

International trends on the developing role of the Community Paramedic Practitioner

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Introduction

- Breaking down barriers in the Globalised Paramedic World :
 - East and West
 - First World and Developing World
 - Health disciplines
- The Paramedic Network is about bringing people together

Disclaimer: Mary and myself are involved across The Paramedic Network and other organisations with interests in these questions



Paramedicine Issues

- Shared across borders and cultures
 - Resourcing
 - Professional Roles and Identity
 - Professionalisation
 - Future Directions



Resourcing

- Varies between countries according to choices made
 - Change comes from action
- We often lack a value argument?
 - Traditionally paid for transport, not professional services
 - Competition with others.eg. Fire EMS, Franco-German Model, Nurse-led Systems
 - Community Paramedicine is nudging the argument



Professional Identity

- Lack our own identity?
 - Confused with emergency services, eg. Fire EMS
 - Volunteer system history and continuing need
 - Subservience to medicine and abdication of our own leadership
 - Tension with nursing over boundaries
 - Tensions within paramedicine



"Me? I'm an ambulance driver."

Professionalization

- Do we understand it?
 - Professional Paramedic Education resisted (internal and external)
 - Limited Paramedic-led Research
 - Sparse Body of Knowledge
 - Self-regulation and Professional Leadership stymied
 - Professional Colleges? (ethics, rationale/identity, advocacy, research and education, self-regulation, CPD, etc.)



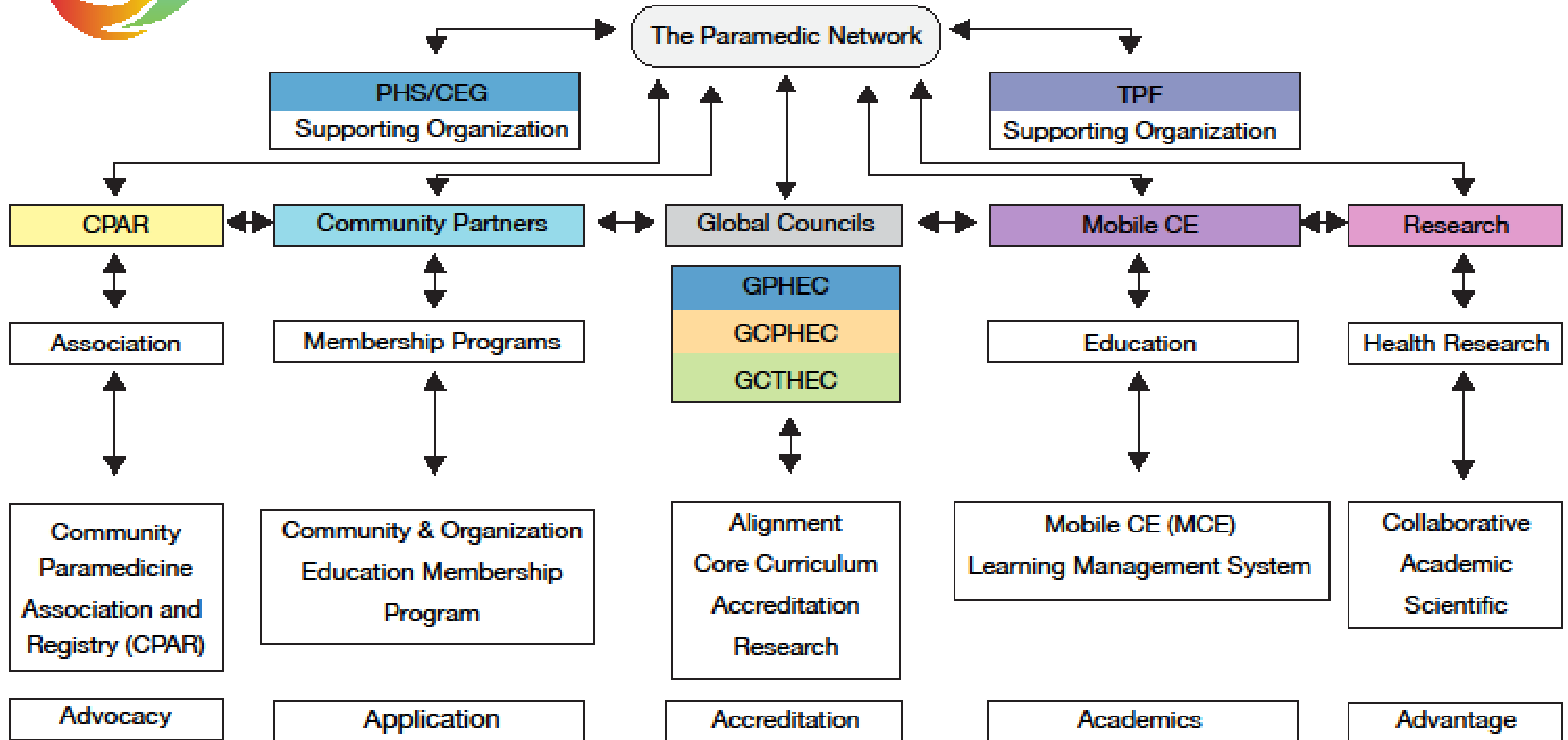
GPHEC & The Paramedic Network

- Broad Brush of Alliances and Partnerships
 - Advocacy
 - Recognition and Regulation
 - Scopes of Practice
 - Curriculum Development
 - Program Accreditation
 - Delivery of Education
 - ... and more!





Paramedic
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Transition to the Future

- Modernise Curriculum
 - vocational to professional
 - away from individual skills to critical thinking and decision-making
- Embrace Evidence
 - drive scopes of practice
- Recognise role diversity
 - clinical, management, teaching, research
- International Accreditation and Recognition
 - avoid cultural imperialism



Educational Transition

- Educational Articulation
 - Building for now and the future (resolve conflict)
 - Grandparenting and conversion programs (build support and provide equity)
 - Partnerships – profession, employers, colleges, universities (sustainability)
- Recruitment and retention of faculty
 - often ignored until too late
- Regulation and Accreditation
 - different models, same aims and principles



Career Transition

- Paramedic opportunities across all domains of practice
 - Consider the UK Career Framework
 - <https://www.collegeofparamedics.co.uk/news/digital-paramedic-career-framework-2018-we-need-your-help>
- Match Education and Regulation
 - recognise their interdependence
- Community-based and volunteer responders
 - leadership opportunity for Community Paramedics



Summary & Questions

- Grasp the Opportunity for Change
- Don't wait for 2050!



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