



Fijian doctor publishes research in prominent EMA Journal



Dr Lavinesh Raj outside his office at Hoodless House.

The Fiji National University's (FNU) College of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences (CMNHS) academic Dr Lavinesh Raj has become the first Emergency Doctor from Fiji to have his research paper published in the Emergency Medicine Australasia (EMA) Journal.

The EMA is the official journal of the Australasian College for Emergency Medicine.

"This paper is about the implementation of the trauma team system at the

CWM (Colonial War Memorial) Hospital. This concept utilises a team based approach to manage patients with major trauma where surgeons, anaesthetists and emergency doctors and nurses work together as a team to take care of a severely injured patient," Dr Raj said.

He said it also speeds up access to blood products and to CT scan imaging, as well as speeding up patients transfer to Operating Theatre if they needed emergency surgery.

Dr Raj's findings state that the trauma team system was successfully implemented at the CWM Hospital and has become the standard of care for the severely injured.

"Findings also suggested that there is a deficit in pre-hospital provision for the severely injured in the Central Division, something which we hope to improve with the development of the new pre-hospital care course with the FNU," said the emergency medicine specialist.

"I feel happy to have been able to contribute to improving care for trauma patients and to have my work published and recognised. This is the first publication out of Emergency Care by an Emergency Doctor from Fiji," he said.

The academic, from Labasa, said he would continue to work on improving trauma and pre-hospital care in Fiji.

Dr Raj acknowledged his co-authors; Dr Anne Creaton and Dr Georgina Phillips and his colleagues from Emergency Medicine.