



# Ever Upward: March 2021

## 2021 Meeting Program Issue Delayed

Due to the Annual Scientific Meeting being delayed until late August [please see the February newsletter], the meeting issue of the Blue Journal has also been delayed until June 2021. March, April, and May's issues will be the standard lineup of Research Articles, Review Articles, Short Communications, Case Reports, etc. June's issue will include the accepted abstracts, meeting information, and Association information.

## 2021 Virtual ICAM Webinar Series Offered

The Aerospace Medical Association, as part of the 2021 Virtual International Conference in Aerospace Medicine (2021 Virtual ICAM), is offering a two-part webinar series titled "COVID-19 Clinical Impacts and Aeromedical Implications for Aircrew Health and Performance." The 2021 Virtual ICAM is a series of webinars offered throughout 2021 to replace the ICAM Paris that was postponed from September 2021 to September 2022. The theme of the 2021 Virtual ICAM is "Pandemics and Progress in Aerospace Medicine." The International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine (IAASM) is leading the 2021 Virtual ICAM in collaboration with the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA), the European Society of Aerospace Medicine (ESAM), and La Société Francophone de Médecine Aérospatiale (SOFRAMAS). For more information, please see the announcement on [AsMA's website](#).

The webinars being offered by AsMA are as follows:

- Part 1 - Neurology, Pulmonology, Cardiology; March 12, 2021; 2:00–5:20 PM EST. Registration is \$25.00 without CME; there is an additional fee for CME (3.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™) of \$50.00.
- Part 2 - Long Haul COVID, Infectious Disease, Mental Health; March 26, 2021; 2:00–5:20 PM EDT. Registration is \$25.00 without CME; there is an additional fee for CME (3.0 AMA PRA Category 1 Credits™) of \$50.00.

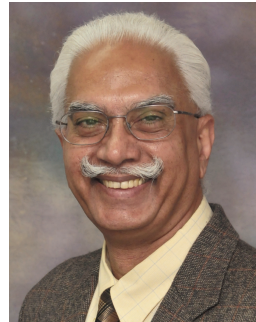
These live stream webinars are focused on the clinical impact and aeromedical implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on aircrew health and performance. The international faculty are leading clinical experts in the aviation and space medicine communities and have experience responding to the COVID-19 pandemic in aircrew. These webinars will provide aviation and space medicine professionals with insight into the clinical impact COVID-19 has on aircrew health and performance. Presentations in each of the two March webinars will focus on three specific clinical areas: 1) Neurology, 2) Pulmonology, and 3) Cardiology during Part 1; and 1) Long Haul COVID, 2) Infectious Disease, and 3) Mental Health during Part 2. [Click here to register for the webinars.](#)

### Read Current News Online!

News is updated as we receive items. Visit AsMA's site to read all about it! Members: please check the Job Fair each month; new jobs are posted as we receive them.

## In Memoriam: Jarnail Singh

AsMA staff were deeply saddened to hear of the passing of Dr. Jarnail Singh, a Fellow of AsMA, in early February. He



was the Chairman of the Civil Aviation Medical Board, Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS). He chaired ICAO's Medical Provisions Study Group, which reviews the existing medical requirements in Annex 1 in the light of medical advances and availability of epidemiological data to facilitate global harmonization of medical standards for pilots and air traffic controllers.

Dr. Singh began his career by attending medical school on an Indian government scholarship at the Government Medical College, Punjabi University, Patiala, India. After graduation, he returned home to serve in the National Service in 1978. During the Singapore Armed Forces Medical Officers Cadet Course, he encountered aviation medicine, then a new field. Upon earning his commission as a Medical Officer and Captain, he signed on with the Republic of Singapore Air Force (RSAF), specializing in aviation medicine. He served as RSAF's third career Aviation Medical Officer while attending the No. 16<sup>th</sup> Diploma in Aviation Medicine Course at the RAF Institute of Aviation Medicine in Farnborough in 1983.

Dr. Singh returned to the newly formed Aeromedical Centre and was a pioneer in establishing the RSAF Aeromedical Centre and served as Head of Aviation Physiology Training. After attending his initial G training program at the U.S. Air Force School of Aviation Medicine, he established a G training program for RSAF pilots. In 1993, he was seconded from the RSAF to the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) to be the first full-time aviation medicine trained physician of the Civil Aviation Medical Board as the Deputy Chair. He became the Chair in 1997. Between 2001 and 2004, he chaired an Ultra Long Range (ULR) Task Force convened to study and validate the alertness of flight crew on ULR flights. The findings of this task force were shared internationally and formed the foundation for the development of Fatigue Risk Management System (FRMS) regulations and guidance.

During that time, in 2003, Dr. Singh initiated and coordinated the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) led anti-Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) program. He became the chair of the ICAO Medical Provisions Study Group at its inception in 2004. He spearheaded, facili-

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tated, and coordinated the ICAO's Cooperative Arrangement for the Prevention of the Spread of Communicable disease through Air travel (CAPSCA) project to Africa, the Americas, and the Middle East, transforming it into a global project. In 2006, he was appointed by ICAO as the CAPSCA Global Technical Advisor, a post he held until his passing. In 2014, he was the Chief Technical Advisor to the joint ICAO CAPSCA/World Health Organization (WHO) Ebola Activation Action Plan project.

Dr. Singh held an M.B., B.S., a post graduate Diploma in Aviation Medicine, and an M.Sc. in Occupational Medicine. He was a Fellow of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore, and an Academician of the International Academy of Aviation and Space Medicine (IAASM) and was the first Asian to become IAASM President. He had served as a Director of IAASM from 2005–2009 and was also a gazetted Inspector of Accidents in Singapore. He was a founding member and first President of the Society of Aviation Medicine, Singapore, and in 2012, he was elected an Honorary Fellow of the Airline Pilots Association of Singapore.

Dr. Singh was awarded the Singapore Public Administration Medal in 2015. Within AsMA, he served on Council and on the Air Transport, International Activities, and Executive Committees, and was Vice President of International Services. He was honored with AsMA's Won Chuel Kay Award for his pivotal role in bringing together the international, regional, and national aviation and public health sectors to put in place pandemic preparedness plans for the aviation community in 2011.

## New Members

*AsMA welcomes 31 new members in March.*

- Brooks, Helena; Christiansburg, VA, United States
- Cleaver, Lakota; Denver, CO, United States
- Cox, Daniel; Durham, NC, United States
- Daniel, James; Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
- Flenda, Fabio; Milano, Italy
- Gallo, Megan; Dayton, OH, United States

## MEETINGS CALENDAR

*Due to the coronavirus, please check the websites of meetings listed here to see if they have been postponed/cancelled.*

**Fortnightly;** International Astronautical Federation (IAF) Global Networking Forum Space Conversations Series; ONLINE, 14:00 Paris time. Please visit <https://www.iafastro.org/events/iaf-gnf-space-conversations-series/> for more information.

**HFACS Workshops;** ONLINE. Workshops on the The Human Factors Analysis and Classification System (HFACS) are now available online & in-person. For more info, please visit <https://www.enrole.com/erau/jsp/course.jsp?categoryId=&courseId=HFAC> for in-person and <https://www.enrole.com/erau/jsp/course.jsp?categoryId=558570F8&courseId=OHFA> for online.

**March 22-26, 2021;** NATO Aerospace Medicine Summit; Garmisch Partenkirchen, Germany. Full details and registration are available at <https://events.sto.nato.int/index.php/upcoming-events/event-list/event/330>.

- Gephart, Aaron; Bartlett, IL, United States
- Gim, Nayon; Seoul, South Korea
- Ginsburg, Sabrina; Lake Worth, FL, United States
- Gowan, Jacob; Kansas City, MO, United States
- Greenhalgh, Andrew; Bethesda, MD, United States
- Hashida, Aiko; Tachikawa-Shi, Japan
- Henson, Jeff; Urbandale, IA, United States
- King, James; San Antonio, TX, United States
- Lee, Christine; Rancho Cucamonga, CA, United States
- Lee, Lysette; Rancho Cucamonga, CA, United States
- Lemery, John; Denver, CO, United States
- MacDonald, William; Providence, RI, United States
- Mantilla, Daniel Alejandro; Bogotá, Colombia
- McCue, Sean; Cody, WY, United States
- McNERlin, Clare; Washington, DC, United States
- Morse, Bria; San Antonio, TX, United States
- Nguyen, Jade; San Francisco, CA, United States
- Pelton, Luke; East Hartford, CT, United States
- Rogers, Joshua; Silverton, OR, United States
- Smaga, Brett; Tempe, AZ, United States
- Taglietti, Carlo; Boston, MA, United States
- Tan, Stanley; Fayetteville, NC, United States
- Von Hardenberg, Paul; West End, NC, United States
- Ward, Jessica; Bronx, NY, United States
- Wilson, Robert; Southport, NC, United States

*AsMA welcomes back one returning member.*

- Ivkovic, Vladimir; Charlestown, MA, United States

## Save the Date

4th International Conference and Expo on Aerospace and Aeronautical Engineering; October 25-27, 2021; Valencia, Spain. Aerospace-2021 will bring together scientists, researchers, and industry experts from several countries and professional backgrounds to exchange ideas, advance knowledge and discuss key related topics of Aerospace. Please visit the website for more details: <https://www.scientificfederation.com/aerospace-aeronautical-engineering/>.

## HFACS Workshops

ONLINE. Workshops on the The Human Factors Analysis and Classification System (HFACS) are now available online as well as in-person. Dates and locations are as follows:

- May 11-12, 2021 @ Daytona Beach, FL
- June 16-17, 2021 @ Online/Virtual
- July 13-14, 2021 @ Las Vegas, NV
- September 14-15, 2021 @ Daytona Beach, FL
- October 13-14, 2021 @ Online/Virtual

For more info, please visit <https://www.enrole.com/erau/jsp/course.jsp?categoryId=&courseId=HFAC> for in-person and <https://www.enrole.com/erau/jsp/course.jsp?categoryId=558570F8&courseId=OHFA> for online.

# NEWS OF CORPORATE MEMBERS

## IBR Is Newest Corporate Member

The Institutes for Behavior Resources, Inc. (IBR), is the newest Corporate Member of the Aerospace Medical Association (AsMA). IBR was founded in 1960 by Dr. Joseph V. Brady, a prominent behavioral scientist. They are an independent, non-profit research, services, and educational organization whose mission is to enhance the growth of the behavioral sciences and their human affairs application through research, clinical services, and consulting and education. Headquartered in Baltimore, MD, United States, their research comprises operational fatigue and performance, small group behavior and social neuroscience, behavioral economics, behavioral pharmacology and pre-clinical research, and policy development. They run the REACH (Recovery Enhanced by Access to Comprehensive Healthcare) Health Services program, which is a comprehensive substance use recovery program. Their consulting work includes Fatigue Risk Management Systems, education, training and communications activities, and scheduling analysis and research to assess and inform policy guidelines at all levels. *For more information on this company, you can visit their website at <https://ibrinc.org/>.*

## Corporate News Bites

**AOPA:** In a recent virtual meeting, AOPA President Mark Baker and the AOPA Board of Aviation Medical Advisors met with Dr. Susan Northrup, the new FAA federal air surgeon, and Deputy Federal Air Surgeon Dr. Brett Wyrick. The group pledged to work together to iron out medical administrative and process issues that have been a source of frustration for general aviation pilots for years. *Please see <https://www.aopa.org/news-and-media/all-news/2021/february/18/aopa-faa-medical-leaders-meet> to read more.*

**NIOSH:** The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has partnered with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to fund studies on using co-robots in the workplace. Co-robots have the potential to reduce workload and the risk of infections especially in quarantine and intensive care environments. Researchers at Worcester Polytechnic Institute will develop a more intuitive interface to make it easier for nurses to operate robots from a distance. *For more on this please visit <http://federaltelemedicine.com/?p=9020>.*

**ALPA:** The Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA) recently issued a statement praising the House Committee on Financial Services for supporting an extension of the Payroll Support Program through September 30, 2021. In markup, the Committee proposed a \$14 billion extension of the successful program with important furlough protections that will keep tens of thousands of aviation workers on company payroll and off unemployment as intended by this worker-first program. *For the full statement please see <http://www.alpa.org/news-and-events/news-room/2021-02-11-house-proposes-extension-payroll-protection>.*

## MedAire Launches App for COVID-19 Testing Results

In collaboration with Etihad Airways, the national airline of the United Arab Emirates, MedAire, an International SOS company, has launched an advanced operational pilot program for the digitalization of pre-departure COVID-19 testing using the ICC AOKpass mobile app. Following the success of an initial pilot program for Etihad launched in September 2020 as a world's first for the air travel industry, use of ICC AOKpass is now offered to Etihad passengers flying from Paris Charles de Gaulle to Abu Dhabi. Using the ICC AOKpass app, travelers are able to verify their COVID-19 test results with the airline without breaching the privacy of their personal health data. Under current regulations, travelers arriving in Abu Dhabi are required to obtain a negative PCR test prior to departure, ensuring that 100% of passengers on board are COVID-19 free. They are also tested on arrival in Abu Dhabi, as part of the emirate's ongoing protection against the pandemic. Under the pilot program, Etihad guests are able to securely store their PCR test results digitally on their mobile devices for later verification at the airport. The ICC AOKpass system completes this verification using a global, incorruptible blockchain-based network—ensuring all test results are genuine, valid, and in line with government regulations. This deployment of a working implementation of ICC AOKpass by MedAire is one of several live pilot programs already operating on the ground globally.

—Please see <https://www.medaire.com/about/news-centre/press-release-detail/2021/01/27/medaire-icc-aokpass-launch-live-pilot-for-digitalisation-of-covid-19-test-results-for-etihad-airways> to read more.

## KBR Wins USAF Engineering Task Order

KBR won an engineering task order to support rapid prototyping and fielding of systems for the U.S. Air Force's (USAF's) Tactical Exploitation of National Capabilities (TENCAP) program. TENCAP takes national space capabilities and applies them at the tactical level to support operational requirements. The Air Force awarded the task order through the General Services Administration's Federal Systems Integration and Management Center using the One Acquisition Solution for Integrated Services contract, a multiple award, indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity vehicle for complex, integrated professional services. KBR will assist the USAF in using air, space, and cyber capabilities to rapidly deliver agile, leading-edge technologies and systems for the U.S. military. This new work will include engineering services in support of geolocation tracking; sensor, data fusion, and dissemination; unconventional warfare and special operations; situational awareness; cyber and spectrum warfare operations; air superiority; command, control, and spectrum utilization; and real-time large data analytics and virtualization. The company will carry out these duties in Colorado, United

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States, as well as other locations around the world over the next 5 years. KBR has performed similar tasking for the TEN-CAP program since January 2018.

—Please visit <https://www.kbr.com/en/insights-events/press-release/kbr-expand-advanced-development-capabilities-us-air-force-539m> to read more.

## UTMB and Pfizer Release Studies of COVID-19 Variants

A collaborative team from The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) and Pfizer has shown that the common mutations of SARS-CoV-2 that have appeared in the United Kingdom and South Africa strains of the virus can be neutralized by the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine. The study, using sera from 20 vaccine recipients, was published in *Nature Medicine* in February. The team engineered combinations of mutations found in these circulating variants and tested a panel of human sera obtained 2 or 4 weeks after immunization with two doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine. Each sample was tested for its ability to neutralize the non-mutant strain of SARS-CoV-2 as well as the mutant viruses. The authors found evidence of neutralization of the mutant viruses by the sera panel, with slight variation: neutralization against the E484K (South African) mutation was slightly lower than neutralization against the N501Y (U.K.) mutation. The studies are part of a continuing collaboration between UTMB and Pfizer/BioNTech.

—See <https://www.utmb.edu/newsroom/article13597.aspx> for more.

## Future AsMA Annual Scientific Meetings

Aug. 29-Sept. 2, 2021; Sheraton Denver Downtown, CO  
May 22–26, 2022; Peppermill Resort Hotel, Reno, NV  
May 21–25, 2023; Sheraton New Orleans Hotel, LA  
May 5–9, 2024; Hyatt Regency Chicago, Chicago, IL

## FAA AME Seminars

March 22–26, 2021	Oklahoma City, OK	Basic
May 24–27, 2021	Reno, NV	AsMA
June 21–25, 2021	Oklahoma City, OK	Basic
August 6–8, 2021	Washington, DC	Refresher
To be determined	Denver, CO	Refresher
Sept. 23–25, 2021	San Antonio, TX	CAMA
Oct. 18–22, 2021	Oklahoma City, OK	Basic
Nov. 19–21, 2021	Albuquerque, NM	Refresher

Please check the [FAA website](#) for more information.  
**PLEASE NOTE:** AsMA only takes registrations for the seminar held in conjunction with our annual meeting.

## GLEX 2021 and GLOC 2022

Save the following dates:

#GLEX2021; 14–18 June 2021; St. Petersburg, Russia.

#GLOC2022; 31 May–2 June 2022; Oslo, Norway.

For more information, visit [www.iafastro.org](http://www.iafastro.org).