The NSHQ is the primary point of development, direction and coordination for all NATO Special Operations-related activities in order to optimise employment of Special Operations Forces, to include providing an operational command capability when directed by the SACEUR.

The NATO SOF Medicine Development Initiative (NSMDI) is a compilation of Special Operations medical educational offerings designed to improve nation’s SOF medical systems which will save lives and improve mission success. The desired end-state of all NSMDI endeavors is to enable National SOF Medical System growth and development.

The current home of NSMDI is the NATO SOF Allied Centre for Medical Education (ACME) where all future medical courses, simulation and research efforts will take place. This facility is located at SHAPE, Belgium and opened in October 2013.

To register for a course, please go to http://www.nshq.nato.int/SOMB and register through the 12 month calendar link.

All courses are registered for online using a secure login portal at the above website.
Objective:
The objective of the Advanced Special Operations Medical Leader’s Course (ASOMLC) is to provide students with an understanding of how to evaluate their nation’s existing medical system to determine if it presently delivers the capabilities their SOF require. Additionally, students will comprehend what is required to improve their nation’s medical system.

There is significant variability seen in NATO SOF medical support across the NATO Alliance. Some nations have very robust SOF medical systems, while others have systems which are much less mature. Students will explore and evaluate the requirements of a medical system to see why there are differences from their conventional military medical system.

Description:
The Advanced Special Operations Medical Leader’s Course is a highly interactive 5-day course that evaluates the SOF medical system to ensure it fully supports the SOF Commander’s objectives. The course requires students to analyse and brief varying concepts that support and develop a national SOF medical system as it is divided into eight separate pillars. Student takeaways are exposure to other NATO SOF medical systems and national medical capabilities (in an unclassified setting), an understanding of NSHQ evaluation parameters and thus being interoperable with NATO SOF standards, and the tools to maximize and improve a nation’s SOF medical system.

This course is available in residence at the NSHQ SOF Allied Centre for Medical Education at SHAPE, Belgium. The residence course is designed for special operations or conventional medical personnel who are either permanently assigned or are in a habitual, direct support role to SOF units.

All students attending this course need to be comfortable speaking English in and in front of a group of fellow military service members. Additionally, basic skills in Microsoft Office products is highly recommended.

Feel free to contact us via email at SOMB@nshq.nato.int.