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 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 Special Operations Forces (SOF) Medical Engagement and Partnering Course (SMEPC) is to enable medical personnel in direct and indirect support of SOF to create medical operations and campaign plans to augment the SOF Commander’s overall military assistance mission objectives.

Description:
The SOF Medical Engagement and Partnering Course is a 5-day course that introduces students to the basic concepts of creating and executing medical plans supporting military assistance missions. Military partnering operations and engagements of host nation civil infrastructure are fundamental missions for NATO Special Operations Forces conducting military assistance operations. Medical Advisors (MEDADs) are frequently called upon to support partnering operations and execute medical engagements of host nation systems. This course is designed to assist NATO SOF medical personnel in preparing, planning and executing these complex military assistance operations critical to current and future combat operations.

This curriculum is designed to be a highly interactive and participatory course, requiring students to develop and brief medical operations plans for both medical seminars and medical partnership programs using scenario-based role playing and active adult learning principles.

At course completion, students should be able to create and execute the medical annex of a SOF military assistance campaign plan. To assist in this endeavor, students will leave the course with a SOF Medical Engagement and Partnering Toolkit, which will be comprised of an exportable curriculum that can be used by a SOF element to plan medical seminars and conduct medical partnership training.

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 and 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.