






Training Paramedics for SF/SOF



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Paramedic.

Disclaimer



- Opinions and statements are my own, and do not necessarily represent those of the military and civilian units affiliated to me.
- Acute view of a complex career / capability pathway.



WHY THE NEED FOR PARAMEDICS IN SOF/SF?

- SOMA 2018 - 'The return to the original concept of SF/SOF medicine', Colonel (Ret.) Rocky Farr, M.D., M.P.H., M.S.S.
- Doctors are expensive.
- Increase medical capability and extend EVAC timelines.
- Autonomous practitioners.
- Legal requirement to treat civilian population. (UKCT)
- Interoperability – awareness of respective country/state paramedic skillset.

Defence Medical Services.

Prehospital Emergency Care provider levels.

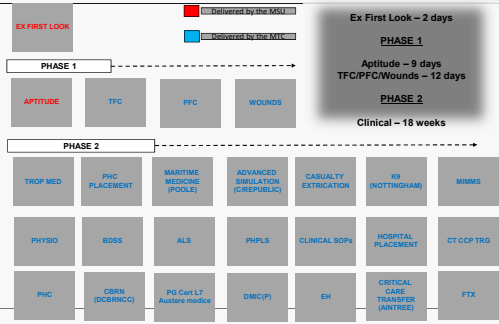
Level 8	Consultant in PHEM with FIMC	Medical Officers providing Specialist PHEM
Level 7	Registrar or GP (PHEM Trained)	
Level 6	Level 5 + 2 yrs experience + Dip IMC	Vocational providers
Level 5	Doctor, Nurse, Paramedic	
Level 4	Defence Medic (EMT), CMT1	
Level 3	Patrol Medic, Advanced Team Medic	Non-vocational providers
Level 2	Team Medic, Remote Team Medic	
Level 1	MATT3, Basic First Aid	

Pathway to SOF Paramedic.



- Combat Medical Technician Class 2 (6 months)
- Combat Medical Technician Class 1 BATLS (6 weeks)
- Special Forces Medic Course (21 weeks)
- Paramedic Bsc (Hons) Degree in Higher Education. (2 years at present)

Special Forces Medic Course.




SF/SOF PARAMEDIC CAPABILITY.



- CUF-TFC-PFC.
- Force protection and environmental health duties.
- Enhanced primary healthcare.
- Tropical medicine.
- Medical instructor/trainer.
- Crew Resource Management
- Critical care capability.
- Blood programme and supply/storage management.
- Medical planning.
- Major incident management.
- CBRNE³.
- Maritime & Altitude Medicine.
- Paediatrics.
- K9 Med.

MILITARY SKILLS

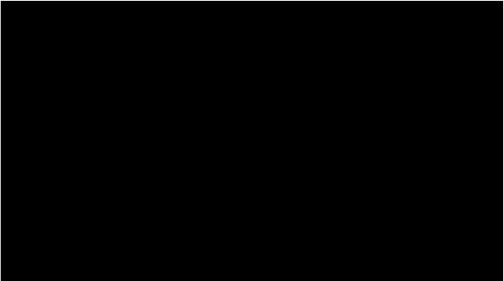
- Parachuting.
- Maritime Training.
- Fast roping/ Abseiling/ Winching.
- Rope access.
- Counter terrorist training.
- Marksmanship and tactics.
- Advanced driving / Emergency driving.
- SERE.
- Unit specific Training.



Barriers / Challenges

- Professionalisation of the paramedic profession – 3 years at University (Bsc Hons Degree in Sciences). September 2021.
- Continued professional development.
- Continued clinical exposure.
- Operational Tempo.
- Promotion up the Ranks.

Questions



Conclusion?



- "We are like dwarfs on the shoulders of giants, so that we can see more than they, and things at a greater distance, not by virtue of any sharpness of sight on our part, or any physical distinction, but because we are carried high and raised up by their giant size". — **Bernard De Chartres** (12th Century)
- "If I have seen further, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants". - **Sir Isaac Newton**. (1675)
