




AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

NOMINATION FORM DOCTOR OF THE YEAR

Nomination opens:	Monday 11 th July 2022
Nominations close:	5pm - Friday 2 nd September 2022
Award criteria:	<p>This award is for a doctor who has demonstrated excellent clinical standards in delivering the best possible quality of medical care to patients. This could be a noteworthy incident in the last 12 months involving clinical and/or professional patient care with supporting evidence of clinical or professional intervention. Information provided should detail the treatment or care and patient outcome.</p> <p>Alternatively, entries can be for ongoing exceptional clinical or professional duty over the past 12 months, with evidence to support.</p>
Eligible nominees:	Open to doctors who work on air ambulances across the UK
Eligible nominators:	Air ambulance charities, and former patients or relatives of, who wish to express their appreciation of the professional standards demonstrated by an air ambulance doctor.
Nominator name:	Claire Wilkinson – Essex & Herts Air Ambulance
Nominator email:	claire.wilkinson@ehaat.org
Nomination submitted:	02/09/2022
Nominator signature:	
Submit application to:	Nick Campion, Independent Secretary to the Judging Panel by email: awards@airambulancesuk.org
Note:	Please type in no less than 11pt Calibri font to a maximum of 2 pages. Please also attach, or link to, any images or film to support your nomination in your email when submitting this application.



DOCTOR OF THE YEAR NOMINATION

Nominee name: Dr Amy Hughes MBE

At Essex & Herts Air Ambulance, we're proud to have a team of highly skilled, proactive and passionate pre-hospital care doctors and paramedics, providing advanced medical care that is normally only found in a hospital emergency department. We remain committed to continuously improving the care we deliver and identifying innovative ways to grow. Since joining EHAAT in 2021 as a pre-hospital care doctor, Dr Amy Hughes MBE has empowered knowledge sharing, organising a series of evening lectures for pre-hospital care professionals from around the world, to positively impact patient safety and outcome.

A driving force for continuous improvement

Amy has combined clinical, pre-hospital, academic, humanitarian and expedition work over the last 15 years, including working with London's Air Ambulance, Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance and The Royal Flying Doctors, Australia. She has also worked within complex humanitarian environments, with previous deployments including the West Africa Ebola outbreak, Typhoon Haiyan and post-conflict Northern Sri Lanka with Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF). Amy was awarded an MBE in 2016 for her services to emergency and humanitarian medicine.

"I did a lot of HEMS work between 2010 and 2013 before getting involved in academic and humanitarian work. I then met my other half and had two children. When the advert came out for a pre-hospital care doctor at EHAAT, I knew I had to go for it. It's the work I've enjoyed the most and had the most satisfaction from in terms of the teamwork, the decision making, the challenge, the environment, and of course, the charitable side."

Amy also works as an NIHR research fellow and "enjoys the balance between clinical and research work" but she's been most impressed with EHAAT's robust governance structure, which provides a solid foundation for development, growth, and sustainability.

"Having weekly death and disability (D&D) meetings delivered by experienced governance leads is crucial in ensuring our high standards of care are maintained. It pushes you to be a better pre-hospital care clinician. The charity is always looking at ways to innovate and develop the service."

A powerful platform for advancing pre-hospital care

Alongside her work as a pre-hospital care doctor, Amy enjoys the process of critically appraising journals and articles, as well as podcasting for the Emergency Medical Journal – an international peer-reviewed journal covering pre-hospital and hospital emergency medicine, and critical care. She explored many collaborative opportunities and identified the need for an evening lecture series, encouraging an exceptional cohort of clinicians within EHAAT and elsewhere to share knowledge and developments and build up the evidence base around pre-hospital care.

Amy said: "I thought it would be great if we could open doors to regular expert speakers, and that's how the lecture series was born. I ran online lectures before, formally and informally, and knew that with the right speakers, we could accelerate learning and teaching in the field of pre-hospital care. Initially, I asked one of our consultants, Mr Ash Vasireddy, to deliver an hour-long talk on pelvic trauma, all focused on pre-hospital care and how we can optimise the management of that condition."

The feedback was extremely positive from the start. The lecture series has grown from strength to strength, with hundreds of people attending from across the globe – from Australia to India, Italy and Ghana.

EHAAT Medical Director, Dr Neal Durge, said “Amy took the initiative to engage the team, partners and industry peers to open doors to ambitious educational opportunities, sharing insight and contributing to advancing pre-hospital medical care to major trauma patients.”

"Despite her reduced hours (60 per cent at full time), Amy goes above and beyond her duties as a pre-hospital care doctor. She has refreshed our supervision process, improved our sign-off process, managed the complex rota, and most importantly, set up this excellent evening lecture series, contacting experts in their field in one particular aspect of pre-hospital care, and we've been getting an overwhelming response."

The virtual evening lectures are delivered monthly and can be accessed by all pre-hospital care providers, including first responders, members of the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI) and experienced pre-hospital care clinicians in HEMS. The series has also been accredited for 1 CPD (Continued Professional Development) point assigned by the Royal College of Surgeons. By delivering the series digitally, Amy ensured EHAAT could invite a wide variety of speakers from the UK and overseas to deliver talks. Since 18th November 2021, there have been eight lectures delivered by a variety of experienced clinicians, including:

- 18/11/21 – Prehospital Pelvic Trauma, Mr Ash Vasireddy
- 15/12/21 – Pre-hospital ECGs (Part 1), Mr Adam Pitcairn
- 20/01/22 – Traumatic Brain Injury, Dr Flora Bird
- 17/02/22 – Pre-hospital ECGs (Part 2), Mr Adam Pitcairn
- 23/03/22 – The Bleeding Patient, Major Max Marsden
- 21/04/22 – Cold Water Immersion, Professor Mike Tipton
- 28/05/22 – Optimising Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrest Management, Dr Pete Sherren
- 20/07/22 – Pre-hospital ECGs (Part 3: Toxicology), Mr Adam Pitcairn

[A shared journey around patient care and clinical decision making](#)

Each lecture is geared toward one particular element of pre-hospital care, however, Amy works closely with each speaker to ensure the material provides relevant information for all attendees, no matter their background or experience level.

"We know the range of audience, so each session is relevant to the first responder, all the way through to the hospital receiving them. We had an excellent talk by Professor Mike Tipton from the University of Portsmouth on cold water immersion. The lecture was very relevant to the RNLI (Royal National Lifeboat Institution) connecting with the person who might retrieve the patient in the water. Mike went into detail on the positioning of the patient through to when they arrive at the hospital, covering all aspects of pre-hospital care.

Amy is excited to evolve the lecture series. She plans to incorporate the aviation side of pre-hospital care and HEMS dispatch, which could open up the series to a broader audience.

Dr Neal Durge said, “Amy continues to demonstrate excellent clinical standards, delivering the best possible medical care to patients, however, her commitment to growing the evidence base in pre-hospital care is outstanding. The lectures are gathering pace and providing valuable insights for practitioners worldwide, and we're looking forward to continuing them into the future.”