

July 2009

BASICS

The British Association for Immediate Care
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FROM THE CHAIRMAN

In the past few months the Association has launched its new website. The new site is fully interactive and contains many more opportunities for our members to inform the Association about their activities as well as update their professional knowledge with our e-learning pages in the Members area. The website now offers a live Identity Check (ID) facility, allowing for on-line checking of a member's status. Access to this information can only be gained by presenting the member's surname, date of birth and their membership number. The Association can now provide real-time validation of the professional status of individuals, including a photograph, as part of its clinical governance programme. As this is live information I would ask every member to enter the website and to check their own details. It is important that our information is correct and up-to-date if this system is to retain validity.

Along similar lines I would ask that members are accurate when they complete their membership and accreditation forms. The Association relies on the presentation of clear and precise information when setting the level of membership and this is even more important when applying for BASICS accreditation.

This newsletter is accompanied by a registration form for our 2009 National Conference on the 23rd and 24th October. This year we have moved to a new venue, Wyboston Lakes Conference Centre, Bedfordshire (next to the A1 at the A428, the Cambridge exit). We have also changed the format for the Conference in response to our members' comments. The 2009 Conference will be a two-day event, Friday and Saturday, and the programme committee has put together a challenging interactive programme dealing with current topics and events and as always the Conference will host a full Trade Exhibition. The Haywood Memorial Lecture will be given by Dr Fiona Moore on Friday afternoon followed by the Annual General Meeting and the Annual Dinner. The BASICS Laerdal Award for 2009 will be awarded to Dr John Scott during the Dinner. I do hope that you will complete the registration form and come and join us this year and support this important annual event.

David Zideman

FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

We are at that time of year when we invite nominations for the Executive Council of BASICS. Details of the nomination process are set out below and full members of the Association are invited to stand for election. The elected members of the Executive Council are trustees of the Association and as such carry certain legal responsibilities. Those wishing to stand for election will be provided with a copy of the Charity Commission summary of the responsibilities of trustees and will be required to sign to confirm that they understand these duties and will be willing to comply with them if elected. Amongst the key responsibilities listed are:

- The duty to act in the charity's interests only and without regard to one's own private interests.
- The duty to manage the charity's affairs prudently and to take the long term view as well as a short term view.

These highlight the importance of electing committed members to the Executive Council who are able and willing to serve the Association to the best of their abilities with a clear commitment to working only in the best interests of the Association.

Meetings of the Executive Council are usually held on two Saturdays in the year, in London or Birmingham, and a third meeting is held immediately before or during our annual conference. Sometimes it might be necessary to call an extra meeting. As well as attending meetings trustees are expected to support some particular aspect of the Association's work, for example sitting on a committee or working party.

If you are interested in standing for election or would like to nominate someone you know please contact us at headquarters for the appropriate documentation. The closing date for nominations is Monday 10th August.

There will be vacancies on the Executive Council for the period 2009 to 2012. Nominations are therefore invited from full members who are medical practitioners to be considered for election. Such nominations, on the appropriate form, available from Headquarters, should bear the signatures of a proposer and a seconder (both full members) as well as the written consent of the nominee. A statement of the

candidate's experience and views, not exceeding 200 words excluding dates, with recognised abbreviations counting as one word, may be enclosed with the nomination for inclusion in the voting papers. The nomination forms should be returned to Headquarters by Monday 10th August.

Members are also reminded that any proposed amendments to the Constitution should be proposed and seconded by two full members and forwarded to Headquarters by Monday 10th August.

BASICS always strives to keep running costs as low as possible, and we also endeavour to work in as environmentally friendly a way as possible. We are therefore posting this year's annual report on-line. Members will be sent a link to enable them to access the report quickly and easily. However, if this presents a problems for any member please contact the office and we can forward a paper copy.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 32nd. Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at The Willow Conference Centre, Wyboston Lakes, Bedfordshire on Friday 23rd October 2009 at 1800 hours.

The agenda will be as follows

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 31st Annual General Meeting held on 27th September 2008
3. Matters arising
4. Chairman's report
5. Annual report 2008/2009
6. Statement of accounts for the year ending 31st March 2009
7. Appointment of Auditors
8. Appointment of Officers 2009/2012
9. Election of Trustees 2009/2012
10. Annual subscriptions 2010/2011
11. Appointment of Scrutineers 2010

Ruth Lloyd

THE CONFERENCE

This year's conference will comprise a number of exciting and interesting sessions with keynote speakers within their fields showcasing new developments and their implications for our future practice. Amongst others, the newly appointed National Director for Trauma Care, Prof Keith Willett will deliver an address on how care for the critically injured is likely to evolve in the future. Interactive and informative sessions will cover important updates to practice as well reviewing those skills which we may use more infrequently. The working party look forward to welcoming you to conference this year.

Dominik Krzanicki
Conference WP Chairman

USE OF EMERGENCY VEHICLE LIGHTS AND MARKING

The identification of an Immediate Care Providers vehicle has been a constant source of enquiries to BASICS over the years. Not only has the question of using blues and two's been continually revisited but now the questions include the use of battenburg reflective markings.

As the law currently stands, Medical Practitioners can identify their vehicle with a green flashing beacon. This gives absolutely no rights under the Road Traffic Acts whatsoever.

The rights of emergency service vehicles relate to their use of the blue light. The blue light is restricted to specific vehicles stated within the Act. Authorized use of the blue light gives specified exemptions from the Road Traffic Acts. The clause that may be considered to give potential for Immediate Care Practitioners the right to use blue lights is that vehicles used for "Ambulance purposes" are mentioned. The blue lights are therefore potentially legal if the Ambulance Service directly tasks the vehicle to attend an incident. Separate guidance however requires all drivers of Blue light vehicles to have completed an approved course of instruction in blue light (response) driving. BASICS has had a position paper (available on the website) for some time and does not believe this currently needs to be changed.

The situation for battenburg markings is somewhat similar. Currently the Road Vehicle Lighting Regulations make it illegal for ANY vehicle to carry battenburg but the Government has issued specific exemptions to the Emergency Services. There has been a discussion document about changes to the Regulations and we are currently awaiting the results of those consultations. If you are recognized as acting for ambulance purposes by your local Ambulance Service then you are probably able to use the markings. However, if the relationship with your Ambulance Service is not a strong one then you could find yourself in completely untenable position.

Some police forces may request that 'blue' lights should be removed or covered when not in use (for example when taking the family around, or if a partner is driving the car) – this is often not enforced but many have recommended the use of lights that do not show a colour until activated. The same could be applied to battenburg – i.e. remove when not an emergency vehicle!

The security services have concerns that vehicles marked with blue lights and battenburg could be used as a Trojan horse in future incidents of either criminal or terrorist nature. If your vehicle is like this then it is essential that your garage realizes it must be kept locked and secure when mechanics are not actually working on it. In a similar vein it may well be worth considering a Thatcham-approved vehicle location system to identify the vehicles whereabouts in the event that it is stolen.

The use of emergency vehicle lights and markings is not a right but a privilege that entails considerable responsibilities. BASICS members who do not honour those responsibilities may face sanctions by the Association as well as by the law.

THE PRE HOSPITAL CARE PROGRAMME

The Pre-hospital Care Programme (PCP) is a unique training opportunity for medical students at Barts & The London School of Medicine. The Programme offers students with an interest in this specialist area, a series of four interlinking experiential learning modules. The key stakeholders are the London Ambulance Service (LAS), London's Helicopter Emergency Medical Service (HEMS) and Barts & The London School of Medicine.

An innovative academic programme

The development of the Pre-hospital Care Programme was initiated by Emma Lightbody a medical student with a special interest in Pre-hospital Care. Since September 2006, Emma has worked with the London Ambulance Service and subsequently London HEMS to develop the PCP and gain experience in this field.

The Pre-hospital Care Programme provides structured education and support for medical students, and also engages them in integrated, multi-agency, training from the LAS and HEMS.

This unique educational pathway is a 4th Year Student Selected Component of the MB BS degree programme at Barts & The London School of Medicine.

The broad aims of the Pre-hospital Care Programme are:

- To provide undergraduate medical students with an understanding of and experiences in Pre-hospital Care.
- To acquire a set of appropriate clinical skills for students at this level and in this context.
- To acquire a set of appropriate communication skills for this context.
- To contribute to the student selected components programme at Barts & The London School of Medicine.
- To instruct medical students on issues relating to personal and team safety in the pre-hospital environment.
- To encourage learning in an inter-professional context.
- To encourage interest in Pre-hospital Care as a career option.

Delivery of the Pre-hospital Care Programme

The central philosophy of the Pre-hospital Care Programme is an incremental learning process with careful mentoring from London Ambulance Service Paramedics and London HEMS doctors.

Medical students complete (on average) a shift per month with the London Ambulance Service or HEMS (fast response cars). Students progress to HEMS in Year 4 of the PCP, to allow the completion of specific trauma objectives.

Mentoring is an important aspect of the Pre-hospital Care Programme. Consequently each medical student has three mentors; a LAS Paramedic, a HEMS Doctor and a Senior Medical Student. All of our Paramedic and Doctor mentors

have the opportunity to undertake a Trust Teacher's Programme to support their role.

During the course of each academic year, medical students have a specific set of learning objectives to complete. The students are encouraged to reflect on their practical experiences and to engage in related debate and discussion with their mentors. In addition to this a 'Student Report Form' is completed after each mission (and reviewed by the mentor), to support reflection and to develop a portfolio.

Medical students are encouraged to engage with the Department of Pre-hospital Care and their presence at Death & Disability meetings and Clinical Governance Days is welcomed.

The Academic Forum was introduced in the autumn 2008, and is a monthly meeting (organised by the medical student cohort) for all team members, during which presentations are delivered from each of the stakeholder groups, in addition to a journal review, clinical case discussions and emergency medical / trauma scenarios. This enhances learning opportunities for all of those involved, and provides a networking opportunity for the different professional groups. The Academic Forum is an open meeting, and interested colleagues from other departments / institutions are welcome.

The Development Team

The Pre-hospital Care Programme has been written and managed by a Development Team (representative of the stakeholder services involved).

- Dr Anne Weaver, Consultant in Emergency Medicine & Pre-hospital Care, Barts & The London NHS Trust.
- Dr Danë Goodsmann, Senior Lecturer in Medical Education and IPE Lead for Barts & the London & City University
- Mr Craig Cassidy, Paramedic, London Ambulance Service.
- Miss Emma Lightbody, Year 4 Medical Student, Barts & The London School of Medicine.

The Development Team has been fortunate enough to present the PCP at numerous conferences and meetings during the course of the last year. The team is committed to supporting the evolution of the PCP in London, and interested in collaborating with similar teams elsewhere in the country.

In addition to being an example of an inter-professional initiative, the Pre-hospital Care Programme has gained interest due to the student-led nature of the team, which demonstrates the value added by students in the development of curricula, when given appropriate responsibilities and support.

The future

The team intend to expand and refine this Programme further at Barts & The London and to promote the benefits of the Programme to other medical schools who may wish to offer their students similar training opportunities in Pre-hospital Care.

For further details regarding the Pre-hospital Care Programme please e-mail emma.lightbody@doctors.org.uk.

The Pre-hospital Care Programme is in association with SonoSite.



Photo Emma Lightbody



Photo (Left to right) Dr Anne Weaver, Emma Lightbody, Craig Cassidy

BASICS EDUCATION LIMITED

In January this year the format of the PhEC examination was changed to more accurately reflect that of the Diploma exam. The examination now consists of three elements. The true/false question paper has been retained and extended to 200 statements. Three core skill test stations have been added, each of ten minutes. All candidate undergo an ALS station, a chest assessment station and either an airway, spinal care or haemorrhage control and vascular access station. The core skills stations represent an objective way of testing; assessing candidate's ability (or not) to perform set tasks marked against a simple check list. The trauma moulage scenario also remains and is aimed at testing the candidate's capacity to 'put it all together'. This continues to be the main cause of candidate's downfall. A number of new-style examinations have now been run and it is reassuring to see that the overall pass/fail rates remain consistent with previous exam formats.

The Education Committee is currently reviewing the content of the Advanced PhEC course, with a view to expanding its

content to encompass some of the previously neglected areas of immediate care. Such subjects as pulse oximetry, capnography, mechanical ventilation, RSI and event medicine are likely to be included. An extended trauma scenario looking not only at the patient management, but also resource management and transport issues may also make an appearance. Further lecture content will also be replaced by more hands-on skill stations and workshops. It is hoped that the new version of the course will be introduced later this year.

The second SMART@Scene course is planned for September 2009. This very busy three day course covers many areas of extrication faced by the pre-hospital care provider, not just the RTC scenario. With a mixed medical and Fire Rescue faculty it provides excellent in-depth training for both disciplines in current extrication and rescue techniques.

PHC COURSE RESULTS OCTOBER 2008 – JUNE 2009

The following people successfully completed the BASICS and Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh three day Pre-hospital Emergency Care Course in October and November 2008, January, February, March, May, June 2009 and have been awarded the Pre-hospital Emergency Care Course Certificate.

Adie Francis	Frost Lizzie	Mitchell Guy
Ahmed Zulfiquar	Fryer Helen	Mohammed Athar
Ahuja Vijay	Gardner-Clark	Monga Jitender
Akhtar Muhammad	Suzanne	Mullen Gemma
Al-Azri Nasser	Gaskell David	Naude Willem
Allen Hayley	Gelnar James	Noble Katherine
Amin Muhammad Farhan	Gillies Keith	Noor Malik
Anderson Ross	Gilroy Kenneth	Ordish Ian
Ashton-Cleary David	Gittins Paul	Osborne Stephen
Atwal Paldeep	Godfrey Joseph	Owen Andrew
Badat Farhad	Goldsmith Phill	Patton Michael
Bailey Kevin	Graham Sean	Penney Michael
Baker Bruce	Greenway Michael	Pinkerton Andrea
Bennett Kelly	Gregg Rosaleen	Poon Henrietta
Berger David	Grieve Andrew	Porter David
Birmingham Mark	Griffin Ruth	Qasim Zaffer
Berry Patricia	Hafeez Insar	Ragavan Dassen
Birks Jon	Hardy Paul	Raman Rajendra
Blethyn Kate	Harrison Alan	Ratcliffe David
Bloomer Roger	Hawes Rachel	Rebora Jennifer
Blythe Alex	Hodgkinson Tom	Reed Kim
Booker Matthew	Hold Craig	Reilly John-Joe
Bowles Caroline	Hymers Christine	Richardson Nicola
Boyd Kelly	Ingram Stephanie	Richardson Ryan
Bradstock-Smith Matthew	Jewell Terry	Robertson Gary
Brostoff Josh	Jeyanathan Jeyasankar	Rowley Ben
Buchanan Stuart	Johnstone Catriona	Rowley Matthew
Carruthers Simon	Jones Jamie	Roycroft Paul
Carswell Mark	Jones Daniel	Russell Ian
Castro Emma	Jones Mark	Sadler Jonathon
Charlton Sara	Kempton Christopher	Sands David
Chester Mark	Kennedy Paul	Sant Ravindranath
Chisholm Tony	Kilshaw Lesley	Saunders David
Chrispin Pamela	Klinger Christopher	Saw Yuit Wen
Christie Gary	Knott Jonjo	Scott Victoria
Chughtai Shazan	Lane Catriona	Shajeer Karyakarantakath
Clarke Chris	Lavery John	Sheridan Robert
Cook Alison	Le Gros Dominic	Siddiqui Yousuf
Cookson David	Lewis Gareth	Sivasankaran Ajit
Cooper David	Lightbody Emma	Slade Harmony

Cowen Jeremy
 Cowlam Thomas
 Cullen Bronagh
 Cullie Jenny
 Culliney Paul
 Cupples Helen
 Davies Charlotte
 Davies Paul
 Day Angelika
 Devlin Ciaran
 Deytrikh Nicholas
 Dickinson Andrew
 Dormer John
 Downie Stuart
 Drysdale Eleanor
 Du Feu Michelle
 Dyson Jane
 Eस्पुते Angela
 Everest Alison
 Ferguson Ian
 Ferguson Eamon
 Fitzsimons Brian
 Flanagan Sophie
 Fowles Tony

Lightfoot Andrew
 Liskiewicz Witold
 Little Cassidy
 Lo Phillip
 Long Glenn
 Love Malachy
 Low Sarah
 Lowe David
 Lowther Ashleigh
 MacFarlane Gordon
 Main Amber
 Manfield Timothy
 Mani Vasu
 Mapstone James
 Marland Susan
 Marshall Colin
 Matear Mick
 McBriarty Sean
 McClintock John
 McConnell David
 McGarey Tom
 McGeown Sean
 Meredith David
 Miller Kathy

Smylie Joanna
 Spence John
 Stacey Robert
 Stewart Christopher
 Studd Neil
 Synnott Eithna
 Tagg Andy
 Taylor Colleen
 Teague Sarah
 Thomas Duncan
 Thomas Grant
 Tipping Robert
 Tudor Sarah
 Van Lieshout Simon
 Warrick Ben
 White Mary
 White Jessica
 Wilkinson Catherine
 Williams Rhiannon
 Woods Matthew
 Woodward Thomas
 Woolley Tom
 Wright Heather

PRE-HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CARE COURSE

A three day fully residential course on all aspects of emergency care in the pre-hospital setting including medical, trauma and paediatric emergencies.

Participants who successfully complete the course are awarded the Pre-hospital Emergency Care Certificate by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

Planned dates: 28th to 30th September 2009
 25th to 27th November 2009

ADVANCED PRE-HOSPITAL EMERGENCY CARE COURSE

This two day course for previous participants on the Pre-hospital Emergency Care courses develops and enhances the necessary skills to deal with medical and other emergencies encountered in all fields of pre-hospital care and is recommended prior to undertaking the Diploma in Immediate Medical Care examination. Based at Madingley Hall, Cambridge.

Planned dates 1st & 2nd October 2009

REFRESHER COURSE

This two day course is directed at previous participants on the Pre-hospital Emergency Care courses and the Immediate Care Courses to ensure that skills are maintained and updated to incorporate the latest developments in pre-hospital care. Mainly practical in content the course also offers an opportunity to renew acquaintances and enhance your knowledge in relaxed surroundings.

Planned dates: 5th & 6th November 2009



PAEDIATRIC EDUCATION FOR PRE-HOSPITAL PROFESSIONALS (PEPP)

Geared primarily to those with limited advanced skills or occasional paediatric exposure, this is the ideal course for Ambulance Technicians, Voluntary Aid Society personnel, Rig medics and the like. This two day course consists of scenario based slides, skill stations and real patient video clips. The main thrust of the course is patient assessment and introduces a method of assessment 'from the door' looking at appearance, work of breathing and circulation to the skin, giving an indication of problems before the ABC assessment is started.

BASICS EDUCATION COURSES FOR 2009

SAFETY MANAGEMENT AND RESCUE TECHNIQUES AT SCENE (SMART@SCENE)

SMART@Scene is an advanced three day course designed to teach on-scene skills using a multi-disciplinary faculty, immersing participants in a range of highly realistic RTC, entrapment and trauma scenarios using live casualties.

The course is open to immediate care practitioners of any discipline and fire and rescue personnel, providing a learning environment as near to real experience as you can find. It is expected that candidates will hold the PHEC, PHTLS or equivalent pre hospital qualification, with rescue personnel being medically qualified to the appropriate service level.

The course will be held on 18th to 20th September 2009 in the Rutland area, subject to there being sufficient interest.



FIVE DAY IMMEDIATE CARE COURSE

The five day course at Madingley Hall Cambridge continues to be popular. Many of the participants on this course go on to successfully complete the Diploma Examination at the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. The course covers all aspects of immediate care with the emphasis on practical skills as well as formal lectures and training scenarios.

Planned dates: 28th September to 2nd October 2009

PRE-HOSPITAL PAEDIATRIC LIFE SUPPORT (PHPLS)

Aimed primarily at Doctors, Nurses, Paramedics and Class I Military Medics this course will help to equip the higher practitioner with the advanced knowledge and skills required to deal with most paediatric emergencies in the immediate care setting. This two day course follows the familiar 'ALS' model of practical 'hands on' skill stations interspersed with key note lectures and it's main thrust is the recognition and pre-hospital management of the seriously ill or injured child.

We are planning to run a PEPP/PHPLS the early September 2009 in the Midlands, subject to there being sufficient interest.

For bookings and information please contact Tracy at BASICS Education on 01473 218407 or email educ@basics.org.uk

Along with the update of the Pre Hospital Emergency Care Course (PHECC), both the Advanced PHECC and Refresher Course have also been restructured along the same lines. Key lectures have been retained whilst others have been replaced by scenario based skill stations and small group workshops giving a more practical, 'hands on' feel to the courses.

DIPLOMA IN IMMEDIATE MEDICAL CARE

Congratulations to the following members on passing the Diploma in Immediate Medical Care (Dip IMC RCSEd)

Augre Colette
Dias Paul
Grewal Barend
Nutbeam Timothy
Bateman Elizabeth
Helliwell Lee
Hill Christopher
Martin-Bates Alexander
Rayner Simeon

CONGRATULATIONS

Warmest congratulations to Prof Keith Porter, Vice Chairman of the Association, and his wife Sham on the arrival of their daughter Lucy.

BASICS TRADING LIMITED

BASICS Trading Limited seeks your opinion

Following the launch of the new website, BASICS Trading Ltd has seen an increase in demand for low cost items suitable for members and non-members alike. We have come up with a range of items that we feel may be suitable, but funds are limited so we would like you to help us with a short survey. Please e-mail admin@basics.org.uk with your response.

1 Equipment labels - small numbered property ID labels, numbered and bearing the BASICS HQ telephone number. If you lose an item of your kit the finder can call the number, and we will let you know where the property is.
Price £2.00 per label with ongoing owner contacting for life!
How many would you buy?

2 Key fobs - to help identify your car keys when the Police leave them at the Emergency Department reception, with a nurse, etc. Doubles as an LED torch. Price £3.00.
Do you think you or your friends would buy this item?

3 Triangular zinc alloy combination luggage lock - manufactured to exacting standards. Product size: 40 x 40 x 8mm. Ideal for controlled drug pouches etc £5.20.
Do you think you or your friends would buy this item?

4 Fleece foldable outdoor blanket with nylon backing - folds into neat zipped holder with carry strap. In orange with silver back. 3 pockets for mobile phone, sunscreen, sunglasses etc. Product size: 65x150cm. BASICS logo on zipper pocket in area 40x90mm. £15.00.
Do you think you or your friends would buy this item?

Please let us have your comments, especially any additional suggestions you might want to make. It is not just your reply but also the number of replies we receive that will help us determine what we market. We look forward to hearing from you.

Vic Calland

CRIMINAL BUREAU RECORDS CHECKS

The Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) is due to go live on 12th October 2009 with the Vetting and Barring Scheme (VBS). Rather than replacing CRB checks the result of a CRB check will be passed to the ISA to decide whether the individual should be barred from working with children, vulnerable adults or both. From 26th July 2010 all new entrants or those changing jobs will need to register with the VBS and be checked by the ISA. From November 2010 it will be a legal requirement for all employees performing 'regulated activities' to be registered and for employers to check their employee's registration status.

In order to be registered you apply through the Criminal Records Bureau and it is the responsibility of the individual to do this. The cost of registering will be £64 except for those who are doing only unpaid voluntary work who will not have to pay a fee. Any employer can then check the registration status of the individual for free. Employers, social services and regulatory bodies will have to notify the ISA of any relevant information that means an individual may pose a threat to vulnerable individuals.

For more information visit: <http://www.crb.gov.uk/faqs.aspx>