

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS
SIGMA XI SOCIETY and DEPARTMENT of PHYSICS
COLLOQUIUM

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Wednesday, March 5, 2008; 4:00-5:00 PM
Room: ECSS 2.312

Treatment of Burn Victims using Lasers

Professor Ahamed Idris

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Burn injuries are a significant problem for the US Army and civilians. Ten percent of combat casualties suffer burn injury. Recent studies show that early and complete debridement (removal of unhealthy tissue) prevent the burn wound from becoming deeper, reduce release of proinflammatory mediators, and reduce or prevent the systemic inflammatory reaction syndrome. Recently, an ultra-short pulse (USP) laser has been developed that is small enough for use in a surgical setting. The USP laser ablates tissue through photoionization without producing heat or tissue coagulation and ablates with micron level control. These unique properties are being exploited to control burn wound debridement and could have a role in the treatment of mass casualties, both military and civilian.

About the speaker: Dr. Ahamed H. Idris is Professor of Surgery and Medicine at UT Southwestern Medical Center. He received his BS degree in biology from Northwestern University and MD from Rush Medical College in Chicago. In addition to his position at UT Southwestern, Dr. Idris is Director of Dallas-Fort Worth Center for Resuscitation Research, he also serves as a Medical Consultant for NASA and a member of several federal-level steering committees. He is a Fellow of American College of Emergency Physicians, of American Heart Association and of Critical Care & Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Council. In 1967-1971 he served in U.S. Army Medical Corp for which he was honored with Bronze Star Medal. Professor Idris published more than 150 peer-reviewed articles.