

Preface

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**Errors and Interaction: A cognitive ethnography of
emergency medicine**

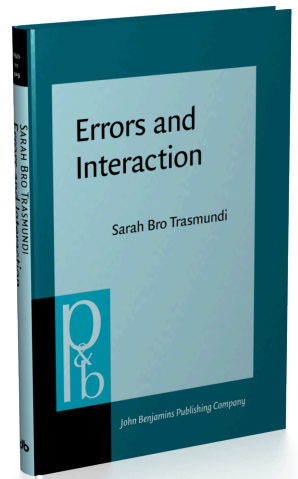
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Preface

Doing cognitive ethnography in emergency medicine involves dealing with a complex and wrinkled authentic world, and any given particular situation offers endless details the analyst can attend to. In my case, many people have helped iron out the wrinkles and made this work both possible and intriguing. First, I would like to express my deepest thanks to my friend and colleague, Sune Vork Steffensen, who always encourages me to do better, and who has been – and continues to be – my biggest inspiration in my academic career. Working with him is difficult: He is a perfectionist, he is the cleverest person I know, and he is extremely ambitious, which is why I also enjoy working with him. Many thanks to the employees of the emergency ward at Køge Hospital, who trusted me and carried out their job when the cameras were recording. Special thanks to Anne Grethe Mølbak, Marlene Schneekloth, Henning Jans and Poul Mossin. You all have my deepest respect both professionally and personally. Much of this work has been discussed with outstanding colleagues around the world, whom I have been able to visit, many of them for a longer period of time. In particular I worked with Michael L. Anderson at *Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences* at Stanford University, David Kirsh at University of California San Diego, Claire Kramsch at Berkeley University, Mark Bishop at Goldsmith, University of London, and finally Per Linell at Gothenburg University. I cannot emphasise enough how much Per Linell has inspired me, how much he has taught me and how grateful I am for the many discussions we have had about our works both in Copenhagen and in Gothenburg. I truly cherish and value those moments and he has become a close friend and an amazing work buddy. Some of my nearest colleagues have been supportive even when they did not know, and even when they were not present. Special thanks go out to my original, teasing *and* thoughtful friend and colleague, Christian Benne, and to Charles Goodwin, Stephen Cowley and Per Linell, who all strongly encouraged me to write this book. Their recommendation to do so is what made it a reality. The fact that I am no longer able to engage with Chuck Goodwin is a huge loss, and I hope with this edited volume, it is clear how big an inspiration he has been and how his works still inspire me. Thanks to members of the *Centre for Human Interactivity* and the *Advanced Cognitive Ethnography Lab*. Also, a heartfelt thank you to my friend, Tanja Isabel Aebischer, an indescribable support in my life, and a strong, ambitious woman, who keeps inspiring me.

Above all, there are my family. They have been my private emergency room in so many caring ways, for instance by showing no mercy in ensuring I got this book written. I will not spell out in great detail what they already know but let me finally say to the men in my life – Martin, Victor and Luca Bro Trasmundi – *Grazie*. It is the best word that comes to mind.