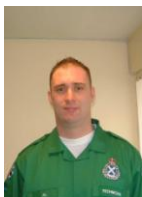


## NON-TECHNICAL SKILLS

### Paramedic non-technical skills (ParaNOTS)



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In the 1970's, it was acknowledged within the aviation industry that pilots' behaviour on the flight deck had an impact on accidents and that there needed to be more attention paid to their non-technical skills, such as decision making and teamwork. This led to the development of training programmes designed to reduce error by improving the non-technical skills performance of flight crews. These Crew Resource Management training programmes (CRM) have been successful at developing communication, leadership, situation awareness and decision making skills among flight crews and have subsequently been adopted by other high reliability organisations.

Since then, researchers have begun to identify the non-technical skills which are important within the field of medicine. Work in anaesthesia and with scrub practitioners has developed taxonomies and behavioural rating systems of non-technical skills. The development of the NOTSS (Non-Technical Skills for Surgeons) system was a multi-disciplinary project with surgeons, psychologists and anaesthetists. There is growing awareness of the need to identify the non-technical (CRM) skills of paramedics, who work in an equally demanding, safety critical domain as the surgical professionals

#### Paramedic non-technical skills

The current study aims to use a method of task analysis to identify the non-technical skills which paramedics require in order to do their job safely and effectively. In addition to the technical and clinical knowledge and skills which paramedics possess, it is expected that non-technical skills such as situation awareness, decision making, communication, leadership and team work must also be used to complete tasks effectively. Interviews with subject matter experts will be conducted to identify which non-technical skills paramedics use in their role.

#### Publications

Shields, A. (2011). Paramedic non-technical skills: aviation style behavioural rating systems. *Journal of Paramedic Practice*, 3, 676 – 680.

[http://www.paramedicpractice.com/cgi-bin/go.pl/library/article.cgi?uid=88155;article=pp\\_3\\_12\\_676\\_680](http://www.paramedicpractice.com/cgi-bin/go.pl/library/article.cgi?uid=88155;article=pp_3_12_676_680)