

Dr Stephen Hearns MB ChB FRCP FRCS FRCEM FRGS Dip.IMC DRTM

Stephen is a Consultant in Emergency Medicine employed by NHS Greater Glasgow and for the past 15 years has been lead consultant for Scotland's Emergency Medical Retrieval Service.

Inspired by time working with London's Air Ambulance and in Queensland Australia, in 2004 Stephen conceived the idea of an Emergency Medical Retrieval Service for Scotland. He has led the establishment and development of EMRS since then. Starting as a voluntary, unpaid service, Stephen and his colleagues gained government funding for a two-year service pilot. Following a positive independent evaluation, the service achieved permanent funding. Stephen now leads a team of 40 doctors, nurses and paramedics who work for EMRS.

EMRS in Scotland has the following roles:

- Rural secondary aeromedical retrieval from 24 rural healthcare facilities
- Primary pre-hospital trauma care by road and helicopter
- Major incident response for the West of Scotland and rural areas
- Telephone advice service for rural clinicians
- Centre for academic retrieval medicine – Annual UK Retrieval conference, retrieval research, postgraduate PHEM training and the Diploma in Retrieval and Transfer Medicine (RCSEd).

Over the past few years Stephen has led EMRS during the integration with the Scottish paediatric and neonatal retrieval teams as part of the ScotSTAR project.

Stephen has an interest in high performance teams and human performance under pressure. www.CoreCognition.co.uk His book on this subject will be published in August 2019 and his performance course will commence in late 2019.

Stephen has published a number of papers and book chapters related to emergency medicine and pre-hospital care. He also led the team establishing the Diploma in retrieval and transfer medicine for the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and contributes to the organisation of the annual UK retrieval conference. He is attracted to the challenges of retrieval medicine in demanding remote environments with limited resources.

He has been an active voluntary member of Arrochar mountain rescue team for 20 years and holds the Mountain Leader Award. Stephen acted as medical officer on seven international expeditions before establishing the first expedition medicine course in the UK. He has previously been an instructor on ATLS, ALS and PALS courses.

He has completed Bond Solon and Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons training courses relating to the role of expert witness. He regularly acts an expert witness for the NHS Scotland Central Legal Office, for the General Medical Council and for pursuers' solicitors. He is the Scottish Public Service Ombudsman's expert advisor in emergency medicine and pre-hospital care.