CME- 2008

CME on “Clinical Aerospace Medicine – Aeromedical Decision Making” was held at IAM, IAF Bangalore on 05 and 06 Apr 2008. It was attended by 62 service delegates, speakers and resource persons besides the practitioners from Air India and other private airlines. The CME was inaugurated by Air Marshal JK Gupta PVSM AVSM PHS, DGMS (Air). The guest lecture on “Quality in Clinical Research” was delivered by Wg Cdr DK Bhatt (Retd). Six scientific sessions and one panel discussion on topics related to the theme of CME were held over two days, each followed by healthy deliberations and discussions. The scientific papers encompassed the aeromedical decision meeting (ADM) in some common medical ailments viz. subclinical hypothyroidism, deranged liver functions, metabolic syndrome, presbyopia, asymptomatic coronary artery disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, G-LOC and solitary seizures. The panel discussion focussed on ADM in musculoskeletal problems of the aviators. The panel comprised of a radiologist, neurosurgeon, psychiatrist, human engineering specialist and a representative from civil airlines. A poster session was also held. A CME souvenir and booklet on aircrew health guide was released by the Air Marshal JK Gupta PVSM AVSM PHS, DGMS (Air) on this occasion. The guide to aircrew fitness has been conceived with the idea to disseminate the necessary health information to keep them in the best of fitness. The language has been kept simple and the information can be used by all in the family too. Simple and practical tips have been given which can be easily followed in day to day life.

Adieu to past President

Air Marshal JK Gupta PVSM AVSM PHS, DGMS (Air) retired from the Indian Air Force on 31 May 2008. He had taken over as the President of the Society in Apr 2007. On his retirement, the Society wishes him the very best in his future endeavours and looks forward to his continued association with the Society.

General Body Meeting

The GBM of the Society was held on 01 Nov 2007 at IAM, IAF. The body approved the grant of following fellowships to following members of the Society:-

- Fellows
  - AVM RK Ganjoo AVSM VSM
  - Gp Capt Deepak Gaur

- Associate Fellows
  - Dr. S Parvati Gopal
  - Wg Cdr R Ravi
  - Wg Cdr Vipin Sharma
  - Wg Cdr MS Natraja
  - Wg Cdr R Baijal
  - Wg Cdr PC Ghosh
Delegates arriving for the "CME - 08"

Air Vice Marshal TP Madhusudhanan PMO HQ, TC, IAF; AVM SK Adaval (Retd.); AVM DK Gupta (Retd.); AVM Ranjit Kumar (Retd.) and Air Cmde S Murali Mohan (R to L) during the release of the "Aircrew Health Guide".

Delegates in the "Poster Session" area

Air Marshal JK Gupta PVSM AVSM PHS, DGMS (Air); Air Cmde Pankaj Tyagi VSM; Air Cmde H Malik; Air Cmde Keshav B Rao (R to L) listening to the scientific deliberations

Air Cmde Pankaj Tyagi VSM, Commandant IAM welcoming Air Mshl JK Gupta PVSM AVSM PHS, DGMS (Air) to the social evening

"CME Banquet"
Contents

- Cervicalgia amongst helicopter pilots using helmet mounted devices
  Wg Cdr Sanjiv Sharma, Wg Cdr Anupam Agarwal
- A retrospective analysis of musculoskeletal disabilities in military and civil crew
  Gp Capt Narinder Taneja
- Validity of radiological screening as part of initial medical examination of aircrew
  Wg Cdr DS Chadha, Gp Capt (Retd) GS Sabikhi, Wg Cdr A Handa, Wg Cdr V Vasdev, AVM, RK Ganjoo, AVSM VSM
- A strange case of headache in a fighter aircrew:
  A case study
  Gp Capt P Kharbanda, AVM RK Ganjoo, AVSM VSM, Wg Cdr DS Chadha
- Dilemmas in aeromedical evacuation of a scuba diver with pneumomediastinum
  Surg Cdr Samir Kapoor
- Presentation of Hypothyroidism in a fighter pilot:
  A case report
  Dr Sasirajan Jeevarathinam, Gp Capt Narinder Taneja
- Aeromedical aspects of long duration flying:
  Ex co-operative cope thunder-2004
  Wg Cdr MS Nataraja
- Teaching Series
- Aviation Medicine Quiz
- Abstracts from CME 2008
- Book Review
- Journal Scan
- Events Calendar
- Society News

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EDITORIAL

As the flagship of the Indian Society of Aerospace Medicine, the journal persistently endeavours to showcase the progress and developments achieved in the multifaceted specialty of aero-space medicine in India. This journal strives to be progressive and always looks forward to suggestions for further improvement.

The current issue carries a mixed bag of articles. Both military and civil aviators are susceptible to musculoskeletal disabilities due to the inherent stresses of flying, besides the routine causes seen in general population such as ground accidents and sports injuries. Safe and early return to flying of such aircrew is the key for success of any aviation organisation. There are two articles highlighting these issues and recommending the remedial measures. The need for a detailed history taking in clinical practice can't be overemphasized. Two interesting case reports elaborate the details as to how two aircrew who had presented with atypical features were diagnosed correctly and subsequently managed well based on detailed history taking.

There has been a change in guard too. Air Marshal JK Gupta PVSM AVSM PHS, DGMS (Air) retired from active service on 31 May 2008. He provided unflinching support to all the new initiatives taken at the journal office. Air Mshl P Madhusoodanam AVSM VSM has taken over the appointment of the DGMS (Air) and the President of the society on 01 June 2008. On behalf of the editorial board and every member of the society, I extend a hearty welcome to our new president.

The institute successfully conducted a CME on "Clinical Aerospace Medicine" in Apr 08. The event provided an excellent platform for all the practitioners of aerospace medicine to interact and deliberate on the contemporary issues on clinical aviation medicine. Abstracts of the CME have been included in this issue. The 48th Annual Conference of ISAM will be held at IAM, IAF from 01-03 Dec 08 with the theme of "Operational Space and Civil Aviation Medicine". I welcome all the society members to the conference and also urge them to forward the research papers for the scientific sessions.

Happy reading.
Air Marshal P Madhusoodanan AVSM VSM graduated from Armed Forces Medical College, Pune in 1970 and joined the Indian Army in Jan 1971. He is the second Alumnus of this college to become Dean of AFMC. He has done his advanced course in General Surgery from AFMC Pune in 1974-76 and MS Degree in General Surgery from Pune University in the year 1977 and has been a clinical tutor in the department thereafter. He did his post Doctoral Course M.Ch (Uro) in PGIMER Chandigarh in the year 1986 and DNB (Uro) in 1987.

He had started Renal Transplantation and Keyhole Surgery (for renal stones) (PCNL & URS) for the first time in Armed Forces. He has done nearly 300 renal transplant surgeries. He is a recognized postgraduate teacher and examiner of Pune, Delhi Universities and for DNB of the National Board of Examinations. He has been Head of the Surgical Division and Consultant in Urology at Army Hospital (R & R) for a period of three years before the appointment of Commandant of 155 BH, from where he joined the appointment of Senior Consultant Surgery to the Armed Forces Medical Services in July 2007.

As Dean AFMC he was instrumental in bringing out significant and perceptible improvement in various facets of the institution. On the professional front, the renal transplant program was established and promoted under his expertise in Command Hospital (SC). After assuming the appointment of Senior Consultant he upgraded the equipment status at various hospitals of armed forces and thereby improving the quality of patient care and clientele satisfaction.

He is an active member of various medical associations such as Association of Surgeons of India, Urological Society of India, Urolithiasis Society of India, Indian Society of Organ Transplantation and Association of International college of Surgeons. He has forty international / national publications and has contributed chapters to two books.

He was awarded GOC-in-C Commendation in 1992 for starting renal transplant surgery in Army Hospital (R & R) and COAS Commendation in 1995 while he was posted at CH (SC) Pune. He received Vishist Seva Medal in 2002 for the pioneering work in Renal Transplant and Key-hole surgery (Uro) at AH (R & R) and Ati Seva Vishist Seva Medal in 2008 for his outstanding contribution towards improvement in Armed Forces Medical Services and also in Armed Forces Medical College as the Dean.