



Research-focused Careers for Paramedics

Edited by
Gregory A. Whitley
Scott Munro



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Gregory A. Whitley

School of Health and Care Sciences
University of Lincoln
Lincoln, United Kingdom

Clinical Audit and Research Unit
East Midlands Ambulance
Service NHS Trust
Lincoln, United Kingdom

Scott Munro

School of Health Sciences
University of Surrey
Guildford, United Kingdom

Nexus House
South East Coast Ambulance
Service NHS Trust
Crawley, United Kingdom

WILEY

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About the Contributors

Alan Michael Batt, PhD

Alan is an Associate Professor (adjunct) at Monash University, the Paramedicine Programme Lead and an Assistant Professor (adjunct) at Queen's University, and an Assistant Professor (status) at the University of Toronto. He originally qualified as a paramedic in Ireland and has since gained experience in nine countries across four continents. He is a Co-Chair of the McNally Project for Paramedicine Research in Canada, a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (United Kingdom), and a Member of the Academy of Medical Educators (United Kingdom). Alan's programme of research uses mixed methods approaches to explore health professions education, with a focus on professional competencies, the evolving role of paramedicine, care of

marginalised populations, and social and structural determinants of health. He is a Deputy Editor of *Paramedicine* and serves as a Senior Appraiser with the Prehospital Evidence-Based Practice Project at Dalhousie University. He has published over 190 articles, reports, and chapters and has presented at international and national conferences on more than 200 occasions. His research has attracted over \$3.7m CAD in research funding, and he has received multiple awards for his scholarly and professional contributions to paramedicine.

Malcolm Boyle, PhD

Malcolm is an Associate Professor and an Academic Lead in Paramedic Education and a Programme Director for Paramedicine Programmes at Griffith University. He was a paramedic for over 35 years, with the last 28 years as a Mobile Intensive Care Ambulance (MICA) Paramedic in Victoria, primarily working in rural areas. He has been working in academia since 1999 and moved to Griffith University in July 2016, prior to that he was at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. Malcolm's PhD research focused on triage and error detection in pre-hospital trauma management. Malcolm is a Fellow of the Australasian College of Paramedicine, and he has published over 200 academic outputs and secured over \$2.5m AUD in research funding as a chief investigator or co-applicant.

Georgette Eaton, DPhil (Oxon)

Georgette is the Consultant Paramedic in Urgent Care at London Ambulance Service NHS Trust and an Honorary Researcher at the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences at the University of Oxford. Georgette

completed her DPhil (PhD) in Evidence-Based Health Care at the University of Oxford in 2024, where her research—funded by a Doctoral Research Fellowship from the National Institute for Health and Care Research—explored the impact of paramedics in NHS primary care, using realist approaches to improve understanding, support intelligent policy, and make recommendations for future workforce planning. Georgette is a facilitator and co-chair within the Oxfordshire Community for Allied Health Professions Research, as well as a Scientist International Collaborator in the McNally Project and a Deputy Editor for *Paramedicine*.

Ben Meadley, PhD

Ben Meadley is an Intensive Care Paramedic and the Director of Paramedicine at Ambulance Victoria. He is a registered paramedic who commenced his career with Ambulance Victoria in 1998, followed by a period with New South Wales Ambulance from 1999 to 2003. Returning to Ambulance Victoria, Ben trained as an intensive care (MICA) paramedic in 2004 and an intensive care (MICA) flight paramedic in 2009. He joined the staff of Monash University in 2003, and he has held the positions of Teaching Associate, Lecturer, and Unit Coordinator in the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes. Ben completed his PhD at Monash Paramedicine, investigating the physiological and metabolic health of paramedics, as well as human performance in specialist teams. Ben has developed expertise in pre-hospital critical care, paramedic education, human performance, and paramedic health and well-being. His research interests include respiratory and cardiovascular physiology, point-of-care ultrasound, human performance optimisation, and selection to specialist paramedicine teams. Ben divides his time

between clinical, teaching, and research roles. He is also a Fellow of the Australasian College of Paramedicine and was awarded the Ambulance Service Medal in 2023.

Elisha Miller, MSc

Elisha's career in the ambulance service began as an urgent call taker in the Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust (YAS) control room. With a desire to advance clinically, she applied for the paramedic science programme at Coventry University, graduating as a paramedic in 2013. She then served as an operational paramedic for West Midlands Ambulance Service University NHS Foundation Trust until March 2016, when she relocated back to Yorkshire to work as a frontline paramedic. In October 2019, she joined the YAS Research and Development team as a Research Paramedic, where she assisted in leading the delivery of the YAS research portfolio, including successfully applying for College of Paramedics small grants to fund her own research study.

In 2020, Elisha presented the findings from her Advanced Clinical Practice MSc dissertation at the College of Paramedics' Fourth Annual National Research Conference, where her abstract was published in the *British Paramedic Journal*, and her full paper is currently awaiting publication. In December 2023, she obtained an 18-month secondment to the National Institute for Health and Care Research Academy as a Senior Programme Manager, overseeing funding programmes that support health and social care professionals in their clinical and academic careers. Alongside this role, she is due to complete her MSc in Clinical Research Delivery at the University of Sheffield in 2025 and serves as a reviewer for the *British Paramedic Journal*.

Brendan Shannon, PhD

Brendan is an Associate Professor and the Deputy Head of the Department of Paramedicine at Monash University and a member of the Australasian College of Paramedicine Community Paramedicine working group. A registered paramedic with more than a decade of clinical experience, Brendan is passionate about refining health-care models to ensure underserved communities receive the requisite care and support. He is known for innovating new education programmes and paramedicine models of care and career pathways that facilitate this, including as the Education Lead for the Victorian Paramedic Practitioner programme. Brendan's doctoral research focused on the impact of health services implementing alternative care pathways in community settings. As a health services researcher, he has published extensively, demonstrating his commitment to translating complex data into actionable insights to enhance healthcare delivery and patient outcomes. Brendan's collaborative, data-driven approach has earned him domestic and international recognition, which he applies to his own research and teaching, as well as the research he supervises.

Peter O'Meara, PhD

Peter is an internationally recognised expert on paramedicine models of care and education. He is an Adjunct Professor of Paramedicine at Monash and Charles Sturt Universities in Australia, a Board Member of the Paramedic Network and the American Paramedic Association in the United States, a Fellow of the Australasian College of Paramedicine, and a member of several national and international advisory committees. His academic studies have been

diverse and encompass health administration, public policy, and agricultural health and medicine.

Peter is a well-published and cited paramedic author of more than 100 peer-reviewed papers as well as several book chapters, and innumerable commentaries and editorials. He has examined doctoral theses, been a peer reviewer for a wide range of journals and several competitive research schemes in Australia and elsewhere, as well as assessing paramedicine education programmes locally and internationally. A highlight of his research has been the opportunity to work collaboratively with doctoral candidates and a wide range of researchers across the globe. The main foci of his recent research have been the evolution of paramedicine as a health discipline, community paramedicine, and the challenge of better understanding the rise in violence perpetrated against paramedics and other health workers.

Walter Tavares, PhD

Walter is a distinguished university professor based in Canada, with a strong focus on advancing health professions education and professional practice, specifically within paramedicine.

He is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Health and Society, Director of the Paramedicine Collaborative in the Department of Family and Community Medicine, and Education Scientist in the Wilson Centre for Health Professions Education Research at the University of Toronto. He is also a Co-Chair of the McNally Project for Paramedicine Research and leads a Research and Development programme with York Region Paramedic Services in Ontario, Canada. He is also a Deputy Editor of the journal *Paramedicine*. He completed his PhD in Health Services Research and

a five-year education fellowship at the Wilson Centre. As an experienced academic, Walter's research contributes to educational advances, refinements to clinical and professional practice, and policy development locally, nationally, and internationally. Walter's contributions extend beyond academia into policy advocacy, ensuring advances to evolving challenges.

Julia Williams, PhD

Julia is a registered paramedic who is a Professor of Paramedic Science at the University of Hertfordshire where she has been involved in pre- and post-registration education and development for paramedics since 1996. In addition, as the Head of Research for the College of Paramedics, Julia is committed to increasing the capacity and capability of paramedics within paramedic research, and she takes every opportunity to inform other agencies about the rich talent that exists within the paramedic profession in relation to clinical research, highlighting the positive contribution paramedics make to the health and care research agenda. Over the years, she has gained extensive experience in qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods research studies related to different aspects of paramedic practice; unscheduled emergency and urgent healthcare provision; paramedic education; and the health and well-being of the paramedic workforce including a national study during the COVID-19 pandemic. She continues to lead research in the South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust and is an active member of the National Ambulance Research Steering Group (NARSG). Over the years, Julia has sat on several trial steering groups and has been involved in a variety of funding panels and

committees. Amongst other activities, she is an Editor-in-Chief for the *British Paramedic Journal* and a previous Deputy Editor for *Paramedicine*, and she has had the privilege of mentoring several paramedic PhD students during their initial research journeys.

About the Editors

Gregory Adam Whitley, PhD

Greg is an Associate Professor in Paramedic Science at the University of Lincoln and a Paramedic Research Fellow with the East Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Trust. He joined the UK ambulance service in 2010 and became a registered paramedic in 2012.

He completed his PhD in 2020 titled ‘Pre-hospital pain management in children: A mixed methods study’ and his research interests include the pre-hospital setting and the paramedic profession. He has secured £500k worth of research funding as chief investigator/co-applicant and has helped to deliver research worth over £5m, including the AIRWAYS 2 and PARAMEDIC 3 clinical trials. He has over

40 peer-reviewed publications including empirical research articles, reviews, methodology papers, conference proceedings, and a co-edited textbook titled *Prehospital Research Methods and Practice*. He also has editorial board experience, having served on the *Journal of Paramedic Practice* and the *British Paramedic Journal*.

Greg was awarded a prestigious Advanced Clinical and Practitioner Academic Fellowship in 2023, making him the first paramedic in England to receive a Health Education England/National Institute for Health and Care Research-funded postdoctoral fellowship. The fellowship will fund a programme of research aiming to develop and test an intervention to improve pre-hospital acute pain management for children and young people.

Scott Fraser Sim Munro, PhD

Scott is a Clinical Academic splitting his time equally between clinical practice as a Specialist Paramedic in critical care for the South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Trust, based in Surrey in South East England, and as a Lecturer in paramedic practice at the University of Surrey, School of Health Sciences. Scott qualified as a paramedic in 2012 and has been working as a Specialist Paramedic since 2019. In 2020, he completed his PhD, which was a mixed method study into the pre-hospital care of acute stroke patients. He co-authored the UK Joint Royal Colleges Ambulance Liaison Committee (JRCALC) clinical stroke guidelines. He has published and presented on several different facets of pre-hospital care both nationally and internationally. His research interests include improving pre-hospital clinical

care, improving staff well-being, and the implementation of innovative technologies. He is passionate about bridging research and practice and empowering paramedics to engage in research, emphasising its impact beyond academia as a vital tool for advancing real-world patient care.

List of Case Study Authors

	Name	Job Title	Country
Case Studies— Novice Researchers	Hannah Lindsay	Ambulance Paramedic	Australia
	Alex Diffley	Research Paramedic	United Kingdom
	Owen Stanley	Research Paramedic	United Kingdom
	Andrew Cole	Lead Research Paramedic	United Kingdom
Case Studies— Competent Researchers	Alanowd Alghaith	Teaching Assistant and PhD Student	Saudi Arabia and United Kingdom
	Cheryl Cameron	Director of Operations, PhD Candidate, and Senior Fellow	Canada and Australia
	Thomas Hofmann	Paramedic and Lecturer	Germany
Case Studies— Proficient Researchers	Ryan Matthews	Lecturer and PhD Candidate	South Africa
	Dr Kathryn Eastwood	Associate Professor and Intensive Care Paramedic	Australia
	Dr Caitlin Wilson	Senior Research Fellow (Paramedic)	United Kingdom
	Dr Graham McClelland	Vice Chancellors' Fellow and Honorary Research Fellow, Visiting Clinical Researcher, and Visiting Professor	United Kingdom
	Dr Willem Stassen	Associate Professor	South Africa
Case Studies— Expert Researchers	Professor William (Bill) Lord AM	Adjunct Professor	Australia
	Professor Brian Maquire	Senior Epidemiologist and Adjunct Professor	United States and Australia
	Professor Nigel Rees QAM	Assistant Director of Research, Innovation, and Visiting Professor	United Kingdom

Foreword

I wholeheartedly commend this textbook with a full heart, as it captures the vital, transformative journey of paramedic clinical academics and researchers, celebrating their impact and their boundless potential. This work shines a light on a community that not only lives and breathes in the lives of paramedics but also in the lives of the patients they serve, championing both advocacy and innovation in equal measure.

It is impossible to overstate the importance of the pioneers who have laid the foundation for paramedic research. Professor Malcolm Woollard's contribution from the College of Paramedics' perspective stands as an enduring example of the brilliance and dedication that inspires us all—his contributions continue to resonate as a beacon of possibility for