The First Woman Professor Of Emergency Medicine In The UK

Suzanne MASON, MBBS, FRCS, FCEM, MD was promoted to the rank of Professor of Emergency Medicine this year, making her the United Kingdom’s first woman Professor of Emergency Medicine. The title of Professor in England is bestowed rarely, and requires a superb record of academic and clinical excellence. There are only 7 Professors of Emergency Medicine in the United Kingdom.

Professor Mason’s primary research interests include evaluating complex interventions in emergency and urgent care. She is particularly interested in the evaluation of new roles and alternative pathways of care. She helped to implement, a program in Yorkshire in which paramedics trained as Emergency Care Practitioners provided treatment for selected conditions in the home for the elderly to prevent ED visits. The program received the “Frontline Award for Emergency Care” as “an excellent innovative scheme which is having a major impact on avoiding unnecessary admission to hospital.” Her randomized study of this intervention showed it to be as safe as an ED visit. Her current studies include evaluating junior doctor confidence and competence in carrying out their role in emergency medicine (The EDIT study: http://www.shef.ac.uk/scharr/sections/hst/emergency/edit.html), evaluating the use of a falls pathway by paramedics attending older people who have fallen (SAFER 2 Trial), and assessing the impact that the UK four-hour Emergency Department target has had on patient care (SAFETIME study).