

21st June 2012

IAEM Welcomes Landmark Event for Irish Emergency Medicine and the patients it serves

Tuesday's launch of the national Emergency Medicine Programme (EMP) report by the Minister for Health, Dr James Reilly TD, represents a very significant landmark in the development of Irish Emergency Medicine (EM). For many years the Association has strongly advocated the need for a national blueprint in order to guide development of the specialty in Ireland. This approach has been successful in other areas of health care such as cancer management. The EMP report represents such a blueprint and, when fully implemented, will result in improvements in access to care and quality of care for patients, and in the cost of care to funders.

The Association and its membership have been deeply involved in the work of the EMP and development of its report. It is confident that the EMP's views and proposals enjoy wide support within the specialty of EM. It recognises however that making the laudable aims of the programme a reality involves considerable commitment and contribution by many agencies and individuals. These include the Department of Health, the Special Delivery Unit, the Health Service Executive (and its successors), individual hospital managers and Chief Executives as well as all doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals working both in the community and in hospitals with which EM interfaces. We look forward to working constructively with all those who can make a positive contribution in order to make the National Emergency Care System a service of which the Irish population can be justifiably proud.

The specialty, and indeed the country, has a roadmap for the future development of emergency care in Ireland. Now that the roadmap exists, it is of utmost importance that the programme is fully implemented. IAEM looks forward to a similar proactive approach that has seen gains for patients in other areas of healthcare being replicated for all patients accessing emergency care in Ireland.

The report can be accessed at the following link [National Emergency Programme Report, June 2012](#).

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