

ENLS Course at the 15th Global Health Summit, AAPI in Hyderabad, Jan 4th 2022

Leena Gupta, MD, ENLS Course Director

'ENLS' stand for 'Emergency Neurological Life Support' directs provider to do what is to be done in the first few hours of a neurological catastrophe. It is an educational program designed to help health care professionals improve patient care and outcomes during the critical first hour of a patient's neurological emergency.

The ENLS featured 14 modules with each module consisting of a set of protocols, practical checklists, decision points and suggested communications to use during patient management of a neurological emergency. After this classroom training, ENLS certification will be issued by the Neurocritical care society, Chicago, IL which will be valid for 2 years. The modules were Acute ischemic stroke, Intracerebral hemorrhage, Subarachnoid hemorrhage, Intracranial pressure and Brain herniation, Status Epilepticus, Traumatic brain and spinal injuries, Meningitis and Encephalitis, Airway management, Pharmacotherapy and Management of a comatose patient.

This course was perceived, strategized, and presented by Dr. Leena Gupta, who is a practicing critical care specialist in California. It was conducted successfully for the first time under the umbrella of AAPI. There was an overwhelming response from students, residents, fellows and attendings as well as from different providers who are directly or indirectly involved in care of patients with neurological diseases.

We had an amazing array of seasoned, renowned, and experienced faculty physicians and academicians, practicing as Neurocritical care specialists, Neuro-anesthesiologists, Neurologists and Neurosurgeons, from reputed hospitals in Hyderabad like NIMS and KIMS. Dr. Ashima Sharma, Dr. Durga Padmaja, Dr. M. Srilatha, Dr. Avinash, Dr. Vijaya Sarathi and Dr. Harshal Dholke were faculty for this first ever ENLS live course conducted in the Global Health Summit, AAPI at the premises of the Avasa Hotel in Hyderabad, India.

Despite the uprising situation of Omicron Covid-19 at that time, there were nearly 40 attendees who comprised of enthusiastic and dedicated students, hardworking residents and fellows, emergency paramedics and other attendings from other health care sectors, who took the time to travel to Hyderabad, from far places like Punjab, Delhi and Mumbai and nearby local cities of Hyderabad, Madras and Bangalore. These attendees travelled specifically for the course and received training for ENLS certification.

The other highlights of the session were an interactive questionnaire session at the end of all the modules which lasted for more than an hour, with exchange of ideas, the style of practice in India compared with the world, utility of the course and slew of ways to get around solving issues in an ICU and hospital setting, at the face of adversity- be it resources, non-availability of newer medication, advanced technological products, and devices. There was an intriguing discussion of how transformation has taken over the world, with a stride in neuro critical care by advanced technological devices like pupillometers, EEG monitoring, cooling devices, etc. and utilization of varied tele-platforms in today's ICU.



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