

The Road Taken...

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With this issue of *Prehospital and Disaster Medicine* (PDM), we mark a turning point in the 11 year history of our journal: we say farewell to our long-time partnership with the National Association of Emergency Medical Services Physicians (NAEMSP). NAEMSP joined with the World Association (WADEM) in publishing PDM more than seven years ago. Our two societies have shared not only in the growth of the journal's circulation, but also, by virtue of the types of manuscripts we have published, in the very definition of the science of prehospital and disaster medicine. Now, with the concluding issue of Volume 11, NAEMSP will venture forth to publish its own journal, geared more to the EMS community of the United States. We know, from our own experiences with the evolution of PDM, the journey will be a challenging and an exciting one. While WADEM will continue to publish PDM under the editorial guidance of Marvin Birnbaum, we understand NAEMSP's desire to embark on a new road. Failure to take the turn at this fork in the road might leave NAEMSP in the same dilemma as the questioning traveler in the Robert Frost poem, forever wondering about "the road not taken." We at WADEM wish them every success.

PDM will continue its mission to bring EMS and disaster sciences to the worldwide community. WADEM is an international society, and our PDM readership spans over 40 countries. Our goal is to continue to publish manuscripts which maintain a broad perspective of basic science, clinical research, educational strategies, and qualitative disaster research from around the world. Over the years, you have read reports from your colleagues in Asia, Europe, Australia, Central and South America, the Middle East, and many other

regions of the globe. Many of these manuscripts were painstakingly edited, and in some cases the English thoughtfully rewritten by our editor-in-chief. Marv Birnbaum who approached this task not as a chore, but rather with the genuine love that a master teacher has for his topic material and for his students. Knowing that these manuscripts were important contributions to the very definition of disaster research, he wanted to help authors present meaningful scientific work in the clearest possible way. He believed that he owed this to the PDM subscribers, and perhaps more important, to the authors themselves. He continues to believe that this is his obligation as editor of our journal.

So, as we must continue on past this fork in PDM's publication road, we at WADEM say farewell and extend best wishes to our colleagues at NAEMSP. We also are grateful for the unwavering and tireless leadership of Marvin Birnbaum as our editor-in-chief. We are fortunate that he has elected to stay with us, as WADEM and PDM strive to link EMS and disaster science colleagues from around the globe.