

# FPHC Newsletter

Welcome to the Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care newsletter. We hope you enjoy it. Please get in touch if you have ideas, content, reports or simply want to be involved: [fphc@rcsed.ac.uk](mailto:fphc@rcsed.ac.uk)

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# Non-Healthcare & Multi-Agency opportunities for CPD in pre-hospital care

Over recent years there has been an exciting and rapid evolution of pre-hospital care within the UK with many interventions and procedures that would once have been considered heresy now commonplace in an ever evolving network of enhanced care teams (both land and helicopter based), Immediate Care Practitioners and a growing portfolio of paramedic delivered extended skills. These developments undoubtedly benefit patients, and it is important that we continue to push the boundaries of our practice while engaging in robust governance and research of these areas.

It is also important to remember that pre-hospital care extends beyond the realms of critical care teams and we must ensure that the wider pre-hospital community including non-health care professionals and health care professional students continue to remain encouraged, motivated and have access to relevant continuing professional development to further their practice, develop as future pre-hospital practitioners and to improve multi-agency working all with a view of improving patient outcome.

With this in mind, the Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care is supporting the delivery of CPD to non-health care professional and student groups and is looking to its network of regional groups to support the delivery of this.

The Yorkshire Regional Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care (YRFPHC) Group, like many of its peers, has been particularly active over recent years delivering a programme of CPD events to go alongside many other opportunities within the region for training and experience. The formal YRFPHC programme consists of quarterly CPD evenings which rotate around the region with events in Malton (North Yorkshire), Hull (East Yorkshire), Sheffield (South Yorkshire) and Leeds (West Yorkshire).



These CPD evenings cover a variety of topics and are aimed at a wide variety of pre-hospital practitioners, with Critical Care Team members, Immediate Care Responders, Paramedics, Mountain, Cave and Mine Rescue team members, Fire and Rescue Service casualty carers, TACMED police, Community First Responders and medical and paramedic students as examples in attendance.

As well as the main CPD topic, which may be lecture based or practical training, the group has also established a non-health care professional CPD event prior to the main topic and this is open to anybody who feels it may be relevant but it is particularly aimed at non-health care professional responders and health care students.



overturned cars in a ditch as well as scenarios in the confined space training tunnel system.....Planning is already underway for this year's event.

The CPD weekend event will see the Myles Gibson Award being presented for the second time, as well as the region's inaugural poster competition which is open to anybody with an interest in pre-hospital care. Nominations for the award and applications for the poster competition will be welcomed in due course.

It is hoped that this programme of YRFPHC CPD events, in combination with other activities in the region will provide a broad programme of opportunities for the whole breadth of the Yorkshire pre-hospital community.

With a network of FPHC regional groups across the country, it is hoped that any pre-hospital responder will have access to appropriate CPD and individuals and groups are encouraged to make contact with their regional group chair (details are available on the FPHC website) to access these events.

### **Andy Pountney**

Regional representative Yorkshire, Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care



The West Yorkshire event takes the form of a two day CPD training session with the first day comprising mainly lectures and workshops while the second day comprises a full day of scenarios. The attendees are allocated to small groups and rotate around the scenarios with details being adapted by the senior instructors so that they group will be pushed but not overawed! This weekend is held at the West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue training facility and to date scenarios have included triage exercises on a crashed train and double decker bus, a crashed minibus full of school children, casualties trapped under a train and in

# A message from the FPHC Regional Groups Chair

The Yorkshire Regional Group, driven by Andy and his team, is an exemplar of the regional group model.

As evidenced by Andy's article above, they demonstrate fantastic engagement with emergency services colleagues, along with many other agencies, responders and students. Formally incorporating non-healthcare professionals into the regional groups will facilitate this vital link and further promote the aims of the Faculty of Pre-hospital Care in providing training that improves multi-agency working and patient outcome.

Other regions provide similar opportunities and events and we are keen to encourage all to share them via the regional groups' webpages and FPHC social media. Often there is a huge amount going on that we simply do not capture and share – and for those groups still finding your feet, a good place to start is with local fire services – they regularly undertake extrication and rescue training and love having the opportunity to have the medical side of this happening concurrently to improve the reality of the situation and share the learning.

We are working on improving the FPHC Regional Groups' webpages and trying to provide some of the local links. New teams are evolving in the North-East, South-East and Northern Ireland so keep an eye out for events there and contact your local regional representatives via the details on their page. Plenty of opportunities for students too with the links to the student representatives on each page.

Plenty of room for everyone – get in touch and get involved!

**Pam Hardy**

Co-Vice Chair and Regional Co-ordinator, Faculty of Pre-hospital Care



# Student Wilderness Medicine UK Conference 2018



## *'A weekend's report'*

Every year, a different University takes up the mantle of hosting the Student Wilderness Medicine UK Conference to deliver a weekend of exposure in outdoor medicine to healthcare personnel and this year Liverpool Wilderness Medicine society took the reins. It was born from the SWMUK network – a greater collection of students interested in Wilderness medicine – in the hopes of making it more accessible to all, with many wilderness courses being above student budget. The three-day long conference unifies students and young professionals through talks and workshops delivered by experts in fields such as humanitarian relief and expedition medicine and brings them together to forge networks through a variety of other activities allowing socialisation within the host campsite. The Faculty of Pre-hospital Care has long supported this event and has been crucial in opening the door for many students in uncovering what early-stage opportunities and resources are available to guide their future careers in the field.

This year, Tyn-Yr-Onnen campsite in Caernarfon, North Wales, welcomed 210 delegates from the UK and overseas for three days of talks and scenarios and two nights of camping in the great outdoors. The conference, situated at the foot of several picturesque Snowdonian peaks, was held there three years ago when Liverpool first had the chance to put their own stamp on SWMUK, making it an ideal venue, but this year the addition of Storm Callum tested everyone's mettle. With fluctuating power, 60mph winds and horizontal rain, an impromptu decision to ban camping and turn the site's many barns into communal sleeping areas was made, which saw delegates decorating areas of the barn with their own fairy lights and society banners, added an unexpected cosiness to the conference.

Despite the weather, an attitude of perseverance prevailed, and adaptations were quickly made to outdoor components of the weekend so that everyone could make the most of the plethora of workshops available. Amongst the options were a mass casualty simulation run by Liverpool alumni, improvisational skills workshops delivered by a collaboration of practitioners from Virginia and anecdotal talks from speakers who had found themselves in all manner of tricky situations. In keeping with SWMUK tradition, a Ceilidh band came along on the Saturday night to keep everyone, speakers and delegates alike, in good spirits whilst the elements raged on.

After tough nights of Ceilidh-ing and camping out on the barns' haybales, delegates were invited to partake in morning yoga before the days' events commenced. Throughout the morning, the dedicated committee worked away at organising breakfast and lunchtime catering to keep the day flowing and delegates fed. Speakers and representatives from the contributing organisations, like Plas-Y-Brenin and R2Ri, were encouraged to mingle with delegates and attend other aspects of the conference so as to be involved themselves.

The clouds finally cleared on the Sunday, allowing everyone at SWMUK to make the most of the campsite's plentiful outdoor spaces. As the weather had halted any prospects of a bonfire for the previous two nights, a doubly-roaring one was lit on the Sunday afternoon whilst the annual SWMUK AGM took place. Later in the afternoon, Kevin Johnston delivered a closing talk on behalf of the Faculty and exhausted delegates set off on long routes home away from the captivating environment of North Wales – some of them to catch flights!

As the organising body for this year's SWMUK conference, we at Liverpool Wilderness could not have been more delighted by the turnout and attitude from all, despite us having to put every possible contingency plan in place due to the weather. Everywhere we looked, people were helping rescue stray tents or lending out warm layers and there was a real sense of camaraderie. Six months of planning whilst balancing studying and other commitments with executing an international event felt at times daunting and overwhelming, but the response from those attending carried us through the weekend and made it wholeheartedly rewarding. Hats off to whichever University takes it on in 2019!

**Victoria Simpson**

President, Liverpool Wilderness Medicine Society

# International Student Elective— 8 Weeks in Australia



In October 2018 I set off for South Australia for my 8 week elective. I spent 6 weeks in Adelaide, the state capital, followed by 2 weeks on Kangaroo Island, a small island off the Fleurieu peninsula on which Adelaide sits. A varied and exciting elective awaited!

Whilst in Adelaide, I spent three and a half weeks with the trauma service at the Royal Adelaide Hospital. The Royal Adelaide serves as one of the major trauma centres for the central portion of Australia, dealing with mostly adult trauma, with paediatric patients going to the other major hospitals in Adelaide. Here I observed the management and follow-up of trauma patients with the dedicated trauma service. These varied in severity, from critically ill trauma patients to relatively simple cases. I managed to get stuck in with hands-on tasks, practising suturing and applying plaster casts, as well as observing team dynamics in the management of polytrauma in the resus department. The trauma service also follows up on all trauma patients by conducting tertiary surveys a few days after admission. I felt this continuity was excellent in ensuring no injuries were missed, and also rewarding and very interesting to see how these patients were doing and progressing with their recovery. Whilst at the Royal Adelaide I also conducted a small audit on the use of ketamine-fentanyl combination pre-filled syringes in the emergency department.







I spent the following two weeks with South Australia's retrieval service, MedSTAR. MedSTAR operates state-wide and also conducts interstate transfers via road, helicopter and fixed-wing aircraft. I was lucky enough to experience all modes of transport in a range of cases, including paediatric transfers with MedSTARs specialist paediatric team. It was fascinating observing the sheer logistics of retrieval and patient transfer, and the management of acutely ill patients on the move. Highlights of my experience of MedSTAR would certainly include

seeing beautiful South Australia from the sky during sunset on a chartered jet back from Melbourne, and catching a glimpse of the Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge on the way back to Adelaide after transferring a patient interstate.

My final two weeks in Australia were spent on Kangaroo Island with a rural GP and anaesthetist, discussing the realities of managing acutely unwell patients and trauma in a truly remote and rural setting. I spent my time here honing techniques such as jaw thrusts and managing sedated patients, as well as exploring this pristine island and experiencing its wildlife and stunning natural beauty.

I would like to thank the Faculty for their support and generous bursary, which I was thrilled to put towards my elective and research project.

**Jenny Forteath**

Final Year Medical Student, University of Aberdeen





# Firearm Police Medical Response 2017



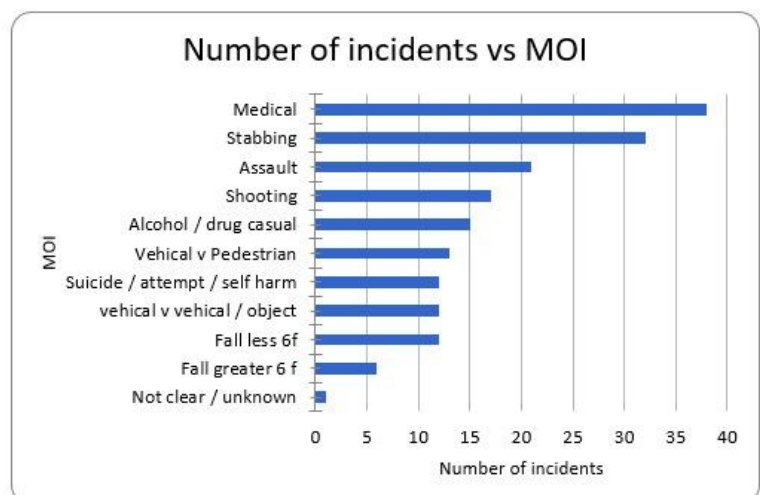
Firearms Police officers undergo an extensive training programme in line with the national firearms curriculum; this includes the medical module referred to as D13. This sets out the national medical course for firearms officers; it was introduced, with guidance from the FPHC, in 2010.

First audited in 2016 (FL Hartley, 2017), this re-audit looks at Patient Report Forms (PRFs) from two large metropolitan police forces in the subsequent twelve months to examine whether the course meets the demands of the role.

2017 saw the highest number of offences involving a knife or sharp instrument since 2011 and an 11% increase in firearm offences (National Office for Statistics, 2018). Since 2010, eight terror related attacks have taken place. The police are often the first on scene, and the demand is on officers to provide urgent lifesaving treatment in highly challenging environments.

152 PRFs were analysed with officers facing with a wide range of incidents

Figure 1: Number of Incidents of each Mechanism of Injury



a wide range of incidents

(Figure 1). Some extremely challenging incidents were dealt with and examples of excellent care predominate. In particular three terror incidents and multiple casualty calls were attended; exceptional examples of triage and decision making, with prompt effective care in high pressure environments, were illustrated.

## Key learning points

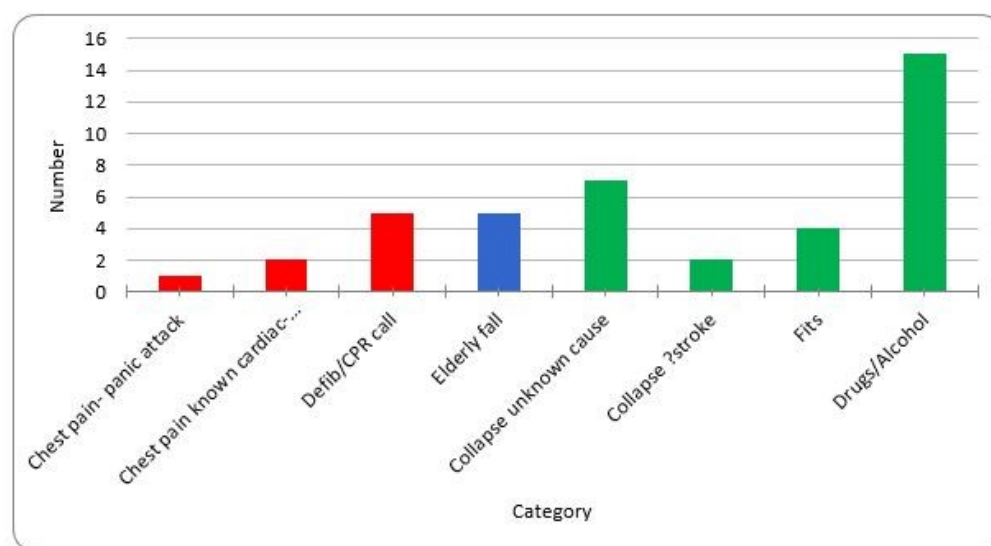
### 1. Recognition of high-risk MOI

There were 68 cases identified in which consideration of C-Spine injuries would be indicated. However, in only 22 of these were identified by the officer, with only 9 receiving MILS. In 50% of cases where MOI was suggestive of pelvic injury, there was no evidence of a pelvic binder having been considered or used.

### 2. Medical cases

Medical cases were broadly defined to include nearly all non-traumatic events (Figure 2). The focus of the D13 course is often teaching on injuries caused by assaults. While this forms the single biggest category, this audit highlights the broad range of incidents officers will need to be equipped to deal with.

Figure 2: Medical Incidents attended



Excellent care is exemplified in the case of a young teen; both effective lifesaving care and admirable clinical judgement were applied. The patient had received a single stab wound to thigh and was likely peri-arrest at time of officers' arrival due to massive blood loss. A tourniquet was correctly applied by the officers with key signs of deterioration spotted leading to a rapid transfer to hospital in the police vehicle. The patient received immediate surgery and after four days in hospital had made a full recovery.

Currently each police force uses different PRF forms. A new generic PRF is in development, this aims to ensure uniform data collection, and allow forces to learn from one another through compilation of a national database. This ultimately will improve training, allowing officers experiences to inform the curriculum.

**Dr Fiona Hartley** MBChB

**Dr Philippa Serebriakoff** MBBS BSc

(A full report of this study is available on the [FPHC website](#))



# FPHC Message Board

## Survey report

The Paramedic & Nurses Group posted two surveys to members and non-members in October 2018, to understand what would attract non-members to the Faculty and to better defend the interests of current members. The large number of replies from both groups helped us identify common areas for improvement such as: help with diploma preparation (educational opportunities, CPD), focus on wider workforce, access to portfolio, signposting, communication strategy linked to regional groups. Other topics for wider discussion include: standard setting, development advanced practice, career progression and collaboration with the College of Paramedics.

## Research

We are always on the lookout for short pieces of original research to use for peer review and potential publication. This contributes to our work in maintaining quality standards, improving performance and providing credibility in the field of pre-hospital care.

If you have material relevant to the practice of pre-hospital care that you think would be of interest to fellow members please let us know: [fphc@rcsed.ac.uk](mailto:fphc@rcsed.ac.uk).

## FPHC Foundation Material

The FPHC Generic Core Manual is currently being reviewed to include new evidence and information and is in its final review stage before sign-off. It will now be known as 'Foundation Material' and it will be available for purchase (hard copy and online). The eBook platform will be updated for current members so they will be able to access the new document for free using the code sent previously. If you are not a member yet, visit our website and fill in the [online application form](#)!

## Exciting opportunity

Students with an interest in pre-hospital emergency medicine can now become involved in the DIMC and FIMC examinations. The Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care and uPHEM Glasgow have created the initiative alongside Scottish Universities to allow students a unique insight into these examinations by acting as expert patients. There are also prospects to attend an evening teaching session delivered by experts in the field, meet other pre-hospital healthcare professionals and like-minded students.

For further information, please e-mail [FPHCStudentsScotland@rcsed.net](mailto:FPHCStudentsScotland@rcsed.net)

# Editorial

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## **Next issue:** July 2019

Editorial articles must be supplied as Word document (500 words max.).

Images must be supplied in high resolution (300 dpi) preferably as JPG and with full credits when applicable.

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