



Prehospital Emergency Services
Current Awareness Update
Issue 88, January 2021

The aim of this Current Awareness Update is to provide a digest of information supporting evidence based practice in prehospital emergency services.

This is an edited version of
the update for SWASFT staff

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Prehospital Emergency Services Current Awareness Update – Issue 88, January 2021

With thanks to Matt Holland, LKS ASE Librarian (on behalf of the National Ambulance Research Steering Group).
This Current Awareness Update was commissioned by the National Ambulance Research Steering Group comprising of research leads from ambulance trusts in England, Scotland and Wales and other experts and groups supporting prehospital research. The aim of the group is to support the strategic development of ambulance and prehospital research whether leading, collaborating in or using research.

The research papers have been arranged by the topic headings below:

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[Prehospital Research – Methods and Discussion](#)

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Patient Profile

Children

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Helicopter Emergency Medical Services

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Yilmaz, G. B., Oğuzhan. (2021). Comparison of femoral and carotid arteries in terms of pulse check in cardiopulmonary resuscitation: A prospective observational study - Resuscitation. *Resuscitation*.
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Zhou, D. W. (2021). The optimal peripheral oxygen saturation may be 95–97% for post-cardiac arrest patients: A retrospective observational study - The American Journal of Emergency Medicine. *American Journal of Emergency Medicine*.
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Further Research Needed

Fuller, G., et al. (2021). Diagnostic accuracy of prehospital triage tools for identifying major trauma in elderly injured patients: A systematic review. *The journal of trauma and acute care surgery*, 90(2).
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CONCLUSION: Existing prehospital triage tools may not accurately identify elderly patients with serious injury. Future work should focus on more relevant reference standards, establishing the best trade-off between undertriage and overtriage, optimizing the role prehospital clinician judgment, and further developing geriatric specific triage variables and thresholds.

Ryan, K.M., et al., (2021). Impact of prehospital airway interventions on outcome in cardiac arrest following drowning: A study from the CARES Surveillance Group. *Resuscitation*.

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CONCLUSION: In this national cohort of drowning patients in cardiac arrest, SGA use was associated with significantly lower odds of survival to hospital admission and discharge. However, survival to discharge with favorable neurological outcome did not differ significantly between airway management techniques. Further studies will need to examine if airway intervention order or time to intervention affects outcomes.

Elkbuli, A., et al. (2021). Emergency Medical Service Transport Time and Trauma Outcomes at an Urban Level 1 Trauma Center: Evaluation of Prehospital Emergency Medical Service Response. *The American surgeon*.

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CONCLUSIONS: Air-lifted trauma patients were younger, more severely injured, and more hemodynamically unstable and required longer transport time but experienced lower adjusted mortality. Future research is needed to investigate whether reducing transport times and augmenting the advanced care already implemented by HEMS crews can improve outcomes.

Bierens, J., et al. (2021). Resuscitation and emergency care in drowning: A scoping review. *Resuscitation*, 0(0).

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Conclusion: This scoping review found that there is very limited evidence from observational studies to inform evidence based clinical practice guidelines for drowning. The review highlights an urgent need for high quality research in drowning.

McLure, M. (2021). A rapid review of advanced life support guidelines for cardiac arrest associated with anaphylaxis - Resuscitation. *Resuscitation*.

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Conclusions: We found significant variation between current ALS guideline recommendations for treating anaphylaxis. While there is no new evidence to suggest a systematic review of guideline recommendations is needed, there may be an opportunity to produce more consistent international guideline recommendations and educational materials.

New Ebooks and other resources

- [Assessing Mental Capacity : A Handbook to Guide Professionals from Basic to Advanced Practice](#)
- [Community Palliative Care and COVID-19](#)
- [Palliative and End of Life Care for Paramedics](#)

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