

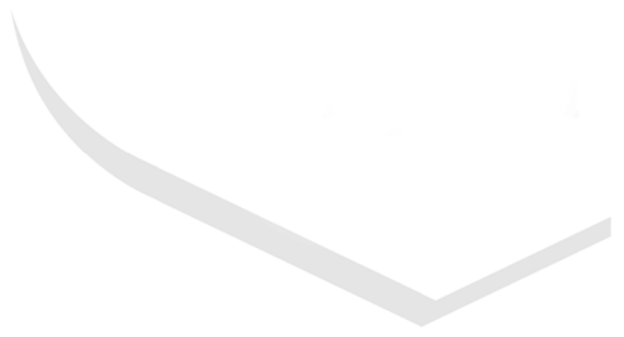


# Responding to emergencies: the challenges of NGO competition

Thursday 27 March 2014 from 18:30 to 20:00 in the Council Chamber

This seminar aims to explore the immediate response to emergency situations requiring humanitarian or healthcare intervention. What challenges arise from having multiple agencies arriving simultaneously? Is there a balance of power at play, and how do they interact with each other and with pre-existing health systems? The discussion will consider examples of emergency situations where the response has been effective and less successful.

Responding to emergencies: the challenges of NGO competition			
1800	Registration		
1830	Opening remarks	Ms Annie Davenport	Disasters Emergency Committee
1840	Panel Discussion		
	Chair:	Ms Annie Davenport	Disasters Emergency Committee
	Panel:	Dr Aula Abbara	Hand in Hand for Syria
		Dr Michael Pelly	Member of initial Merlin team/ International Federation of Red Cross
		Dr Amy Hughes	UK International Emergency Trauma Register
		Mr Steve Mannion	CBM/St George's University/World Orthopaedic Concern
2000	Reception		



**Chair:**

**Ms Annie Devonport, Disasters Emergency Committee**

Annie Devonport is the Head of Programmes and Accountability at the Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC). Before moving to work as a volunteer in Uganda with Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO) in 2000, Annie was a senior health service nurse manager for Child Health in Torquay. After three years in Uganda she moved to Sierra Leone to work with Concern as a Health Coordinator and from there to eastern Democratic Republic of Congo where she was Country Medical Coordinator for GOAL. On her return to the UK from over 6 years abroad Annie joined the Disasters Emergency Committee in 2007.

**Panellists:**

**Dr Aula Abbara, Hand in Hand for Syria**

Dr Aula Abbara is a penultimate year infectious diseases and general medicine registrar in London. She has worked with a number of NGOs over the years and has been a trustee and lead of the projects committee for the Damask Rose Trust (a Syrian-British charity) since 2006. Over the last two years, she has worked with Hand in Hand for Syria and the Syrian American Medical Society in Turkey, Jordan and Syria. Hand in Hand for Syria is a UK based NGO which provides humanitarian and medical assistance to people inside Syria. They have an extensive on the ground network and work with international organisations who are not always able to work inside Syria.

**Dr Michael Pelly, Member of initial Merlin team/ International Federation of Red Cross**

Dr Michael Pelly is a physician at Chelsea & Westminster Hospital specialising in General Internal Medicine and Stroke and an honorary senior lecturer at Imperial College. Dr Pelly has a special interest in humanitarian action especially epidemic control and the management of crises and disasters affecting large populations. He has had extensive experience in famine relief in Africa and experience working in long term programme development in Afghanistan, Iran and North Korea. He is involved in the development of a TB/HIV programme for the International Federation of the Red Cross in the Former Soviet Union. He is a council member of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Trustee for the Tropical Health Education trust (THET), Vice-Chairman of the International Forum for the Academy of Medical Royal Colleges and a founding member of Merlin (now united with Save the Children), which sends medical experts to emergencies around the world.



**Dr Amy Hughes, UK International Emergency Trauma Register**

Dr Amy Hughes is a Clinical Academic Lecturer in Emergency Response at the Humanitarian and Conflict Response Institute (HCRI), University of Manchester. She is also course convener for the Emergency Humanitarian Assistance module and contributes to the Global Health Diploma. She is heavily involved in the development of the UK International Emergency Trauma Register (UKIETR) and training of its clinicians. The UKIETR aims to provide a structured approach to training of medical teams deploying to disasters to ensure a governed, co-ordinated, clinically competent and guided approach to medical care in emergencies. Amy is also completing a PhD – ‘The Role and Training of Foreign Medical Teams in Sudden Onset Disasters.’ Clinically, Amy is an Emergency Medicine and Pre-Hospital Care clinician, having working with London Helicopter Emergency Medical Service prior to which she worked with Médecins Sans Frontières in post-conflict Northern Sri Lanka. She has completed the Diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (Liv) and European Masters in Disaster Medicine.

**Mr Steve Mannion, CBM/St George’s University/World Orthopaedic Concern**

Mr Steve Mannion is currently Head of Department at the Centre for Trauma, Conflict and Catastrophe Medicine at St George's University, Orthopaedic Advisor to CBM (a disability focused NGO) and Chair of World Orthopaedic Concern. In 2008, he was described by the BBC as the "Indiana Jones of Surgery" and appeared on BBC One's 'Super Doctors' series alongside Lord Robert Winston. Between appointments in the NHS he has worked in surgical programmes for aid agencies (including the Red Cross and Médecins Sans Frontières) in multiple conflict situations; these include in Afghanistan, Cambodia, Angola, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, and Rwanda (during the 1994 genocide).