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IAEM & ICEMT launch their proposal for the development of the Staff Grade in Emergency Medicine

The Irish Association for Emergency Medicine and the specialty's training body, the Irish Committee for Emergency Medicine Training (ICEMT) have jointly launched a [Proposal for the development of the Staff Grade in Emergency Medicine](#). The specialty is aware that there are a number of experienced Middle Grade doctors who do not wish to undertake Higher Specialist Training in Emergency Medicine but who nonetheless have a significant amount to offer the specialty because of their experience and expertise. It is therefore proposing a means to regularise and regulate this grade. Heretofore, it has been allowed to evolve in an *ad hoc* manner with differing titles for the grade used in different units.

In addition to the need to provide for doctors already in the system, there needs to be a broader recognition that the Middle Grade tier of medical posts in Emergency Medicine cannot be filled solely with Higher Specialist Trainees and therefore the new grade needs to be created to contribute to middle grade staffing.

The document outlines the qualifications for the grade and the procedures that should be put in place to successfully transition doctors into this grade. It represents a pragmatic approach and the specialty commends it to the HSE, Department of Health and the medical representative organisations for early implementation.

The regularisation of the Staff Grade role and a significant expansion in the number of Consultants in the specialty will greatly improve the provision of predictable high quality care in Emergency Departments to the Irish population.

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