



Paramedic Academy Applied Research Proposals

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

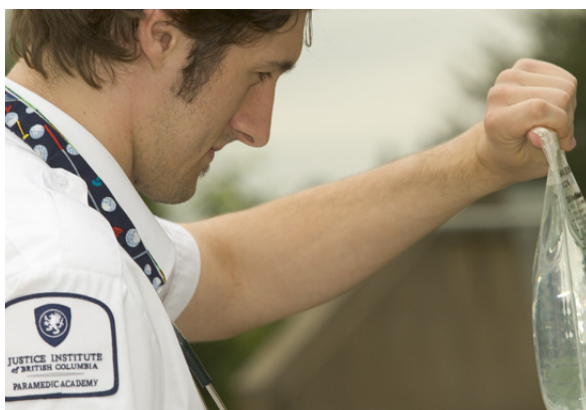
Research in the Justice Institute of British Columbia Paramedic Academy will provide practical advice and solutions to issues of interest to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) educators and providers. The objective of EMS research is to:

- Contribute to the improvement of timely, effective, and efficient patient care
- Contribute to the advancement of EMS education

A Clinical Competence and Clinical Judgment Series of projects has been developed. This research focuses on developing EMS knowledge and skills, and how they are taught both in professional and practical settings, and how competency is measured and evaluated.

DEFINING CLINICAL COMPETENCE AND CLINICAL JUDGMENT (\$25,000)

This project will examine the diverse understandings that different stakeholders in the EMS community have when speaking about the concepts of clinical judgment and clinical competence. Leading paramedics will provide their concept of clinical competence and clinical judgment. The goal is to develop a rich description of terms that can guide evaluation, assessment, and learning for paramedic recruits.



CLINICAL COMPETENCE AND CLINICAL JUDGMENT: PERSPECTIVES AND ROLES (\$25,000)

Often there is tension between EMS operators, their employees, licensing or regulatory agencies, professional organizations, and educators. This research will explore the different conceptions, outcomes, assessment measures, and understanding of competence from these stakeholder organizations in EMS. The results will inform ongoing debates on the nature of teaching and learning in professional settings, and the roles that different stakeholders play in the evolution of professional practice.



THE JOURNEY FROM THE TEXTBOOK TO THE STREET (\$45,000)

This study examines the development of technical competence, clinical competence, and clinical judgment in recruit-paramedics as they progress from classroom to practicum to field practice. The goal is to gain a better understanding of the factors that influence assessment, skill acquisition, and decision-making in the unique setting of the emergency services. Results of this study will inform the structure and development of future paramedic curriculum and evaluation methods.

CLINICAL COMPETENCE AND CLINICAL JUDGMENT IN PRACTICE (\$30,000)

The previous studies in this series will develop and articulate a model for the development of expertise in prehospital care. This study will extend that work by creating a framework for the assessment of clinical competence and clinical judgment based on this model and applying it to recruit, novice, and experienced practitioners. The goal is to create a rich picture of how clinical competence and clinical judgment are put into practice across the career of paramedics.

THE ROLE OF COMPLEX CURRICULUM, HIGH FIDELITY SIMULATION ENVIRONMENTS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CLINICAL COMPETENCE AND CLINICAL JUDGEMENT IN PARAMEDICS (\$130,000, NOT INCLUDING COURSE DELIVERY)

This study explores the development of clinical competence and clinical judgment in a curriculum based on social constructivist and complexity learning theories, using immersive, high fidelity simulation. Three cohorts of paramedic recruits will participate in a new curriculum module which uses immersive high fidelity (IHF) to more richly recreate the noise and ambiguity of field practice. The research goal is to explore the learners' interactions, experiences, and the development of clinical judgment in a simulation setting. This study will extend our understanding of learning in complex simulation environments and inform policy makers interested in the use of simulations in professional curricula.

For further Information

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