

PROFILE

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The Australian Prehospital Emergency Health Research Forum

Rhona Macdonald, Research Fellow
Department of Community Emergency Health and Paramedic Practice,
Monash University, Melbourne

The Australian Prehospital Emergency Health Research Forum, (APEHRF) as part of the International Prehospital Research Forum is now in its third year of involvement with The Australian College of Ambulance Professionals (ACAP) Annual Conference.

The collaboration is enriched between ACAP, the APEHRF and Monash University Department of Community Emergency Health and Paramedic Practice (DCEHPP) with the aims of The ACAP to provide a national platform for policies and representation of ambulance personnel, and represent the interests of their members throughout Australia, on matters relating to professional prehospital care and associated issues.

The focus of the APEHRF is also to promote and encourage collaboration and research in the phase of prehospital emergency care by its kinship with the US (UCLA Center for Prehospital Care) and UK (999 Research Forum).

Since its initial launch at the ACAP National Conference in Canberra in 2005, the APEHRF has acted in an advisory capacity to the ACAP annual conference scientific committees in the common goal of attracting quality research papers and posters presented at ACAP National Conferences. In its role, the APEHRF has guided new standards in the submission of abstracts, in addition to increasing the scientific rigour, which is facilitated by double blind peer-review of submitted abstracts by a group of appropriately qualified independent peer reviewers. A further standardised adjudication process is employed during oral and poster presentations at each conference to determine the final winners of the APEHRF Best Paper and Best Poster Awards.

The APEHRF Best Paper Award is provided to one winner at the ACAP Conference each year and is determined by the highest cumulative score between the initial peer review of abstracts, and further adjudication (by two independent adjudicators), of those selected abstracts which are orally presented at the conference. The award includes a certificate of the Award, airfares, accommodation and registration at either the US (EMS Today) or UK (AMBEX) conference, with whom, the UK and US Research Forums act in the same capacity as the APEHRF in their respective counties. The Award is also reciprocated with the UK and US Research Forums, to provide registration for the visiting winners to attend the affiliated conference at one of the three countries.

The APEHRF Best Poster Award is evaluated by the same method, and is provided to one winner each year. Awards in the past have included book vouchers to the value of \$250 together with a certificate of the award, however this year's award included free registration for one person to attend the ACAP National Conference, to be held in Melbourne next year.

Abstracts selected for oral and poster presentation at the ACAP conference are published annually in the Journal of Emergency Primary Health Care, which as an authorised publication, provides a source from which academics can claim their research contributions (abstracts or full papers) towards the Australian Higher Education Research Data Collection.

The [2007 APEHRF Best Paper Prize](#) was awarded to Ziad Nehme, Bachelor of Emergency Health (Honours Student) and Malcolm Boyle, (Senior Lecturer) from Monash University Department of Community Emergency Health and Paramedic Practice, who presented "So you think you can ventilate using the self-inflating bag? Think again."

The [2007 APEHRF Best Poster Prize](#) was awarded to joint authors and paramedics with NSW Ambulance Service; Phill Good, Darren Hoschke and Katie Klarenaar, who presented their poster "Tablets are bagged letting emergency treat safely (T.A.B.L.E.T.S)".

APEHRF Advisory Committee - 2007

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For further information please contact the APEHRF Administrator, Rhona Macdonald.
Telephone: +61 3 9904 4198 or Email: rhona.macdonald@med.monash.edu.au

[Download Abstracts](#) from the 2007 Asia Pacific International Conference 2007.