

EDITORIAL

Certain happenings in life prove that individual ideas and efforts when put to practice can achieve wonderful results. Some years ago, one Saturday afternoon an eight year old boy, died on his way to hospital in a small town in Germany because after being run over by car, he had to wait over an hour for an ambulance, The boy's parents set up a Foundation with some money which they donated to help traffic accident victims like their son for whom prompt medical attention could make the difference between life and death. They asked their fellow citizens to join. The response was very encouraging.

Since then it has raised over billion Euros in donations that have helped to set up airborne rescue services. Now when road accident occurs and there is a road block, suddenly a helicopter homes in and the flying doctors and nurses give first aid to the injured. By the time the conventional ambulance arrives, the injured are ready to be rushed to the nearest hospital. The foundation has been largely responsible for equipping emergency services with radio links and extra ambulances.

In Pakistan, due to considerable increase in mechanized transports, traffic accidents as well as facial injuries are on the increase.

Since Independence Dentistry in Pakistan has made tremendous progress and dentists are doing quite well. The profession can make a modest beginning by setting up "Voluntary Emergency Dental Centers", to start with at least in large cities, where round the clock emergency dental service could be provided to the people. To begin with it can be started in collaboration with existing foundations/trusts in the country (Edhi Trust is an example). Additional efforts by our dental community in the social welfare sector are needed.

خدا کرے میرے ہر اکٹ ہموطن کے لئے حیات جُرم نہ ہو، زندگی وبال نہ ہو (احمد ندیم قاسمی)

AHMAD IQBAL

PROFESSOR EMERITUS KHYBER MEDICAL UNIVERSITY

Dr Ahmad Iqbal

Editor-in-Chief

Pakistan Oral & Dental Journal

19, Street 63, F-7/3

Islamabad – Pakistan

Tel: 92-051-2611138 / 2611187

E-mail: driqbal7@gmail.com

Website: www.podj.com.pk