

Federation of Societies

Peter J. F. Baskett, MD; Steven Rottman, MD; S. William A. Gunn, MD; Marvin L. Birnbaum, MD, PhD; Michael Moles, MD*

From its inception in 1978, the World Association for Emergency and Disaster Medicine (WAEDM) has consisted entirely of individual members who have contributed their experience in Task Forces, Working Groups, World Congresses, and through the Association's Journal to enhance the standard of practice of Emergency and Disaster Medicine worldwide. In 1990, the Executive Committee, as a result of outstanding contacts and networking, in conjunction with the 6th World Congress for Emergency and Disaster Medicine held in Hong Kong in 1989, decided to enhance the effectiveness of the WAEDM and its goals by creating a Federation of Societies with similar spheres of interests, aims, and objectives: *The World Federation of Societies of Emergency and Disaster Medicine*. Dr. Michael Moles was charged with building such a Federation. This Federation will be launched formally at the 7th World Congress in Montréal.

In the same year, the WAEDM learned of plans to form a Federation of "English-Speaking" Societies concerned with Emergency Medicine in the United States, Canada, Australia, and the United Kingdom that would be aimed at enhancing the academic standards of Emergency Medicine in those countries.

It would be a great shame if the two Federations became counter-productive rivals, but there is an enormous potential if the two would collaborate. The ultimate goal must be to enhance patient care, through emulating the practice of the best established systems in the world, and not to seek exclusive prestige for one group or the other.

The WAEDM has a number of attributes to offer in connection with the Federation plans:

1. A worldwide network of contacts with societies of Emergency Medicine;
2. A worldwide network of contacts with societies of Disaster Medicine;
3. A worldwide network of individual contacts from a multitude of medical disciplines which contribute to both Emergency and Disaster Medicine. Many of these are internationally recognized leaders in their specialty;
4. Contacts, supporters, and recognition within the World Health Organization, the Pan-American Health Organization, and others;
5. Acknowledgment by the United Nations as major medical contributors to their project of the 1990s—the *International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction*; and
6. Contacts and supporters from international voluntary organizations such as the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, the International Committees of the Red Cross, the Order of St. John, the Mediterranean Burns Club, and others.

We believe that there is much to be gained for a Federation by harnessing the talent to be found in the centers of excellence worldwide, including those outside of the English-speaking countries, and by learning of the needs of the developing world first-hand.

Executive Committee, WAEDM

*President, World Federation of Societies of Emergency and Disaster Medicine

What's the latest word on one-piece versus two-piece extrication collars?

NECLOC™

Because when it comes to assuring neutral alignment, one piece may not fit all.

The facts are in. And they prove dramatically that Jerome Medical's two-piece NECLOC™ offers superior cervical immobilization to the one-piece device you may now be using.

We're not surprised. After all, NECLOC™ was designed with a team of biomedical engineers to eliminate the one serious drawback inherent in any one-piece collar: *asymmetrical support*. The result is a state-of-the-art extrication collar with these important advantages:

- Neutral c-spine alignment assured through symmetrical application. (Eliminates forces pulling from one side as in one-piece designs.)
- Superior immobilization and custom fit through both height *and* circumferential sizing. (Popular one-piece collars do not account for different neck circumferences, thus, cannot assure neutral alignment of all patients.)

Isn't it time you gave your emergency patients every possible advantage?

To receive a product video, clinical research studies and information on the complete system of EMS products, contact Jerome Medical, the company with years of experience in cervical immobilization devices.



Jerome Medical • 102 Gaither Drive, Mt. Laurel, NJ 08054
1-800-257-8440 FAX: (609) 722-5487

