

9th August 2012

IAEM reflects on a very successful ICEM 2012 Conference

The Irish Association for Emergency Medicine hosted a very successful 14th *International Conference on Emergency Medicine* (ICEM) which was held at the Convention Centre, Dublin from 27th to 30th June 2012. In addition to the four days of the Conference, a number of pre-Conference workshops took place over the preceding three days.

The Dublin Conference set new records for an ICEM with almost 1,100 Scientific Abstracts submitted and 2,200 Delegates attending from over 60 countries. The meeting was formally opened by the President of Ireland, His Excellency, Mr. Michael D. Higgins, and featured keynote speakers from world Emergency Medicine (EM). It also featured many Irish speakers both from the Diaspora and those based in Ireland.

International delegates have very positively critiqued the ambiance, the stunning venue, the innovative scientific programme and the conference organisation. In addition, the Social Programme of the Conference showcased Irish hospitality at its best. The Welcome Reception took place at the Guinness Store House, the evening before the Conference Launch, and the Gala Banquet took place in the Liffey Suite at the Convention Centre. The latter featured a high class entertainment programme with Barry Murphy acting as M.C.

Reflecting the feedback during the conference, IFEM Immediate Past President, Dr. Gautam Bodiwala, in his closing remarks to the Conference, commended the "tireless work and professionalism" of the organisers of what he described as the "largest and most successful (ICEM Meeting) to date."

The recent publication of the landmark [Emergency Medicine Programme Report](#) and the extremely successful hosting of the world's major international EM conference give an indication of the innate strength and pro-activity of Irish EM. Hopefully aggressive action will be taken to address the extraneous factors which impact on Irish EM such as ED overcrowding and recruitment difficulties to allow Irish EM thrive to the advantage of emergency healthcare and the 1.2 million patients it serves.

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