



Global Emergency Care Collaborative Newsletter – Spring 2026



Spring is officially on its way!

We hope the start of 2026 has been non-reflective of the washout UK weather for you all. But if you are looking for a pick-me-up we have a couple of blog articles and most importantly our Bristol event coming up on **27th March 2026** - we very much look forward to seeing you there.

Bristol event

Collaboration with Dharura

In a GECCo “first” we have joined up with our friends and colleagues from Bristol's Dharura Emergency Care to deliver this year's face to face event. It was a no-brainer: GECCo means being collaborative (literally!) and when the suggestion for a joint event came up, we simply couldn't say no.

What's in store? “Doing more with less”

As you all will have seen, our event is all about doing more with less. Global emergency care faces many challenges and this current time period has pronounced these challenges as we see spending cuts, reduced freedoms for non-governmental organisations and a geo-political rhetoric of power and division. Our event will explore both the consequences of this alongside some inspiring insights as to how colleagues are navigating and mitigating creatively and collaboratively.



Details

Our programme and logistics can be found below and shareable details of how to get tickets are in the attached flyer, early bird is now over so head to this link tinyurl.com/ydxsve9j before it's too late!

Global Emergency Care in 2026: Doing more with Less



Venue
Watershed
Bristol
BS1 5TX

Lunch & refreshments included



27th March 2026 registration from 09:00

09:30

Welcome & overview

09:45

The UK at war: an unexpected
route to spotlight the value of GEM

Simon Horne, Derriford Hospital,
Plymouth & British Army

KEYNOTE

10:30

Growing the potential of emergency
care from within Sub-saharan Africa

Panel:

Nang Tege Ekumah, University
Hospitals of Derby/Ghana

Claire Kilbride, Bristol Royal
Infirmary/Kenya

Tunde Ashaolu, York & Scarborough
Teaching Hospitals/Nigeria

Break



12:00

Workshops Round 1

- **A:** What might an RCEM GEM fellowship look like?

Hannah Wilcock, Matt Francis, Tom Roberts

- **B:** Global Health: getting your NHS Trust invested

Rebecca Maxwell, Andy Lockyer

- **C:** Attracting funders to GEM partnerships
Global Health Partnerships (tbc)



Lunch

Networking activity

14:00

Little 'GEM's lightning session

OCEAN in Nepal - Amy Hutton

Cardiac tamponade research in Gaza -
Paul Ransom

Hybrid BEC in Ethiopia - Kirsty Challen

*NCDs in humanitarian emergencies in East
Africa* - Shivani Patel

LIGHTNING

14:45

Workshops Round 2

- **A:** What might an RCEM GEM fellowship look like?

Hannah Wilcock, Matt Francis, Tom Roberts

- **B:** Global Health: getting your NHS Trust invested

Rebecca Maxwell, Andy Lockyer

- **C:** Attracting funders to GEM partnerships
Global Health Partnerships (tbc)

Break



16:30

Humanitarianism: emergency care
within a less humane system

Panel:

Sohaib Safi, Médecins Sans Frontières,
Palestine

Ahmed Abd El Rahman Médecins Sans
Frontières, Sudan

Tracey Clatworthy, Heart Safe
Group/WHO, Ukraine

17:15

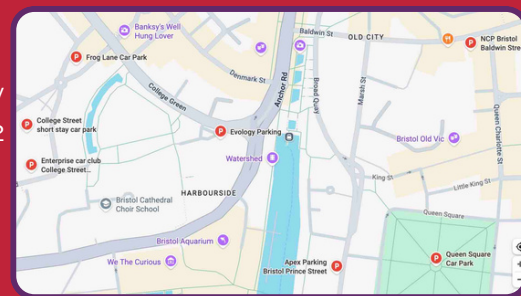
Closing remarks & social event

HOTELS

Whilst there is no official event hotel, a number of delegates have chosen to stay at the [Ibis Hotel Bristol Centre](#) - there are a handful of others within 10-15 minutes walk of the venue.

TRAVEL

There are a number of car parks in the vicinity, however spaces cannot be guaranteed and public transport is strongly recommended. The nearest bus stops are on 'The Centre', a 2 minute walk. There is a ferry stop just along from Watershed with [regular Bristol Ferry Boat services](#) running from Temple Meads, Hotwells and around the city centre. Nearest train station: Bristol Temple Meads (20 mins walk).



CPD

The day will comprise self-certifiable CPD activity in total equivalent to 5 credits. All those who attend will receive an attendance certificate shortly following the event.

BABIES

We very much welcome small babies and are keen that parents are not prevented from attending. Whilst the venue this year is not set up to have a specific area for parents and babies, when the workshops are not taking place you are most welcome to use one of the break-out spaces. There is also space and seating outside of the main rooms which you can use. If you have any specific questions or requirements please contact us on contactgecco@gmail.com and we will do whatever we can to support your attendance.

WORKSHOPS

All delegates will be able to attend **two** of the three workshops. In advance of the event we will request delegate preferences: whilst we cannot guarantee to match them, we will do the best we can. It is important you reply promptly to this email as there will be a quick-turn around deadline. We will plan according to numbers therefore we request, out of respect to our workshop leads who have volunteered their time, you do not switch workshops unless someone is willing to swap directly - in this case please let us know at registration and we will switch you over on our list.

SOCIAL



Following the close of the event we are provisionally planning to move next door to [The Stable](#) for their famous pizza. When you register that morning we'll take names/dietary requirements, there will be per head price for food (likely £15 - please bring cash). We are likely to get a provisional idea of numbers when we get workshop choices.

CONTACT

It is unlikely we'll be able to keep a real-time eye on the GECCo/Dharura email addresses during the event, if, however you need to get in touch for any reason please contact the following numbers:

Delegates: #####

Speakers/panelists: #####

For more venue information including details on accessibility and other building features take a look at the site www.watershed.co.uk
Whilst there is no dedicated prayer space on site delegates are welcome to use the designated break out room during breaks and lunch
For a dedicated space, 10 mins walk away is [Sparks Bristol Prayer Room](#)



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Blogs

Ethiopia and Nepal are the flavour of our latest blog offerings

Anisa Jafar talks about the project she has been supporting as part of the Royal College of Emergency Medicine's partnership with the Ethiopian Society of Emergency and Critical Care Professionals (ESEP). A number of colleagues - one, Silas Webb, who presented at our July 2025 event and another, Kirsty Challen who you'll hear from at our upcoming March 2026 event - have also been supporting with this work. [Read here](#).



Meanwhile, another of March 2026's presenters Amy Hutton talks about the development of Overseas Critical care Emergency medicine & Anaesthesia Network (OCEAN) in Nepal. This collaborative venture will be a potential opportunity for those of you looking to get involved in an emerging partnership. [Read here](#).



Getting involved in GECCo

New team members are always welcome in GECCo - please reach out to us if you want to collaborate no matter where you are based. Prior experience in global health is wonderful and welcome but is definitely not required: just some enthusiasm for it and a bit of energy and time to take on a role - either for a fixed period of time or if, like many of us, you get attached, for as long as it works for you. We can only keep delivering with your help so thank you to our supporters past, present and future!