

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

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ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Medical students to experience mock emergency

An emergency scenario will take place at Queenstown **TOMORROW, March 29, 2014** involving multiple “casualties” – a realistic, high-pressure test that will wrap up a three-day Emergency Skills Course for around 30 University of Tasmania Rural Clinical School medical students.

In recent days a series of theoretical seminars complemented by practical skills sessions have been held at the Queenstown Memorial Hall and tomorrow’s emergency field scenario will give students the opportunity to bring together their knowledge and skills, while working alongside experts in emergency procedures and response.

The full-scale, time critical, multi-casualty scenario will also be used by local emergency services as a training exercise, and an opportunity to review management protocols.

This learning opportunity is made possible through the strong partnership between the University’s Rural Clinical School, the Tasmanian Health Organisation North-West and the West Coast Council and community.

The course complements students’ undergraduate learning in the area of emergency medicine.

Course coordinator Associate Professor Peter Arvier, from the Rural Clinical School, said that the mock emergency will give medical students the opportunity to put into practice techniques and principles learnt during the course.

“An essential part of this exercise is students gaining an understanding of how different emergency services work together – and in particular how volunteer services respond to these events in smaller, more isolated communities,” he said.

Emergency service personnel from across the West Coast, local doctors and the Queenstown District Hospital will use the scenario as a training exercise, and an opportunity to review management protocols.

Assoc. Prof. Arvier said the Rural Clinical School greatly appreciated the generous support and expertise provided to the event by the Queenstown health community, local SES crews, the Tasmanian Ambulance and Fire Services and local police.

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