



# Mediterranean Cardiology Meeting

TAORMINA APRIL 26 - 28

2009

Course Language: Italian for Italian Groups  
Subscription limited to 15 participants per day

April 26, 27, 28

ciclope room

## Critical Care in Cardiology from Simulation to Reality Hands-on Live Course

Directors: **S. Perlini (Pavia)**, **M.M. Gulizia (Catania)**

Tutor: **G. Ferrara (Cefalù)**

Although invaluable, traditional medical learning based on academic study and formal lessons has several shortcomings, particularly when its practical application has to be performed in a context of urgency / emergency. For example, when facing a cardiac arrest the rescuer's "efficiency" not only does rely on his theoretical knowledge of "what should be done", but also critically depends on his practical experience, that allows to manage in the best possible way the available resources and to put into practice all the maneuvers that could be lifesaving in that very moment.

As taught by other non-medical professionals who have safety as the cornerstone of any action (such as in the aviation field), simulation may give a fundamental contribution. Without any claim of substituting the value of clinical practice, this didactic tool allows to acquire experience and clinical competence without exposing the patient to any unnecessary risk, via the reconstruction of specific "real-life" medical scenarios. This is particularly important in those high-risk conditions that leave no room for formal clinical teaching owing to the life-threatening situation.

By inserting a computerized mannequin robot (simulator) in a setting that reproduces the actual environment of an Emergency Department with all its equipments and personnel, it is possible to simulate in a very realistic fashion several emergency medicine scenarios. From a hidden control room the instructors may modify the vital parameters of the simulator and "give voice" to the mannequin making it as a real patient, thereby stimulating the learner to take initiative in that specific clinical scenario. The case is then discussed (the so-called "debriefing") with the aid of a real-time video recording, with the specific aim of identifying the key points of the scenario and to improve the clinical competence of both the learners and the instructors in a "risk-free" realistic situation, as recommended by the International Societies on Medical Simulation.

- 8.30 Welcome Address
- 8.45 Quick revision of the current guidelines on diagnosis and treatment of the main cardiovascular urgencies / emergencies
- 9.45 Clinical scenarios (2-3 learners per 20-minute scenario, followed by a 40-minute plenary session debriefing):
  - **ST elevation acute myocardial infarction**
  - **Sustained ventricular tachycardia**
  - **Angina pectoris in a previously revascularized diabetic patient**
- 12.45 Lunch
- 13.45 Clinical scenarios:
  - **Pulmonary edema associated with hypertensive crisis**
  - **Atrial fibrillation in a patient with depressed ejection fraction**
  - **Syncope associated with torsade de pointes**
- 16.45 CME questionnaire
- 17.30 Conclusions

- Educational credits (CME) upon requested
- The Course duration is one day