



Report on attendance at 85th Annual Aerospace Medical Association Conference, San Diego 2014

Name of Meetings

85th Annual Aerospace Medical Association Conference
Civil Aviation Medical Association
Airline Medical Directors Association
International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
ESAM

Date

10-15 May 2014

Location

San Diego, California

Australian Attendees

Dr Pooshan Navathe and Dr Michael Drane

Main Other Participants

Over 1200 delegates from over 150 countries. Civil Aviation Medical Association, Airline Medical Directors Association, ICAO, ESAM

Purpose of Meeting & Main Agenda Items

The Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA) annual scientific meeting provides:

- a multi-faceted forum for all aerospace medical disciplines
- concurrently provides continuing education credits for those attending the meeting
- lectures, seminars, panels, poster presentations, workshops, film reports, and technical and scientific exhibits present data on the latest results of clinical and research studies.

No other meeting brings together such a diverse group of specialists - clinical health care directors, physicians, scientists, and nurses from the armed services, civil and military aviation, academia, and industry, plus the many private practitioners in all clinical specialties who care for the total civilian flying population on a daily basis.

International representation is evident among both program participants and attendees.

The Civil Airline Medical Director (CAMA) meeting is arranged:

- to promote the best methodology for assessment of the mental and physical requirements for civil aviation pilots
- to actively enlarge our scientific knowledge
- to advocate, through continuing education, both basic and advanced civil aeromedical knowledge
- to promote professional fellowship among our colleagues from allied scientific disciplines
- to bind together all civil aviation medical examiners into an effective, active medical body to promote aviation safety for the good of the public.

The ICAO meeting is arranged to:

- provide a forum for exchange amongst medical regulators worldwide
- to promote professional fellowship among medical regulators
- discuss collegially approaches to implementation of ICAO SARPs
- provide an opportunity for the Chief Medical Officer of ICAO to share his thoughts for the evolution of aviation medicine

The American Medical Directors Association (AMDA) meeting aims to

- raise clinical issues related to airline aircrew and cabin crew
- discuss issues related to in flight medical situations
- raise and discuss issues about fatigue in airline ops
- discuss issues about substance use and mental health in airline crews

The European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) meeting aims to

- provide a forum for exchange amongst medical regulators and medical examiners from Europe and share their experience with others
- to promote professional fellowship among medical regulators and Medical Examiners
- discuss collegially approaches to implementation of EASA regulations.

Outcomes

CASA presented six papers: 1) "The use of pumps in insulin treatment of Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus"; 2) "So Now we know the rules: How can we play?"; 3) "For a regulator, Coronary Artery Disease is dead easy: Yeah Right!"; 4) "Regulatory use and challenges of a "1% rule approach" to regulation; Practicalities and challenges"; 5) "The CASA regime and experience with Class 2's (Private Pilots)"; and 6) cognition in pilots.

The Principal Medical Officer also chaired 2 panels: the panel on Type 1 diabetes as well as the panel on "Walking like a regulator". The CASA delegation also participated in the AMDA and CAMA meetings, the ICAO session, and committee meetings of the International Academy of Aviation and space medicine.

Summary of Key Conclusions and Issues for Australian Government Agencies: Suggested follow up & next steps to resolve any issues arising

The use of Insulin in Class1 pilots may have legal issues linked with liability for CASA and employer. Action: follow up with LSD.

The use of Apnoea/Hypopnoea Index (AHI) by itself is not a dependable index of severity of sleep apnoea. Action: Advise all Medical Officers.

There is a suggestion that preventive medical advice may become part of the ICAO standards. There is likely to be a medical provisions study group (MPSG) convened by ICAO later this year to identify the best way to make this happen. Action: prepare options for a future discussion with ICAO and attend MPSG as required.

Any Other Useful Information Obtained

Information about the implementation of the Obstructive Sleep apnoea protocol by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and the current lobbying in respect of the Class 3 medical certificate.

New research about Colour vision testing carried out by the Civil Aviation Medical Institute (FAA) indicates that people with colour vision deficiency have difficulty in perform intra-cockpit tests.

Prepared by: Dr Pooshan Navathe (inc. report for Dr Michael Drane)

Date: 18th May 2014

Title: Principal Medical Officer

Telephone contact: 02 6217 1441