Dr Anthony Bleetman

Principal Associate

Dr Bleetman is in full-time active clinical practice as a consultant in Emergency Medicine, formerly serving as Clinical Director of Urgent Care at Kettering General Hospital NHS Foundation Trust. Prior to taking this post, he was Lead Consultant in Emergency Medicine at the North West London Hospitals NHS Trust. He holds the position Honorary Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Warwick Medical School.

Tony holds a part-time contract as a Senior Emergency Physician in Beilinson Hospital, Israel. He served in the Israeli Defence Forces in a number of roles between 1981 and 1991. He completed medical school in 1989. He trained on a surgical rotation in Glasgow and received the FRCSEd in 1993. He commenced higher specialist training in Accident and Emergency Medicine in 1994 and was appointed Consultant in Accident and Emergency Medicine at Birmingham Heartlands Hospital in 1996.

The hospitals evolved into a Foundation Trust incorporating three hospitals and Tony served as clinical lead for Emergency Medicine at Good Hope Hospital until May 2010 prior to moving to London to assume the lead for Emergency Medicine at North West London Hospitals NHS Trust.

Tony received a PhD in Occupational Health from the University of Birmingham in 2000. He directs Advanced Trauma Life Support courses and regularly instruct on other accredited life support and resuscitation courses. He served as Clinical Director for HEMS for West Midlands Ambulance Service and continued to fly on air ambulances providing an emergency medical and trauma service until 2013. In 1992, Tony was awarded the Diploma in Immediate Medical Care by the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. He was awarded the Queens Golden and Diamond Jubilee Medals for his pre-hospital emergency work.

Tony has written and exercised multi-agency major incident plans. He sat on government advisory committees for disaster and emergency planning. He is a medical advisor to the Ministry of Defence serving on SACMILL (Scientific Advisory Committee on Less Lethal Weapons). His PhD was for work on developing body armour for the police. This arose from his development work for the Home Office and the Police Federation on officer safety programmes, addressing protection from knives and bullets. Tony continues to work for the police on these programmes and is the first doctor to qualify as a police instructor for unarmed defensive tactics, safe prisoner restraint, handcuffing, tactical communication skills, incapacitant sprays and knife defence. Through this interest, Tony has been able to offer opinions on use of force, and injuries sustained during arrest and detention.

Tony has been involved in developing strategies to protect health workers against aggression and violence in the Health Service. He has completed studies for the Department of Health and other national bodies to identify ways of improving staff and subject safety. He is engaged in developing safe physical interventions and effective training strategies across a number of agencies.

Tony served on the guidelines development group of the Joint Royal Colleges Ambulance Liaison Committee. He has published numerous articles in peer-reviewed professional journals.