



# **PEMSIG NEWSLETTER**

## **JULY 2017**

## Message from Chair

Hello everyone, this is my mid-term address so to speak, less than a year away from handing over to Chair-Elect, Camilo E. Gutiérrez. I have to confess that it's taken me the best part of the year to get into my stride, with much leaning on old-timers Ffion Davies and Simon Chu (...I said *old-timers* not old!!) Perhaps that's as it should be, PEMSIG is itself in its infancy and I feel like we've been learning to walk together.



For this newsletter, I'd like to review the journey that has brought PEMSIG to where we are now; this is for the benefit of those who have just joined, but also for those who've been on the longer ride. Looking back and taking stock, it's been quite a journey with some amazing achievements. I would also like to cast the spotlight on our very hard-working PEMSIG Project Leads; you will be hearing from each of them on their projects later in this newsletter.

### PEMSIG – who are we?

My simplistic (paediatric!) way of looking at it, is that we are a growing group of health professionals involved in the emergency care of children around the world. What defines us, is our interest in helping to improve paediatric emergency practice, training, systems and research through international collaboration and sharing of our expertise.

### PEMSIG History

How we got here is a classic story of 'do the job well and get asked to do more' ...combined with a healthy dose of snowball effect. Back in 2010, Ffion Davies was asked by IFEM, to gather an international group of PEM experts to define standards for emergency care of children. That original group: Angelina Ang, Liliana Caceres, Simon Chu, Ffion Davies, Marianne Gausche-Hill, Pia Malmquist, Hezi Waisman and myself, were known as the 'standards group'. Having gathered us together, it seems that the IFEM Board decided we were too useful to disband, and thus we became the kernel for PEMSIG.

At ICEM Hong Kong 2014, the fledgling PEMSIG launched the Standards for Care of Children in Emergency Departments document; we ran a fabulous PEM MarketPlace event and held our first BGM. At the time, our membership was too small for formal elections and so a small steering group (Ffion - Chair, Simon - Secretary and me - Standards Lead) were tasked with leading PEMSIG to the 2016 BGM and formal elections.

The next steps for PEMSIG was translation of the standards document into Spanish and Chinese; a task done with great efficiency and dedication by Angelina & Liliana and the colleagues they roped in to help. There was also a minor-revision of the Standards for Care of Children in Emergency Departments document in 2014 (mainly around language and clarity issues raised from the translation). The updated 2014 document is available from the PEMSIG web-page: <https://www.ifem.cc/about-us/special-interest-groups/paediatric-emergency-medicine-special-interest-group/>

During 2015-16 PEMSIG worked hard to put together an incredible PEM track and two show-stealing PEM MarketPlace events at ICEM Cape Town 2016. The second BGM was held, with first formal elections and our membership has been on the up & up since (Ffion, Membership Lead will update us on this later in this newsletter).

## PEMSIG Role

So that brings us up to date with how we got here, but what is PEMSIG's function? My way of looking at it again follows a child-like logic:

- Children get sick all over the world and when they do it can be a scary experience for them, their carers and sometimes, scary even for the health professionals looking after them.
- The emergency care that sick children receive varies around the world. And it is not always richer countries that do the best; innovative practices and solutions sometimes emanate from the most deprived environment.
- Professional people the world over are trying to improve the emergency care of adults (± children), often alone or in small groups. Children are deliberately in the (± brackets), because it seems that's how children's emergency care often evolves... more an afterthought than the main intention!
- PEMSIG is a resource for these people: the ones who are trying to improve children's emergency care in their hospital, region or country, and also for those who are new to the field (trainees, students, allied professionals) who have an interest in PEM. We as PEMSIG are offering tools, resources, guidance and insights, based on the accrued experience and wisdom of a broad group of dedicated PEM professionals.
- Above and beyond this PEMSIG acts as an advisory group to the IFEM Executive Board on matters relating to PEM and works on projects that are of importance to IFEM, because without IFEM's encouragement and support, PEMSIG would not have come together to be the vibrant international professional community that it is.

## PEMSIG Projects

So, what is PEMSIG doing currently to fulfil its functions? At present, we are concentrating on tasks that the IFEM Board asked us to undertake at the Cape Town BGM 2016 as well as key projects that were decided upon at that meeting. Some PEMSIG Project Leads were decided at the BGM and other projects and leads came together shortly thereafter. The active projects are listed at the end of this piece and you will be hearing updates from each of the project leads in the rest of this newsletter.

To end my message, I want to say that I am endlessly grateful to the great team of Project Leads who, in their own time, and with no additional recompense or reward, are dedicating their time, energy and effort to PEMSIG projects. This newsletter is dedicated to our PEMSIG Project Leads – thank you from all of PEMSIG, for your hard work and commitment.

**Baljit Cheema (PEMSIG Chair)**

## PEMSIG Active Projects

Project

Project Lead

<b>Standards Revision</b>	Rod Lim
<b>Education Curriculum</b>	Rahim Valani
<b>PEM RoadMap</b>	Camilo E. Gutiérrez
<b>Website, Tools and Resources</b>	Haiko Jahn & Sashi Ganapathy
<b>PEMSIG Membership</b>	Ffion Davies
<b>PEM Research</b>	Franz Babl

## Message from Secretary

Hello everyone!

For those in the Northern Hemisphere I hope you are enjoying the summer, on the other hand, for the ones in the South, I hope the respiratory peak with bronchiolitis is not making everyone crazy in your EDs. As most of you know, ICEM will be held in Mexico next year. I am very excited, as Mexico is a beautiful place and their people are as friendly and warm as anyone can be.

I would like to thank the members of the group who were able to attend the VII Interamerican Emergency Medicine Conference held in Costa Rica last May. The feedback from the meeting was great. I hope that all of those who have not been able to participate in the different projects of the group to do so and help us improved the care of the pediatric patients. I want everybody to join our group, so we can continue including more PEM specialists around the world.

**Adriana Yock (PEMSIG Secretary)**



Photos from the Interamerican Conference on Emergency Medicine. May 2017. Costa Rica



Franz Babl and Adriana Yock



Some PEMSIG members after the pediatric track of the IAEMC2017 in Costa Rica

## Updates from Project Leads

### Standards Revision

The executive committee together with the Standards lead remain committed to revising our Standards Document (last updated 2014) for 2018. Through our numerous contacts around the world, we hope to put together an excellent revision of our Standards Document for international use. The standards document is a template for the Care of Children Internationally in developed and developing Countries.

The Chapters are assigned and designated to represent broad geographic regions across the globe. A logistic plan is in place. We hope to achieve Major and minor revisions to various chapters and sections to achieve an up to date document. We hope to achieve this ambitious target on time.

**Dr. Rodrick Lim**



### PEM Education Curriculum

The PEMSIG group is developing an international pediatric emergency medicine curriculum that focuses on clinical presentations, procedural skill sets, and professionalism. A core group of the committee developed the initial list, which has now been circulated to other members of the group. The goal is to use a Delphi process to develop a consensus document that provides guidance on what would be considered minimal requirements in pediatric emergency medicine.

We would ask for members to contribute by providing their feedback on this so we can finalize the document.

Thanks for your support!

**Rahim Valani**



## PEM RoadMap

The PEMSIG goal is to bring together a range of international experts with experience in this area to assist development of PEM in countries where this is either just evolving or has not yet developed. We are in the process of creating a document to help countries develop their pediatric emergency skills and structure. By sharing the collective experience of a number of countries and organizations who have successfully been able to bridge the gap and develop Pediatric Emergency care systems, we will create a roadmap of how to develop and sustain a Pediatric Emergency Care structure which is recognized by that nation's government and professional healthcare network.

The proposed goals include:

- Develop a comprehensive road map detailing the steps needed to develop Paediatric Emergency Medicine skills, and options for how to organize PEM care
- Describe initial steps to attempt recognition by governmental and educational institutions, and
- Identify and signpost existing resources, such as the IFEM International Standards for the Emergency Care of Children, curricula for doctors and nurses which are used in countries with formal PEM training, and ways of credentialing training programmes or setting up professional qualifications in PEM

Anticipated deliverables include:

1. Identification of ways of organizing paediatric emergency care, using examples from different nations
2. A comparison of the benefits and challenges of the different ways of designing and delivering paediatric emergency healthcare
3. Advice regarding engagement of politicians, health boards, hospitals, other healthcare staff and advice for implementing good basic organization and training for all emergency staff, including PEM as a specific sub-speciality where this is possible
4. List of PEM Societies worldwide
5. List of available resources to assist development of paediatric emergency care at local, regional and national level

**Baljit Cheema** on behalf of **Camilo E. Gutiérrez** (Chair Elect 2018 PEMSIG)



Picture with Dr. Fernando Stein, President American Academy of Pediatrics  
100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Colombian Pediatric Society Meeting - Cartagena, Colombia July 2017

## Website, Tools and Resources

The work on the PEMSIG website

(<https://www.ifem.cc/about-us/special-interest-groups/paediatric-emergency-medicine-special-interest-group/>) is ongoing.

We are updating the PEMSIG website with the aim of making it more relevant to PEM in general and for the website to become the International PEM web portal.

We are currently compiling a directory of all the relevant National PEM organization, creating an education and training section, an overview of PEM related courses (ETAT+, PEMC, APLS, Paediatric Trauma course) and PEM related FOAMed links and a PEM Medical App Section and a research section linking to all relevant PEM research networks.

We have also created a PEMSIG facebook site (<https://www.facebook.com/PEMSIG/>) and a closed facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/PEMSIG/>) for PEMSIG members to exchange and discuss PEM related matters..

We would like to encourage members to use the #PEMSIG to promote PEMSIG and PEM as a specialty in their social media feeds. If anyone would like to contribute or add anything to the website or facebook group could you either contact Sashikumar Ganapathy:

[sashikumar.ganapathy@singhealth.com.sg](mailto:sashikumar.ganapathy@singhealth.com.sg) or Haiko Jahn [haiko.jahn@gmail.com](mailto:haiko.jahn@gmail.com)

**Sashikumar Ganapathy**



**Haiko Jahn**



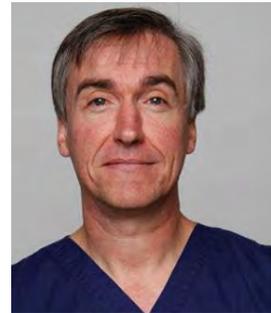
## News from the Pediatric Emergency Research Networks (PERN)

The last PERN meeting was held at the Pediatric Academic Societies Meeting in San Francisco in May 2017. The public meeting was well attended by researchers from all over the world. With the fantastic support from participating pediatric emergency clinicians and researchers from all over the world, a number of PERN projects have reached journal submission stage including Pharmacotherapy Practice Patterns and Outcomes in Bronchiolitis (Dr. Schuh, from Canada), the Global Pediatric Emergency Poisoning Surveillance System (Dr. Mintegi), and the Pediatric Emergency Critical Skills project (Dr. Craig, Australia).

The development of the Community-Acquired Pneumonia project (Drs. Florin and Kuppermann) is progressing well and design work on a PERN Consensus Statement on Clinical Trials in Acute Severe Childhood Asthma (Dr. Craig, Australia) has started.

It is likely that future in-person PERN meetings will be primarily conducted at International Conference on Emergency Medicine (ICEM) conferences, rather than at PAS meetings.

**Franz Babl**



## **PEMSIG Membership**

Dear friends

Hello! I am the group's membership lead. I am pleased to report that we are continuing to grow as a Special Interest Group, and we now have 70 members, representing most parts of the world. We particularly welcome members from new countries where PEM is less developed – since the last newsletter we have added Fiji, Kenya and Nigeria to our network of countries. The full list appears at the end of this newsletter.

During the next year we will be promoting our group, ahead of the next ICEM conference in Mexico City. I shall be working in partnership with Dr Kathleen Berry, our Lead for promotion of our International Standards document, and we plan to promote the Group and the wonderful document, to IFEM member organisations and to EM national/international events.

If anyone knows of colleagues who might like to join our group, please ask them to email me on [Ffion.davies@doctors.org.uk](mailto:Ffion.davies@doctors.org.uk) and attach a short CV/resume. The procedure is that I send this to our Exec team for approval, then confirm group membership with a welcome pack with information about us, and a copy of our latest newsletter. Happy networking!

**Dr Ffion Davies**

**PEMSIG Membership Lead**



## Upcoming Conferences

### ACEP Washington 2017

ACEP17 is the largest and most prestigious Emergency Medicine conference in the world. The ACEP17 curriculum will consist of clinical, as well as essential management and risk management tools to aid in your day-to-day practice. With educational courses, skills labs and workshops.



### ICEM Mexico 2018

We would like as many PEMSIG members to join us next year for the **2018 ICEM conference in Mexico City, June 5<sup>th</sup> -9<sup>th</sup>** where we will have PEM tracks, our Biannual General Meeting, and all be contributing to the now famous PEM marketplace! On behalf of the ICEM 2018 Organising Committee, we have pleasure in inviting you to join us at the 17<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Emergency Medicine in beautiful Mexico City! Early Bird registration is open until **31<sup>st</sup> August 2017** with very good discounts.

Register at [www.icem2018.com](http://www.icem2018.com) or enquire at [contacto@icem2018.com](mailto:contacto@icem2018.com)

We look forward to greeting you and your colleagues at our very first International Conference on Emergency Medicine in Central America!



### Spread the word!

Please encourage colleagues to join our group as new members, by sending a CV/resume and contacting Carol Reardon at [carol.reardon@acem.org.au](mailto:carol.reardon@acem.org.au)

### PEMSIG Members

\*Attached list