

## **DiMiMED 2018**

During the medical exhibition MEDICA in the Messe Dusseldorf the 6th conference on Disaster and Military Medicine (DiMiMed) was held. The conference took place at 13 and 14 November 2018. This year there were around 200 participants from 28 different nations. The majority of participants were military, but also significant numbers of civilian participants were welcomed.

The conference was chaired by Brigadier General (ret) Rob van der Meer, MD and Major General (ret) dr. Kishore JB Rana. The organisation of the conference was, as always, supported by BETA Publications and was made possible with the support of Messe Dusseldorf.

The conference was opened with a welcome address of the new Managing Director of Messe Dusseldorf, Mr. Wolfram N. Diener, who gave a firm statement of the importance of military and disaster medicine and the development of these professional activities by conferences like this. After a welcome address of both scientific chairmen the opening speech was given by Brigadier General Bruno Most on behalf of the German Surgeon General. The keynote lecture was delivered by the Belgian Surgeon General, Major General Geert Laire, MD, who gave an overview of current challenges and his view of future developments in military and disaster medicine. This lecture was very well received by the audience and gave rise to many discussions afterwards.

The further conference consisted of 36 presentations in the following themes:

- Disaster Medicine
- Traumatology
- Use of simulation in training for Emergency Surgery
- CBRN
- Mental Health
- Infectious diseases

Further detailed information can be found in the program. During a number of sessions specialists were moderating the conference and the scientific committee wishes to express their gratitude to Colonel Dominique Mayer, Colonel Prof. Dr. Kai Kehe, Colonel Prof. Dr. Eric Vermetten and Colonel Dr. Benjamin Queyriaux.

This year 5 poster presentations were exhibited.

A prize was given to the best poster and this was given to Mr. Patric Muschner.

The conference was concluded by BG van der Meer with gratitude and farewell to his co-chairman and a word of welcome to the incoming co-chairman, Colonel Gerald Kerr, MD.