

## **Profile of Dr Peter O'Meara**

---

### **SUMMARY OF EXPERIENCE**

---

Dr Peter O'Meara is the Associate Professor of Pre-hospital Care and Associate Head of the School of Biomedical Sciences at Charles Sturt University in Bathurst, New South Wales. He is also a Visiting Professor in Pre-hospital Care at Coventry University in the United Kingdom. He has 24 years of direct EMS (ambulance service) experience in Australia, having worked in various operational and management roles throughout rural Victoria. At Charles Sturt University, he currently teaches social science subjects in both the pre-hospital and health services management programs. Along with Professor Carol Grbich, Peter has recently edited "Paramedics in Australia: contemporary challenges of practice."

Peter is currently supervising a number of students in Australia and North America undertaking Doctoral and Masters by research degrees in pre-hospital care and health services management. He is a Fellow and NSW Branch Board Member of the Australian College of Ambulance Professionals and a member of a number of national and international professional bodies. His own PhD research examined models of ambulance service delivery for rural Victoria.

### **QUALIFICATIONS**

---

- Doctor of Philosophy, UNSW, 2002
- Master of Public Policy, Deakin University, 1998
- Bachelor of Health Administration, UNSW, 1992

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS AND EXPERIENCE**

---

Dr O'Meara's research has focused on the delivery of ambulance services in rural Australia and the development of paramedic extended scope-of-practice roles. His emerging research interest is in the professional identity and regulation of paramedics as an emerging health profession.

In 2007 he was a Chief Investigator in a research grant from the Australian Teaching and Learning Council under their Discipline-Based Development Initiatives, *Paramedic education: developing depth through networks and evidence-based research*. He was also the Principal Investigator for the *Beyond Emergency Response* research project in 2006/2007, in partnership with Monash University, University of Tasmania, the Australasian Council of Ambulance Authorities Inc., and four state ambulance services. More recently, he has been working with Coventry University and the UK Ambulance Services Research Network to examine the influence of research on policy and practice in ambulance services in Britain.

### CURRENT OR RECENT RESEARCH PROJECTS (2007-2009)

---

Woollard, M. **O'Meara, P.** Rawlins, L. Poposki, J. & Munro, G. *Keeping the Beat: Does music improve the performance of chest compressions by lay persons?* 2009-\$3,000 plus 3,500 in-kind. Charles Sturt University and the Australian College of Ambulance Professionals.

**O'Meara, P.** & Woollard, M. *The influence of research on the policy and practice of ambulance services in Britain: lessons for Australian ambulance authorities and paramedics.* CSU Special Studies Program. 2009-\$10,791. Collaboration with Coventry University and the Ambulance Services Research Network (UK).

**O'Meara, P.** Townsend, R. & Hamilton, L. *Expanded Decision Making in Paramedicine: experience, impact and implications.* CSU Competitive Grant. 2007-\$12,000. Collaboration with Ambulance Victoria.

**O'Meara, P.** Rae, J. & Tourle, V. *An exploratory study of the integration of ambulance paramedics with volunteer ambulance officers and first responders in rural Australia.* Faculty of Health Studies Grant. 2007-\$5,000. Collaboration with the Council of Ambulance Authorities.

Pope, R. Kent, J. **O'Meara, P.** & Higgs, J. Developing optimal University clinical education and community care models for CSU programs in rural NSW. 2007-\$182,000.

Willis, E. Pointon, T. **O'Meara, P.** Brightwell, R. Lord, W. Morris, M. Phillips, R. Service, M. Walker, T. Webb, H. & McCoy, A. *Paramedic education: developing depth through networks and evidence-based research.* Carrick Discipline-Based Initiatives Scheme. 2007-\$100,000.

Woollard, M. Lighton, D. Hamilton, L. Johns, I. & **O'Meara, P.** *Malleable stylet vs re-usable and disposable bougies in a model of difficult intubation: a randomised cross-over trial.* Australian College of Ambulance Professionals (NSW) 2007- \$2,500.

Williams B. Boyle M & **O'Meara P.** *Accuracy of undergraduate paramedic student clinical estimations.* Monash University and Charles Sturt University. 2007.

### PUBLICATIONS (2007-2009)

---

Willis, E. Williams, B. Brightwell, R. **O'Meara, P.** & Pointon, T. Road-ready paramedics and the supporting sciences curriculum. *Focus on Health Professional Education.* [accepted September 2009]

Williams, B. Boyle, M. & **O'Meara, P.** 2009 Can undergraduate paramedic and nursing students accurately estimate patient's age and weight? *Prehospital and Disaster Medicine.* [accepted 9 June 2009].

Williams, B. Boyle, M. & **O'Meara, P.** 2009 Can undergraduate paramedic students accurately identify lung sounds? *Emergency Medicine Journal On-line* 26: 580-582. *Impact Factor 1.347.*

Mulholland, P. **O'Meara, P.** Walker, J. Stirling, C. & Tourle, V. 2009 Multidisciplinary Practice in Action: The Rural Paramedic – It's Not Only Lights and Sirens. *Journal of Emergency Primary Health Care.* 7(2): Article 990312.

**O'Meara, P.** & Grbich, C. 2009 Introduction Chapter in O'Meara, P & Grbich, C. (Editors) *Paramedics in Australia: contemporary challenges of practice.* Pearson Publishing. Sydney. ISBN 9781442509115.

Stirling, C & **O'Meara, P.** Chapter 3, Paramedic practice in rural and regional Australia in O'Meara, P & Grbich, C. (Editors) 2009 *Paramedics in Australia: contemporary challenges of practice.* Pearson Publishing. Sydney. ISBN 9781442509115.

Rickard, C. McGrail, M. Jones, R. **O'Meara, P.** Robinson, A. & Burley, M. 2009 Facilitating medical educators to publish: Evaluation of a writing course combined with writers' support group. *Nurse Education Today.* 29: 516-521. *Impact Factor: 0.573.*

- O'Meara, P.** & Schmidt, S. 2009 Rural and Remote – Special Interest Group Kicks Off. *Response*.36(2): 13.
- Willis, E. Pointin, T. **O'Meara, P.** McCarthy, C. & Lazarsfeld Jensen, A 2009 Paramedic education: developing depth through networks and evidence-based research - Executive Summary. *Journal of Emergency Primary Health Care*. 7(2): Article Number 990368.
- O'Meara, P.** 2009 **[Invited Editorial]** Paramedics marching toward professionalism, *Journal of Emergency Primary Health Care*. 7(1): Article Number 990339.
- O'Meara, P.** & Munro, G. 2009 Welcome to the Land of the Inukshuk. *Response*. 35(4): 23-26.
- Boyle MJ. & **O'Meara P.** 2008 From roadside to hospital: an investigation of the factors influencing the time taken to deliver trauma patients to a regional hospital. *Journal of Emergency Primary Health Care*. 2008; 6(3).
- Woollard, M. Lighton, D. Mannion, W. Watt, J. McCrea, C. Johns, I. Hamilton, L. **O'Meara, P.** Cotton, C. & Smyth, M. 2008 Airtraq versus standard laryngoscopy by experienced pre-hospital laryngoscopists managing a model of difficult intubation: a randomized cross-over trial. *Anaesthesia*. 63 (1): 26-31. Impact Factor: 2.512.
- Pope, R. Allan, J. Kent, J. Higgs, J. & **O'Meara, P.** 2008 Optimising university clinics for clinical education and community care in inland NSW. Charles Sturt University. Wagga Wagga.
- Willis, E. Pointon, T. & **O'Meara, P.** 2008 *Paramedic education: developing depth through networks and evidence-based research*. Australian Learning & Teaching Council. Discipline-Based Development Initiatives. ISBN 978-0-7258-1132-7
- Stirling, C. **O'Meara, P.** Pedler, D. Tourle, V. & Walker, J. 2007 Expanding the Scope of Practice for Rural Health Practitioners: Community Engagement. *Rural and Remote Health* 7: 839.
- O'Meara, P.** Pendergast, C. & Robinson, A. 2007 Grassroots community engagement: the key to success in a community building program. *Rural Society*. 17(2): 155-164.
- Rickard, C. **O'Meara, P.** McGrail, M. Garner, D. McLean, A. & Leleivre, P. 2007 A randomized controlled trial of intranasal fentanyl versus intravenous morphine for prehospital analgesia. *The American Journal of Emergency Medicine*. 25(8): 911-917. Impact Factor: 1.994.
- Woollard, M. Lighton, D. Watt, J. McCrea, C. Hamilton, L. **O'Meara, P.** & Smyth, M. 2007 Use of the Airtraq laryngoscope in a model of difficult intubation by pre-hospital providers not previously trained in laryngoscopy. *Anaesthesia*. 62: 1061-1065. Impact Factor: 2.512.
- O'Meara, P.** Walker, J. Stirling, C. & Pedler, D. 2007 The rural and regional ambulance paramedic: moving beyond emergency response. *National Rural Health Conference Proceedings*. March 2007.