

7th June 2011

IAEM welcomes a further enhancement of road safety measures

The Irish Association for Emergency Medicine welcomes the decision of the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Dr. Leo Varadkar TD to introduce further steps to deter drink driving effective from 1st June 2011. The decision of the Minister to mandate the performance of preliminary breath tests where a Garda believes that a driver has consumed alcohol or where somebody has been injured in a collision and requires medical attention is to be welcomed. This will act as a further deterrent to drink driving which unfortunately continues to contribute to unnecessary deaths and injuries on Ireland's roads.

This step is a further move to reduce the burden of preventable deaths and injuries, so devastating to victims of such incidents and their families. Sadly, this devastation is still seen in our Emergency Departments, all too frequently.

The Association continues to actively support the RSA's ongoing campaign to make Ireland's roads as safe as possible and put Ireland at the forefront of road safety in Europe.

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