

ulation has many potential applications beyond the operating room and the trauma room, including emergency department and critical care unit resuscitation scenarios. Early experience with trauma simulation suggests that the simulator is a useful additional modality for teaching resuscitation and thereby improving the quality of early trauma care.

## References

1. McLellan BA. Mergers, acquisitions and trauma care in the 1990s. *J Trauma* 1998;44(4):575-9.
2. Baker SP, O'Neill B, Haddon W, Long WB. The Injury Severity Score: a method for describing patients with multiple injuries and evaluating emergency care. *J Trauma* 1974;14:187-96.
3. American College of Surgeons, Committee on Trauma. *Advanced trauma life support program for physicians*. Chicago: The College; 1997.
4. Canadian Institute for Health Information. *Ontario trauma registry annual report*. Toronto: Ontario Ministry of Health; 1996.
5. Kurrek MM, Devitt JH. The cost for construction and operation of a simulation centre. *Can J Anaesth* 1997;44:1191-5.
6. Howard SK, Gaba DM, Fish KJ, Yang G, Sarnquist FH. Anesthesia crisis resource management training: teaching anesthesiologists to handle critical incidents. *Aviat Space Environ Med* 1992;63(9):763-70.
7. Devitt JH, Kurrek MM, Cohen MM, Fish K, Fish P, Murphy PM, et al. Testing the raters: inter-rater reliability of standardized anaesthesia simulator performance. *Can J Anaesth* 1997;44:924-8.
8. Holzman RS, Cooper JB, Gaba DM, Philip JH, Small SD, Feinstein D. Anesthesia crisis resource management: real-life simulation training in operating room crises. *J Clin Anesth* 1995;7(8):675-87.
9. Hart IR. The OSCE — objective yes, but how useful? In: Hart IR, Harden RM, Walton HJ, editors. *Newer developments in assessing clinical competence*. Montreal: Heal Publications; 1986. p. 22-8.
10. Chopra V, Gesink BJ, de Jong J, Bovil JG, Spierdijk J, Brand R. Does training on an anaesthesia simulator lead to improvement in performance? *Br J Anaesth* 1994;73:293-9.

## Notices

### Avis

#### American Society for Surgery of the Hand

The American Society for Surgery (ASSH) of the Hand will be presenting the following courses: internal fixation, to be held in Vail, Colo., from July 22 to 25, 1999; the 1999 comprehensive review course in hand surgery, to be held in Dallas, Tex., in August 1999. For further information on these courses contact the ASSH central office at 847 384-8300.

#### Interventional ultrasonography

The 8th International Congress on Interventional Ultrasound will be held from Aug. 31 to Sept. 3, 1999, at Herlev Hospital, University of Copenhagen, Copenhagen, Denmark. The deadline for abstracts is May 1, 1999. Registration is DKK 3400 before July 1 and DKK 3700 thereafter. Further information may be

obtained by contacting the Department of Ultrasound — Herlev Hospital, University of Copenhagen, DK-2730 Denmark; tel +45 44 88 32 40, fax +45 44 94 80 09, ultrasound@herlevhosp.dk22

#### Techniques in advanced laparoscopic and gynecologic surgery

From Nov. 4 to 6, 1999, the Mayo Clinic Scottsdale will hold the "12th annual techniques in advanced laparoscopic and gynecologic surgery" course at Marriott's Camelback Inn Resort, Golf Club and Spa, 5402 East Lincoln Dr., Scottsdale, Ariz., under the direction of Dr. Javier F. Magrina. The course will provide an in-depth review of laparoscopic techniques, complications and instrumentation. Approximately 4 hours of live surgery from Atlanta, Chattanooga, Tenn., and Scottsdale will be performed via satellite. Other course highlights include: interactive case presentations, laparoscopic skills practice

with pelvic trainers and a video festival, which will include a variety of laparoscopic procedures with an interactive discussion by each author. Credits: AMA Category I, ACOG. For more information contact Kristen Eberhard, CME Department, Mayo Clinic Scottsdale, 13400 East Shea Blvd., Scottsdale AZ 85259, USA; tel. 602 301-7552, fax 602 301-8323.

#### Pediatric ECMO techniques and technology

The Ege University Faculty of Medicine is sponsoring an international conference on pediatric ECMO techniques and technology on Nov. 5 and 6, 1999, in Izmir, Turkey. For further information contact Prof. Oktay Mutaf, The Thoracic Unit, Department of Pediatric Surgery, Ege University Faculty of Medicine, Bornova 35 100, Izmir, Turkey; fax +90 232 375 12 88, omutaf@med.ege.edu.tr