



**Prehospital Emergency Services  
Current Awareness Update  
Issue 92, August/September 2021**

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

The issue name relates to when the contained articles were published- the bulletin is published the following month once the national bulletin has been issued.

This is an edited version of  
the update for SWASFT staff

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*Prehospital Emergency Services Current Awareness Update – Issue 92, August/September 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:

[Prehospital Practitioners – Professional Development](#)

[Prehospital Research – Methods and Discussion](#)

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[Helicopter Emergency Medical Services](#)

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**\*\* SWASFT Authors \*\*** Coppola, A., Black, S., & Endacott, R., (2021). How senior paramedics decide to cease resuscitation in pulseless electrical activity out of hospital cardiac arrest: a mixed methods study. *Scandinavian journal of trauma, resuscitation and emergency medicine*, 29(1).

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**\*\* SWASFT Authors \*\*** Johnston, S., et al., (2021). PP25 The take home naloxone intervention multicentre emergency setting feasibility (TIME) trial: an early perspective from one UK ambulance service. *Emergency Medicine Journal*, 38(9).

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**\*\* SWASFT Authors \*\*** Lancaster, C., & Phillips, P. (2021). How does the use of humour in the UK ambulance service affect a clinician's well-being? [Text]. *British Paramedic Journal*. Available [here](#) to College of Paramedics members. Click [here](#) to access abstract, go to <https://discoverylibrary.org/illarticle/> to request fulltext

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Barley, C. R., & Gunson, I. M. (2021). PP38 Rates of recording different aspects of patients' social history on ambulance electronic patient records – a service evaluation. *Emergency Medicine Journal*, 38(9).

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Bell, F., Hodge, A., Pilbery, R., & Whiterod, S. (2021). PP31 Patterns of use of ambulance senior support during the COVID-19 pandemic: a service evaluation. *Emergency Medicine Journal*, 38(9).

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Boechler, L., Cormack, S., Ford-Jones, P., Cameron, C., Smith, J. C., & Suthers, P. (2021). PP36 Supporting paramedics on the frontlines amidst the COVID-19 pandemic: exploring impactful leadership approaches in Canada. *Emergency Medicine Journal*, 38(9).

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## Prehospital Research – Methods and Discussion

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Zadorozny, Eva V. et al. (2021). Prehospital lactate is Associated with the Need for Blood in Trauma. *Prehospital emergency care : official journal of the National Association of EMS Physicians and the National Association of State EMS Directors*.

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## Patient Profile

### Care Home Patients

Laparidou, D., et al. (2021). EP13 Perceptions and experiences of residents and relatives of emergencies in care homes: systematic review and meta-synthesis. *Emergency Medicine Journal*, 38(9).

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## Dementia

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## Diabetic Patients

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## Stroke

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## Helicopter Emergency Medical Services

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## On-Scene Interventions

Aaron E. Robinson, A.E., et al., (2021). Prehospital Pericardiocentesis Using a Pneumothorax Needle. *Prehospital emergency care : official journal of the National Association of EMS Physicians and the National Association of State EMS Directors*.

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## Airway Management, Resuscitation & CPR

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## Further Research Needed

**\*\* SWASFT Author\*\*** Lancaster, C., & Phillips, P. (2021). How does the use of humour in the UK ambulance service affect a clinician's well-being? [Text]. *British Paramedic Journal*.

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**Conclusion:** This review of the literature found that many in the ambulance community view their use and expression of humour as a positive coping strategy that helps them to relieve the stresses of the job. **Further research is needed to investigate any negative effects that humour has on a clinician's well-being and larger studies are needed to give a better representation of the ambulance community.**

Fish, D., Bell, F., O'Connell, C., Walker, A., Evans, L., & Ramlakhan, S. (2021). PP40 Pre-hospital and emergency department analgesia for paediatric trauma – a survey of UK trauma centres and ambulance services supports consideration of alternatives such as ketamine. *Emergency Medicine Journal*, 38(9).

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**Conclusions:** There is support for the addition of IN ketamine into paramedics' repertoire of analgesics and recognition of potential benefit. However, there is a lack of experience and evidence around its use, thus warranting **research to consider the impact on analgesic timeliness, adequacy and effectiveness**. An analgesia 'system of care' which integrates pre- and in-hospital practice would be facilitated by the use of medicines effective in managing pain and familiar to practitioners in both settings.

**\*\* SWASFT AUTHORS \*\***Coppola, A., Smyth, M. A., Johnston, S., Black, S., & Endacott, R. (2021). PP20 UK Ambulance Service resuscitation management of pulseless electrical activity: a systematic review of text and opinion. *Emergency Medicine Journal*, 38.

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**Conclusion:** Comprehensive national guidelines are lacking due to limited research. The local clinical guidelines and practices of UK ambulance services which aim to address the gaps in research, introduce variability in the management of pulseless electrical activity. Early identification and treatment to reverse the cause of pulseless electrical activity was highlighted to improve patient survival, however, this was complex and challenging to achieve during pre-hospital resuscitation. **There was a consensus in the paucity of evidence and the potential for future prognostic research to improve patient outcomes.**

King, R., et al. (2021). Patient experience of non-conveyance following emergency ambulance service response: A scoping review of the literature - Australasian Emergency Care. *Australasian Emergency Care*, 24(3), 210-223.

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**Conclusion:** There is a scarcity of quality research that has investigated patient experience of non-conveyance following emergency ambulance service response. Methods used by existing research is of low-quality. Patient experience of non-conveyance is not fully known.

Aslam, R. H., et al. (2021). 05 Co-design of a logic model describing components, mechanisms of change and expected impacts of case management for people who frequently call ambulance services. *Emergency Medicine Journal*, 38(9).

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**Conclusion** Case management is a developing area of provision in prehospital emergency care for people who call ambulance services frequently. Our logic model provides a firm foundation for evaluation to **build the urgently needed evidence base for case management of people who call ambulance services frequently.**



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