Presentation Title:
Medical Response to the Special Olympics World Games, Los Angeles 2015

Objectives:

1. Identify costs and considerations for healthcare organizations before participating in a large athletic event.

2. Review key partnerships and alliances necessary to provide healthcare to a diverse population group.

3. Identify tracking variables necessary to provide daily care and support to athletes, coaches, delegates and volunteers over a two week period.

Abstract:
This presentation will provide an overview of how medical and response planning was achieved for a large, international athletic venue. Attendees will learn the necessary steps and challenges associated with supporting community medical events including addressing language barriers and athletes with special needs. Attendees will also learn how a command center network was implemented to support daily reporting and address critical issues throughout a multi-day event.

Description:
Providing medical care to 6,500 Special Olympics athletes and 2,000 coaches from 165 countries over a two week period required over a year of planning for one health care system. This presentation will discuss the planning, response and recovery components of managing over 5,000 patient encounters with language and communication barriers at multiple athletic and housing venues. Included will be discussion regarding medical screening at international arrivals, care provided during the Games, coordination within a Unified Command System and impacts on local Public Health and Emergency Medical Services (EMS).

Will Materials be provided? No

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Will the Primary Contact also be a speaker? Yes

Additional Speaker:
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Have you presented this topic at any other conference or meeting? Yes

When and where?