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## Indian-American doctors to hold Emergency Medicine meet in Guwahati



New York (SATimes): Over 1200 emergency care experts and physicians will attend the three-day conference of American Academy for Emergency Medicine in India (AAEMI) – Emcon 2009 – to be held in Guwahati, Assam in Nov 2009. Briefing the media in Consulate General of India premises on Wednesday, Dr. Kumar Alagappan, president of the Academy, said the AAEMI is making all out efforts to impart knowledge and expertise to emergency care workers in Indian hospitals, while trying to institutionalize emergency medicine in the country. Dr. Alagappan is the associate professor of clinical emergency medicine, department of emergency medicine of Long Island Jewish Medical Center and a leading emergency care physicians in the US.

The conference aims to increase the awareness of the importance of Emergency Medicine in standardizing emergency care, developing pre-hospital systems and planning for disaster preparedness. There will be lectures, workshops and discussions between Emergency Medicine Physicians, medical students and health care providers. The conference is co-sponsored by the Society of Emergency Medicine in India (SEMI) and Emergency Services of North Shore-Long Island Jewish Health System in New York.

The first Emcon conference was held at Coimbatore and followed by Hyderabad, Pune, Mumbai, New Delhi, Chennai and Salem. This year 2009, will be ever more challenging. With terrorism, disasters and general emergencies becoming more common in India, we need to support our colleagues there in these difficult times and AAEMI will continue to partner with SEMI to develop Emergency Medicine projects in India, Dr. Alagappan said. “Emergency

medical care is often confused with critical care in most hospitals in India. Common all India medical exam system, prevalence of different system of medicine like homeopathy, ayurveda and lack of medical insurance system affects the growth of emergency care. More than 70,000 people were killed in road accidents every year and often they do not get the urgent medical attention they deserve,” he said. Some of the topics to be discussed include acute medicine, resuscitation, critical care, pre- hospital care, disaster management, trauma care, cardiology, respiratory illness, pediatric emergency, infections and education and training. “There is an urgent need to improve emergency medicine in India,” said Dr. Krishan Kumar, Director, Emergency Medicine, Nassau University Medical Center and vice president of the academy. “India is a fast developing country and we need to bring this service to India.”

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