank Dr David Zideman for all the hard work and dedicated effort that he put in to his six years as Chairman of BASICS. It was under his leadership that we have steadfastly moved forward in a robust manner to meet the challenges and requirements of the 21st century. The organization reviewed and restructured its constitution to embrace the wider community of immediate care practitioners and create a more responsive and dynamic executive and officer bearer structure. David oversaw the difficult introduction of clinical governance and in the latter period helped guide us to re-developing our website with improved members and public areas. David's message was clear - the British Association for Immediate Care and its individual schemes are the providers of pre-hospital immediate care in the United Kingdom. We must continue this.

I have an enormous heritage to take over but I am very pleased and proud to have been elected Chairman of this long-standing Charity. I first heard of BASICS in 1987 when training to be a rural general practitioner in Scotland. I look back at my early days providing immediate care and can only thank the tolerance of my paramedic colleagues who supported and encouraged me as a young initiate (whilst overlooking my inexperience).

The five-day Immediate Care Course at Madingley and tutored exposure as part of the West Midlands Care Team followed, and subsequently solo responding. My exposure to immediate care in rural and major conurbation, at sports events and in emergency service support has emphasized to me how important it is that we ensure there a full breadth and spectrum of appropriately trained immediate care practitioners with the right skills, knowledge and experience for the circumstances they face. Undoubtedly there is a requirement for the level 8-9 practitioners but we must not discount nor forget the real and essential need for the other levels. Care at the incident site is dependent on a multi-skilled team.

One of our concerns is the number of different organizations presenting views on immediate care practice and whether this will represent the interests of the full spread of BASICS members. BASICS, the Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care and BASICS Scotland are looking into building better relationships and links to enhance our mutual effectiveness and reduce duplication of effort.

I challenged our Executive to address the following questions and I would appreciate it if as many members as possible would be kind enough to email me their comments:

Nuggets - What do we do well?

Nice-ifs - What should we do?

Niggles - What should we not do or do better?

No-No's - What we shouldn't do?

Last year's conference in Wyboston Lakes was as stimulating and exciting as usual. I am sure all those that attended came away academically refreshed with a new sense of purpose and understanding. Congratulations to the Dr Dominik Krzanicki, Chairman of the Conference 2009 Working Party and his team for organizing this successful event. Listening to these presentations made one very conscious of the wide variety of specialist interests that we, as BASICS members, are expected to face on a day-to day basis but fortunately only few have first hand experience.

The Conference Working Party 2010 is already hard at work putting together an interesting programme. Conference 2010 is still in the early planning stages, but will be an exciting programme involving a major incident theme from Haiti to events closer to home. We hope to include international perspectives and interesting keynote speakers, as well as a sound educational base. We would welcome your suggestions and ideas for the conference – please email cx@basics.org.uk. The conference will be on Friday 15th and Saturday 16th October. Watch this space – I personally look forward to welcoming you then.

Richard Steyn

FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Since the last newsletter we have said good-bye to H  l  ne Vantours, our Membership Administrator. H  l  ne left early this year, as she was moving to Bristol, and she refused to do a daily commute from there to Ipswich, though we did try to persuade her! She was here for five years, and in that time a lot of our members talked with her. She was always helpful, cheerful and very efficient. We wish her all the very best.

Since we said good-bye to H  l  ne we have welcomed on board her successor, Hannah Cole. Hannah previously worked in administrative posts in London, before which she worked in Tokyo for three years, teaching English as a foreign language. H  l  ne is a hard act to follow, but Hannah has made a good start! She is looking forward to meeting members at conference later in the year.

Last year's Annual Conference, at Wyboston Lakes in Bedfordshire, was very highly rated by those who attended. We bribed delegates to return evaluation sheets, with a prize draw offering a copy of Dr Ellis's recent book "Cases in Pre-hospital and Retrieval Medicine" which was won by Dr Milne.

The Haywood Memorial Lecture was given by Dr Fionna Moore, and the theme of her lecture was "Lessons identified from major incidents in the UK", following which Dr Moore was presented with the Ian Haywood Memorial Medal.

During the Formal Dinner a raffle was held in aid of military patients and their families. Over  1,000 was raised, and the money will be distributed via the Royal Centre for Defence Medicine, based at Selly Oak hospital. Military patients are treated both there and at the Queen Elizabeth hospital, and both hospitals are supported through the charity.

If you would like to nominate someone for an award please go to our website for details of how to proceed: http://www.basics.org.uk/members_area/nomination_for_a_n_award

Annual General Meeting 2009

The thirty second Annual General Meeting of the Association was held at the Willows conference Centre, Wyboston Lakes on Friday 23rd. October and was attended by 53 members.

Mr Steyn has already mentioned the election of Officers. There were also four new Trustees elected to the Executive Council: Dr R Cottingham, Mr P Gates, Dr W Glazebrook, and Mr A Moore. Four members also came to the end of their terms of office; Dr I McNeil, Dr S Myers, Mr N Spike and Mr M Turner. They were warmly thanked for their valuable contribution over the years.

The confidential and unapproved minutes of the meeting are available at

http://www.basics.org.uk/members_area/agm_minutes

Annual Subscriptions April 2010 – March 2011

The Annual General Meeting approved the annual subscriptions for 2010 - 2011. The new subscription rates will be as follows:

	<i>Without Journal</i>		<i>Electronic Journal</i>		<i>Paper Journal</i>	
	<i>2010</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2009</i>	<i>2010</i>	<i>2009</i>
<i>Individual</i>	98	95	156	153	177	170
<i>Associate</i>	57	55	115	113	136	130
<i>Student</i>	47	45	105	103	126	120
<i>Retired</i>	72	70	130	128	151	145
<i>Life</i>	0	0	60	58	81	75
<i>Supporters</i>	52	50	110	108	131	125
<i>Affiliated Group</i>	�10 per member		<i>n/a</i>		Rate + cost per copy	

You are reminded that you can claim tax relief on the subscription.

Many members already pay their subscriptions by direct debit and where this is the case the new subscriptions will automatically be debited from their accounts on 1 April 2009. Members paying by cheque may wish to consider using direct debit in the future as this ensures that membership is kept up-to-date and also helps to keep the Association's costs to a minimum.

The thirty third Annual General Meeting will be held on 15th October 2010. Please make a note of this in your diary.

If you have a good story for us to tell, or have ideas as to where we should seek publicity, please let me know – all ideas will be carefully considered. Profile-raising is not necessarily to do with fund-raising. It is getting across to the public the message that BASICS members provide immediate care in a voluntary capacity.

Ruth Lloyd

CONGRATULATIONS



A BASICS doctor, Peter Gordon, who assisted paramedics in their race against time to save a man trapped in his blazing lorry cab in September last year, has received a commendation for bravery.

We send our congratulations to Professor Richard Williams who advises the government on mental health issues, who was awarded an OBE in the Queen's New Year's Honours list for services to medicine. Prof Williams gave an excellent presentation "The Psychology of Pre-hospital Care" at our conference in 2007.

SIX BASICS MEDICS RETURN FROM THE INDONESIAN EARTHQUAKE ZONE



CMO Dr I McNeil with Drs Dawes, Dunbar, Hickman, Maskery, and Nurse R-A O'Shea

Five BASICS doctors and a BASICS nurse, from the Hampshire, Avon and Somerset areas flew to Sumatra, Indonesia in the autumn. They formed the Medical Support Team for the UK International Search and Rescue Team sent to the city of Padang after the earthquakes at the end of September. The 65-strong UK ISAR team, made up from specialised Fire Service Search and Rescue teams from around the UK was mobilised by the Department for International Development on Thursday 1 October.

The Medical Team is drawn from a small pool of medics from varied backgrounds, all with a special interest in pre-hospital emergency care. They provide a medical support service for the search and rescue team and the immediate care of any rescued survivors.

Sadly on this occasion the complex logistics of travelling to the scene meant that opportunities to use the heavy rescue skills to rescue survivors were limited when the team arrived. Efforts were therefore transferred to helping the early stages of humanitarian relief, distributing medical supplies and shelters in the affected area surrounding the city.

Conditions were difficult with high temperatures and 96% humidity interspersed with tropical downpours that flooded the medical tent. Most of the medical work concentrated on rehydration and treating the effects of heat exhaustion as well as treating minor injuries in the rescue teams and providing some primary care support for locals.

James Hickman

BASICS EDUCATION LIMITED

It is now nearly a year since the PHEC examination was changed to more closely correlate to the Diploma format. The changes allow a wider spread of subject areas to be assessed with less subjectivity, and have generally been well received. The overall pass rate for the new exam format is between 75% & 85% which matches the pass rates before the change.

This year the Education Committee has been concentrating on the content and presentation of the Advanced PHEC Course. In order to make better use of the available time various changes are planned. Some of the previously presented content will in future be delivered in the form of handouts, the obstetric emergencies lecture will be changed to a scenario based workshop and some of the previous content which repeated elements of the PhEC will be removed. This will allow new components of the Level III (Diploma) syllabus to be introduced.

The peri-arrest workshop, which was previously only presented during the Refresher Course, has been updated and included. An extended trauma scenario has been introduced which will not only deal with the clinical management but also areas of scene and crew resource management. A presentation on mass gathering medicine is planned and an updated major incident session is to be introduced. A new workshop on capnography and oximetry is to be included along with an introduction to rapid sequence induction. This last session is not aimed at teaching RSI, but to give those who are not RSI competent sufficient information to be a useful assistant to an RSI competent practitioner.

It is hoped that the proposed changes will better prepare those who intend to undertake the Diploma exam and represent more value for money for all participants.

An Instructor day was held on 24th January 2010 in Coventry, open to all BASICS instructors, where the recommended changes to the Advanced PHEC Course were presented in depth to the instructor cadre. Those present had the opportunity to contribute to the final fine-tuning of the Advanced PHEC Course as well as to discuss the future content and presentation of the Refresher Course. The subject of instructor appraisal was also discussed and a proposed appraisal system introduced. To close the day there was an open discussion related to any and all areas of BASICS Education activity.

All instructors, both old and new were encouraged to attend the instructor day as their experience and opinions were needed to develop the courses and ensure BASICS Education continued as the premier provider of Pre-hospital education and training.

Tim Nuttall

PHEC COURSE RESULTS SEPTEMBER – JANUARY 2010

The following people successfully completed the BASICS and Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh three day Pre-hospital Emergency Care Course and have been awarded the Pre-hospital Emergency Care Course Certificate.

Abraham Ceri	Hogben Richard	Pepper Thomas
Auton Wayne	Houlden Chris	Plumb James
Baker Matt	Hughes Andy	Rae Will
Balint Judy	Johnstone	Ratcliffe Jonathan
Bennett Michael	Thomas	Sellon Edward
Bircher Thomas	Jones Angela	Shamsuddin Wassim
Blackburn James	Jones Adam	Shaw Phil
Bowring Imogen	Jones David	Shelley Ryan
Bromley Paul	Knight Stephen	Sherren Peter
Brooke Rachael	Low Adam	Sinifakoulis Theoharis
Bruynzeel Hanna	Ludwig Frank	Stephens Leanne
Evans Rhodri	MacDonald	Taylor Leslie
Evetts George	Angus	Theakston Simon
Farrant Jennifer	Middle Charles	Tooley James
Fernando Mike	Mustafa Refika	Van Gelder Matthijs
Gallagher Kevin	Newby David	Waas Christopher
Gilchrist Helen	Noble Sarah	Ward Matthew
Gopala Suresh	Noor Syed	Waters Jennifer
Gunasekera Eric	Oakley Nathalie	Williams Simon
Hilliard John	Parker Dan	Wood Iain

BASICS EDUCATION COURSES FOR 2010

FIVE DAY IMMEDIATE CARE COURSE

The five day course at Maddingly Hall Cambridge continues to be popular. Many of the participants on this course go on to successfully complete the Diploma Examination at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. The course covers all aspects of immediate care with the emphasis on practical skills as well as formal lectures and training scenarios.

Planned dates: 1st to 5th November 2010

PRE-HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CARE COURSE

A three day fully residential course on all aspects of emergency care in the pre-hospital setting including medical, trauma and paediatric emergencies.

Participants who successfully complete the course are awarded the Pre-hospital Emergency Care Certificate by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

Planned dates: 16th to 18th April 2010
23rd to 25th April 2010

ADVANCED PRE-HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CARE COURSE

This two day course for previous participants on the Pre-hospital Emergency Care Course develops and enhances the necessary skills to deal with medical and other emergencies encountered in all fields of pre-hospital care and is recommended prior to undertaking the Diploma in Immediate Medical Care examination. Based at Maddingly Hall, Cambridge.

Planned dates 4th & 5th November 2010

REFRESHER COURSE

This two day course is directed at previous participants on the Pre-hospital Emergency Care Course and the Immediate Care Courses to ensure that skills are maintained and updated to incorporate the latest developments in pre-hospital care. Mainly practical in content the course also offers an opportunity to renew acquaintances and enhance your knowledge in relaxed surroundings.

Planned dates: 29th & 30th November 2010

PAEDIATRIC EDUCATION FOR PRE-HOSPITAL PROFESSIONALS (PEPP)

Geared primarily to those with limited advanced skills or occasional paediatric exposure, this is the ideal course for Ambulance Technicians, Voluntary Aid Society personnel, and the like. This two day course consists of scenario based slides, skill stations and real patient video clips. The main thrust of the course is patient assessment and introduces a method of assessment 'from the door' looking at appearance, work of breathing and circulation to the skin, giving an indication of problems before the ABC assessment is started.

PRE-HOSPITAL PAEDIATRIC LIFE SUPPORT (PHPLS)

Aimed primarily at Doctors, Nurses, Paramedics and CMT I this course will help to equip the higher practitioner with the advanced knowledge and skills required to deal with most paediatric emergencies in the immediate care setting. This two day course follows the familiar 'ALS' model of practical 'hands on' skill stations interspersed with key note lectures and it's main thrust is the recognition and pre-hospital management of the seriously ill or injured child.

Please let us know if you would be interested in attending any of the courses: educ@basics.org.uk