



EAMS President's Report 2011 Spring Newsletter



Welcome from F.PETRINI,

Flavia Petrini and Pierre Diemunsh (EAMS Past President), Helsinki June 2010, EAMS Dinner

As I start my term as President of the European Society of Airway Management (EAMS) last June in Helsinki, I have reflected on the history and the mission of our society.

EAMS was founded in 2003 to affiliate health professionals who have an interest in airway management. Our bylaws state that the purposes of the society are:

- to promote exchange of information between European health-care workers who are involved in airway management,
- to disseminate information in regard to airway management,
- to raise the standards of airway management by fostering and encouraging education, research, scientific progress and exchange of

The EAMS Founding Group



The First EAMS Meeting Glasgow 2003



The EAMS Council Meeting Helsinki 2010



The Annual '19SC ESA Airway

information,

- to promote improvements in safety & quality of airway management of patients by facilitating & harmonising the activities of national and international societies of airway management in Europe.

Over the past 8 years we have grown into an international non-profit organization, with Council Members representing many Countries, were able to develop continuing medical education, guidelines implementation and carrying out a huge amount scientific events supported and endorsed by EAMS.

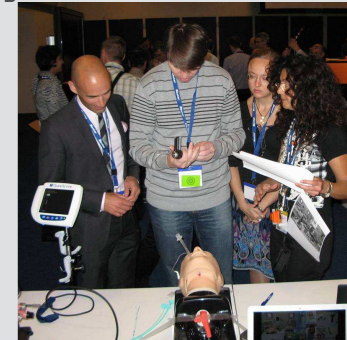
Moreover we have good relationship with the European Society of Anaesthesiology (ESA), under which umbrella we share the same ethos within the specific scientific **ESA Subcommittee (19SC) “Airway Management”**.

Pierre Diemunsch is the Chair: he will end this year his office, as myself: please consider that the **deadline for the ESA 19 Subcommittee is on 1 June 2011**. We are waiting for new submission CV (www.euroanaesthesia.org).

Since 2009, the EAMS Hands-on Airway Workshop have been organized during the Euroanaesthesia Annual Congresses, which hosts the annual meetings of our Society (General Assembly, Council and annual dinner).

EAMS promotes an exchange of speakers between the represented countries and the annual meeting forms an important link between the national airway task forces Societies such as Difficult Airway Society (DAS, UK), the

Management Hands-on WS”: 2010



CME Certification 19SC ESA 2010 Airway Management Hands-on WS “Basic” and “State of the Art”

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EACCME - European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education
Institution of the UEMS
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European Society of Anaesthesiology
Rue des Comédiens 24
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BELGIUM

SUBJECT: EACCME accreditation granted EACCME-4049-G

We are pleased to inform you that your application for European accreditation for:

Airway Hands-on Workshop: The Basics
Venue: Helsinki, Finland (12–12.06.2010)
Event code: 4049

was granted 6 European CME credits (ECMEC) by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME).

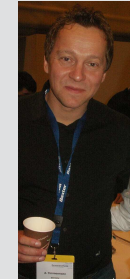
Society for Airway Management (SAM, USA) and ESA, in a stimulating exchange of ideas and strategies.

The rapid technological development may suddenly transform the use of previously widespread and recognized devices into old or even dangerous procedures. On the other hand the industrial pressure may introduce on the market new techniques and devices too often poorly supported by scientific papers and independently by conflict declarations. The common aim of every EAMS initiative is to improve good clinical practice in the direction of health care advancement for a safest airway management. Health care providers, first of all those specialists in ***“Anaesthesiology”*** (which in Europe includes ***anaesthesia, perioperative care, intensive care medicine, emergency medicine and pain therapy*** as the stated by the UEMS, Union Européenne des Médecins Spécialistes) must be aware of the importance of optimal airway management, in the perioperative care. This has been largely emphasised by the **“WHO Guidelines for the patient safety”**, 2008, and by the **“Helsinki Declaration on Patient Safety in Anaesthesiology”**, signed in 2010 during the Euraesthesia Annual Congress.

Although the practice of airway management has become more advanced, managing a difficult airway remains a challenging task not only in OR but for critically ill patients and in emergency. The airway professionals (doctors and nurses) need to acquire new skills and have to become competent in the use of an ever-widening range of devices.

All the anaesthesia departments and health care institutions in Europe should

2011 “EAMS WS Task Force” for the annual ESA “Airway Management Hands-on WS: Meet the experts”



*Andt Tiemmerman (Coordinator)
Hankie Hamaekers
Vicente Martinez-Pons
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Registration:
www.euroanaesthesia.org



have protocols for managing airway in the safest manner. However we know that guidelines implementation is a hard goal: unfortunately difficulties are individual, there is a natural reluctance in incident reporting, and this makes difficult to have a clear view of epidemiology.

If you have not seen it already, you might like to know the **National Audit Project** (NAP4) report on complications of airway management, published on BJA 2011 and available on the Royal College of Anaesthetists (RCOA) website (<http://www.rcoa.ac.uk/index.asp?PageID=1089>).

The initiative, supported by the DAS and the RCOA, collected and analysed the complications for 12 months in 2008-09 from the UK NHS Hospital Trust, thus identifying 184 major airway incidents including 38 patient deaths, of which 16 were in theatre, 18 in Intensive Care Units (ICU) and 4 in Emergency Departments (ED).

The Key Fact of the Fourth National Audit Project are really impressive:

- 2.9 million general anaesthetics/year
- Aspiration was the commonest cause of death
- Poor airway assessment
- Poor airway management strategy, failure to plan
- Awake FOI was indicated, but not performed
- High failure rate of emergency crico-thyrotomy
- Failure to interpret capnograph trace leading to unrecognized oesophageal intubation
- A third of events occurred at extubation or in recovery

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www.eams.be

Peter Biro
EAMS Treasurer
University Hospital Zurich

- Events occurred in males more than females
- Obesity was ignored as a risk factor for airway difficulty
- Difficult intubations were managed by multiple repeat attempts
- Supraglottic devices were sometimes used inappropriately

Congratulations to all involved in this research: I think that it is a landmark document with the potential to be significant for future discussion within all of us: the DAS President, Ellen O'Sullivan will be one of the experts tutoring the **2011 EAMS Task Force for ESA "Airway Management Hands-on WS: Meet the experts"** organised on:

- **Sunday, 12 June 2011, from 14.00-17.30**
- **Monday, 13 June 2011, from 9.00-12.30 (repeated)**

in close collaboration between the ESA Scientific Subcommittee¹⁹ and the European Airway EAMS task Force: Arnd Timmermann, Ankie Hamaekers, Vicente Martinez-Pons, Pierre Diemunsch and myself.

The list of the internationally renowned worldwide experts in airway management with a passion for education which have been involved, is quite wide.

The two workshops have been designed to provide the participants with state-of-the-art information and hands-on for all grades of anaesthetists wishing to acquire, refresh and update skills in managing patients with a difficult airway and to learn about a wide range of established and promising airway techniques.

The workshop will offer you:



EUROANAESTHESIA WORKSHOPS

Airway Hands-on Workshop - Meet the experts

Dates:

- Sunday, 12 June 2011
from 14.00-17.30
- Monday, 13 June 2011
from 9.00-12.30 (repeated)

Registration Fee: € 75. Register now via www.euroanaesthesia.org!

Address: Amsterdam RAI
Convention Centre

Organised by: Arnd Timmermann,
Flavia Petrini, Pierre Diemunsch,
Vicente Martinez, Ankie Hamaekers



- a small-group, hands-on training in advanced airway management,
- training in techniques outlined in the airway guidelines and a variety of new devices and techniques: we will organize 12 stations for:
 - supraglottic airway devices - Flexible intubation - Intubation trough supraglottic device - Channeled & Non-channeled videolaryngoscope
 - Videostylets and straight blades - Transtracheal cannulation & jet ventilation - Surgical and Seldinger technique for the tracheal access
 - One Lung Ventilation, *2011 NEW*
- an opportunity to share ideas and experiences with experts in airway management,
- simulated airway scenarios to practice skills and strategies for the management of a difficult airway, *2011 NEW*.

This last station (two for every WS) has been introduced by the EAMS WS Task Force as it is well known that the incidence of a difficult airway in daily practice is low and certain skills are rarely used (cricothyroidotomy puncture). Human factors play a large part in the delivery of safe care to patients, and we will work with our surgical, nursing and other clinical partners to reliably provide this training in simulators. Bench strategy models are mandatory to keep up your Non-Technical-Skills.

We had an excellent meeting and Hands-on in Helsinki, 2010 thanks to the

The 2010 "19SC ESA Airway Management Hands-on WS organizing team":

EAMS past Presidents,
P. Diemunsch & J. Henderson



great work of EAMS Past Presidents, Pierre Diemunsch and John Henderson. The program for our 2011 meeting in Amsterdam is shaping up nicely and I hope that, as our usual, we will offer superb round-table discussions.

My mission is to continue the venture of our beloved Society for new developments, with the help of the Past Presidents and of the Board and Council.

We are grateful to Adrian Pearce too, who designed developed and managed the EAMS Web Site www.eams.be up today.

Unfortunately Adrian will be no more available and we discussed a lot to find a new webmaster during the last General Assembly.

I am happy to announce that we have GOOD NEWS for the second part of 2011! We have got a good project and I will share it during the next EAMS Council Meeting (on Saturday 11 June, h 19.30 followed by the **annual EAMS Dinner, h20.30**) at the **Restaurant-Cafè “In de Waag”, Amsterdam**) and EAMS General Assembly on Sunday 12 June, h 17.30 Room to be designed by ESA Secretariat).

Our Society is very fortunate to have members who are eminent specialists in airway management, inventors of current airway devices, and consultants from the DAS, the ASA Task Force on Difficult Airway Management and the SAM. Some of them will join the EAMS Dinner in Amsterdam and connecting people is the best way to circulate ideas.

Let me to introduce some potential ideas that could be object for a “EAMS

network discussion”.

a) A problem faced by many anaesthesiologists is how best to communicate with a patient after a difficult airway event. One of our goals is to develop a template for a difficult airway letter within the EAMS website. The idea is to allow the practitioner to check off which techniques worked and which failed after a difficult airway event. The letter could then be printed in English and Spanish and the EAMS Council Members could translate it in every native language.

b) We cannot forget that the 2012 WFSA Congress in Buenos Aires will organize scientific activities in conjunction with EAMS and that we should be able to increase our visibility within the Latino-American people, not English speaker.

I can understand very well the problems of all those not English speakers as myself, but we are working for improvements! Why not to create a multilingual Task Force for the website?

c) One of our bylaws goals is to develop a model for minimum teaching curriculum A competency based training-practical procedures for the ICU has been underlined by the ESICM (European Society of Intensive Care Medicine) named CoBaTrICE (a Portfolio for Europe). We should share for the Portfolio suggested for Europe to teach airway management for anaesthesia, ICU and emergency medicine residencies.

Clearly, we have a challenging agenda for the coming months: if you wish to share your expertise or knowledge by serving EAMS submit your proposal

to the EAMS Secretary , Kamil Toker (secretary.eams@gmail.com).
The strength and value of EAMS comes from communication and cooperation amongst its members and we will do all our best to improve our mindset in airway management for the patient safety.

Sincerely,



Flavia Petri EAMS President, 2010-2012
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Join us at the **EAMS Annual Airway Dinner**, on Saturday 11 June, 20.30,
Restaurant-Cafè "In de Waag" Amsterdam
(**submit your request to participate within 25 May to secretary.eams@gmail.com**)