**Objective**

To determine the extent to which the Paramedic Service and paramedics engaged with local communities during the introduction of the community paramedic model.

**Methods**

Observational Ethnography

Direct observation of practice, informal discussions, interviews and focus groups.

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**The Renfrew County Community Paramedic Model**

The model emerged organically from existing structures and local needs and is built on strong partnerships between the Paramedic Service and other health and social services.

The program consists of four key elements:

- Ageing at Home Program
- Paramedic Wellness Clinics
- Ad hoc Home Visiting Program
- Paramedic Response Unit Program

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**Community Paramedic Model**

- **Community Paramedics**
  - Apply their training and skills in “non-traditional” community-based environments, often outside the usual emergency response and transportation model.
  - Practices within an “expanded scope”, which includes the application of specialized skills and protocols beyond the base paramedic training.
  - Engages in an “expanded role” working in non-traditional roles using existing skills.

- **Policy Implications**
  - Innovations in the delivery of rural paramedic services can be successfully developed and implemented at a community level if all agencies and health professionals work together.