

Interview

DOI: 10.22114/ajem.v0i0.29

Prof. Abdelouahab Bellou, MD, MSc, PhD
Director of Quality & Safety, Administration &
Leadership, and International Emergency Medicine
Fellowship, Harvard Medical School, USA.



Department of Emergency Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts, USA.

Email: abellou@bidmc.harvard.edu***What is your current position?***

Professor of Therapeutics and Emergency Medicine, Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine, Harvard Medical School, Past-President of the European Society for Emergency Medicine (EuSEM). Department of Emergency Medicine, BIDMC, Boston, USA.

Would you please briefly provide your biography?

Abdelouahab Bellou is a Professor of Therapeutics and Emergency Medicine, University of Rennes, France, Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at Harvard Medical School and Director of the Quality and Safety, Administration and Leadership, International Emergency Medicine Fellowship (QuALIEF) at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, a Teaching Hospital of Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA. Dr Bellou is the president and he was the founder of the Global Network of Emergency Medicine. He was also the co-founder and the former chair of the Section of Geriatric Emergency Medicine of the European Society for Emergency Medicine. Dr. Bellou has been committed to the advancement of emergency medicine for over 20 years. Having served as a former president of the European Society for Emergency Medicine, he has been a leader in the development of international emergency medicine. Dr. Bellou's consulting specialty areas include emergency medicine education, geriatric emergency medicine, ED operations improvement, ED design and layout, and disaster planning. He is an expert on implementing quality assurance and safety programs in the ED. He is also a basic science researcher working on the role of potassium voltage-dependent channels in vasodilatory shock.

In what activities related to emergency medicine are you currently involved?

I'm involved in research and training of Harvard and international students, and a consultant in the division of consulting division of the department. I'm also the scientific director of a start-up developing innovation in EM and an expert consultant for governments that seek implementation of the specialty of EM and EM healthcare systems. I have two research tracks: quality and safety with the development of an international big data research platform, and basic research on vasodilatory shock.

You are the director of Quality & Safety, Administration & Leadership, and International Emergency Medicine Fellowship. Would you please tell us what are the exact objectives of this fellowship? In detail, what could this fellowship add to the current knowledge of an emergency medicine specialist?

Quality and safety is the cornerstone of the healthcare system and it is very important to develop it in the emergency department. We will need experts in this field to improve the quality of care in the ED. Quality & Safety, Administration & Leadership, and International Emergency Medicine Fellowship's (QuALIEF) goal is to enable fellows to master quality and safety, administration, leadership, and business management with a specific and clear focus on emergency medicine care. We aim to train physicians and professionals involved in emergency medicine health delivery in the administrative and academic aspects of each of these areas in order to prepare them for leadership roles in education, health care delivery, and quality assurance in emergency care settings. We endeavor to promote the next generation of emergency medicine leaders in safe and effective care delivery in their home countries. The fellowship will prepare trainees for a future role as an emergency medicine healthcare executive by

providing a foundation in the administrative, business, operational, quality and risk management aspects of emergency medicine.

What types of fellowship options/length are available?

• Fellowship Program (two years)

Two steps are required; Step 1: Candidates will spend the first year in the department of Emergency Medicine at BIDMC affiliated to Harvard Medical School (HMS). They will learn the basics of Quality and Safety. Fellows will be expected to participate in didactic meetings as determined by the individual and fellowship director. As appropriate, Fellows will spend some time in the emergency department observing ED, EMS operations, and in the hospital healthcare quality department. During this first year, the Fellow will be registered for the Certification Board for Professionals in Patient Safety (CBPPS) delivered by the National Patient Safety Foundation. The Fellow will work on a research project with the goal to publish at least one paper in a peer review journal. Step 2: Most of the second year is devoted to the course on clinical effectiveness and healthcare management science, which is given at the Harvard School of Public Health (HSPH). Candidates will graduate after accomplishing step 1 and step 2 by obtaining a Master in Public Health (MPH) granted by the HSPH.

• Fellowship Program (one year)

Candidates who will not apply for a MPH will spend their one year-fellowship in the emergency department. During the year, the Fellow will be registered for the Certification Board for Professionals in Patient Safety (CBPPS) administered by the National Patient Safety Foundation and will work on a research project with the goal to publish at least one paper in a peer-reviewed journal.

• Fellowship Research Program (one year)

Candidates can choose to spend their one-year focus on research on Quality & Safety, Administration & Leadership, or International Emergency Medicine. During the year, the Fellow will be registered for the Certification Board for Professionals in Patient Safety (CBPPS) delivered by the National Patient Safety Foundation and the Fellow will master Research and Quality and Safety databases. The Fellow will work on a research project with the goal to publish at least one paper in a peer review journal.

How could you help the EM physicians who seek for a fellowship position?

Candidates can contact me or my assistant via bellou@bidmc.harvard.edu. Registration starts in December to begin the following September. The website (<http://www.bidmc.org>) is under construction.