

PictoSho

A Visual Symbol Communicator



The idea for *PictoSho* was generated through a conversation with Tim Bodnarchuk, a Para-Medic with MD Ambulance, at a Pictogram Symbols Booth at a Convention in Saskatoon in 2001. Tim felt that Pictogram Symbols would be an ideal medium to communicate and obtain pertinent information when the patient was unable to speak and that this information could be vital for treatment and outcome.

Over the next few months a prototype was prepared for review and after many suggestions and changes the final copy was ready for printing. Copies were placed in MD Ambulances in the Fall of 2001.

In a News Release on December 21, 2001, Tim Hillier, paramedic and Education Director for MD Ambulance stated that *PictoSho* "Helps patients who are unable to communicate verbally to maintain a sense of control in their treatment and to be involved in their own assessment. Since we know (that) anxiety plays a key role in patient outcome, the *PictoSho* book is one more way to help alleviate stress."

The books were re-printed in the Winter of 2009 and are now used in two Health Regions in Saskatchewan – the Saskatoon and Heartland Health Regions.

SUBHAS C. MAHARAJ

In 1976 Subhas embarked on the design and development of the Pictogram Program - a visual strategy of communication for nonverbal individuals.

The program has gained international acceptance over the years and in its basic and applied forms continues to be a significant communication strategy for nonverbal individuals in many parts of the world.

Since the publication of the Pictogram Program in 1980, Subhas had donated his royalties to PICTOCOM INTERNATIONAL and the countries translating Pictogram Material with the understanding that the royalties due to the author are used to develop new Pictogram Materials or the Organization of Educational Forums for Parents & Professionals.

For more information on Pictogram Symbols visit: www.pictoworld.com

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