The Role of the Nurse within Voluntary Emergency Care Schemes

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Objectives

• Understand the development of pre-hospital emergency care in the United Kingdom;

• Discuss the clinical role of the nurse within pre-hospital emergency care schemes;

• Examine the training and support roles nurses may have within pre-hospital emergency care schemes;

• Recognise the educational opportunities for nurses wishing to develop their role in pre-hospital emergency care.
History of Pre-Hospital Emergency Care

• Numerous Doctors began attending RTC’s in the mid 1960’s
• BASICS formed in 1977, initially only open to Doctors
• Currently over 70 voluntary BASICS affiliated schemes in UK
• 1999 Community First responders
  • Year 2000 increasing use of Nurses in schemes
  • The role of the nurse continues to expand
3 Roles of the Nurse in Pre-hospital Emergency Care

- Clinical
- Teaching
- Emotional Support
Clinical

- All forms of medical emergency
- Cardiac Arrest
- All forms of trauma
- Paediatrics
- RTC’s
Training

Community First Responders (all levels)

Public health promotion

Schools

Other Medical Staff (internal & external)
Emotional Support

- First responders
- Other medic members
- Families / carers
- Clinical Supervision
Desirable Qualifications

• Limited opportunities for clinical experiences as a nurse in this field

• BASICS pre-hospital emergency care course (PHEC)

• PHTLS

• ILS, pILS, ALS

• Many schemes have in-house mandatory training
Future?

• Discussions with local ambulance trusts

• Training to authorise blue light driving

• Expansion of ECP’s

• More nurses giving up some time to their local community
QUESTIONS?
References


