

# CANDOUR

**ISSUE 23 - December 2002**

**The newsletter of the Joint ASA/JRCALC Clinical Effectiveness Committee  
and the ASA National Clinical Effectiveness Programme**



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## **Appointment of new National Clinical Effectiveness Programme Manager**



**Mark Cooke has recently joined the Ambulance Service Association as National Clinical Effectiveness Programme Manager.**

**Mark's career with the Ambulance Service started in 1985 when he joined the South Yorkshire Ambulance Service as an Ambulance Cadet.**

**He has since fulfilled many roles including those of Paramedic, Corporate Services Manager, National Service Framework Lead and more recently as Operations Manager.**

**During Mark's time with SYAS he has also undertaken a BMedSci(Hons) degree in Paramedical Studies and also a Masters degree in Health Services Research at the University of Sheffield.**

**Mark's professional areas of interest include Coronary Heart Disease (CHD) and pre-hospital research. Other leisure interests include photography, classic cars and world travel. Mark is a Rotarian and enjoys charitable work both at home and abroad.**

**Part of Mark's remit as NCEP Manager includes facilitating the introduction of thrombolysis, benzyl penicillin and morphine into the pre-hospital care setting. Additionally, much of Mark's time will be dedicated to the Myocardial Infarction (MI) Audit and he will be working closely with the Joint Royal Colleges Ambulance Liaison Committee (JRCALC), the Department of Health, MI National Audit Programme (MINAP) and National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE).**

**It is hoped that Mark will visit most Trusts over the coming few months to meet as many staff as possible and to provide clinical effectiveness support where required.**

**If you have any queries regarding clinical effectiveness, the national MI audit or future clinical developments then please don't hesitate to contact Mark on mobile 07766 250 810 or email [mark@bizuk.com](mailto:mark@bizuk.com)**

## Opening Statement from Mark

Firstly, I would like to say how pleased I am to have been appointed to this post and that I am looking forward to meeting with many of you over the coming months.

Stuart Nicholls, my predecessor in this role has been very busy over the past few years ensuring that the CHD Audit and this website have got off to a good start, so best wishes go to Stuart in his new job with a Strategic Health Authority.

There is an awful lot of work to do, however, with the emphasis remaining on the CHD audit, which Lucy Evans (Two Shires AS) is now assisting with. Then there is the work associated with the introduction of pre-hospital thrombolysis and morphine.

Benzyl Penicillin for suspected Meningococcal Septicaemia (NB as opposed to Meningitis) is also high on the list of priorities and an audit will be starting very early in the new year.

I do hope to be visiting as many of our member services as possible over the coming months and I am looking forward to learning from your experiences in order that together we can develop further clinical effectiveness in pre-hospital care.

I can assure you that 'Candour' will continue and will continue to keep you informed of current and future developments.

At this time of year all that is left for me to do is wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy new year.

## ASA Research Database

**Are you currently conducting any research or have recently completed a research study that is related to pre-hospital care?**

**If so then please let us know so we can establish an Ambulance Service Association Research Database.**

**Of particular interest is research of:**

- **Public Placement AED schemes**
- **First Responder Schemes**
- **Pre-hospital Thrombolysis**
- **Pre-hospital Analgesia**
- **Interpretation of 12-lead ECGs**

**There is probably much valuable research that has been undertaken that has not yet been published and it is likely that there is much research work in progress that we don't about. The database will allow you to see who is doing what type of research and will be a valuable tool to those who:**

- **Are conducting similar research studies**
- **Are searching for research studies**
- **Are wanting to compare research methodologies/findings**
- **Want a testing ground for publication**

**It is also hoped that such a database will be a valuable tool to stimulate and encourage interest in pre-hospital research.**

**I will also be happy to provide assistance or guidance to people interested conducting pre-hospital research. Please don't hesitate to contact me via email at the Association via [mark@bizuk.com](mailto:mark@bizuk.com) to provide information for the database or to make enquiries**

## Northern Audit Group

**A Northern Audit Group Meeting took place on December 10<sup>th</sup> at South Yorkshire Ambulance Service's headquarters.**

**The group discussed all matters relating to Audit, with a view to developing a collaborative approach to audit projects, clinical performance indicators, input to national projects, to provide advice and to share information between services.**

**For further details please contact Ellis Frampton on (01709) 820520 ext 869**



**Do you have an article or a project that you would like to see in 'Candour'?**

**If so, drop me an email with details.....**

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