

PEDIATRIC CRITICAL CARE COUNCIL

**Joint body of the Intensive Care Chapter of the Indian Academy of Pediatrics and
the Pediatric Section of the Indian Society of Critical Care Medicine**

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The Indian Academy of Pediatrics is the apex body for Pediatricians in India. Under it, we formed the Intensive Care Chapter about ten years ago. From a core group of about 10 pediatric intensivists, its membership has grown to about 600. About 10% are intensivists and the rest are generalists who also take care of critically ill children and wish to learn how to do this better. The private sector delivers the majority of health care in India and most of this is done by individual practitioners who have hospitals that vary from a bed sizes of 10 to 60 beds. Tertiary care remains largely confined to the major cities. Although increasing, there is very little insurance cover for most Indian children. The chapter activities revolve around local CMEs, a National annual conference and workshops that aim at the rural or small town pediatrician with limited resources but who still has to deal with sick children, usually alone.

In addition, we have started an academic council that aims to standardize the teaching of pediatric critical care to young pediatric graduates, so that they may be better equipped to handle critically ill children when they start practice. This is currently a one year fellowship program at 9 recognized institutions in the country and there is an exit examination. We hope to upgrade this to a two year more advanced course in the future. This year the conference will be in the very pleasant city of Bangalore. If the Federation could sponsor a speaker, it would be highly appreciated by all of us.

The Indian Society of Critical Care Medicine (ISCCM), has a Pediatric section which is active in the activities of that body. Here, the deliberations of a more advanced nature and the faculty more international.

Pediatric Critical Care is the fastest growing sub specialty in India. We hope to be able to convince Universities and teaching institutions to include it as a necessary part of a Pediatrician's training. Any help and advice from members who have faced similar situations in their countries would be welcome to us.

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