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IAEM Response to HSE's proposed Paediatric Emergency Care Infrastructure following opening of new National Children's Hospital

The IAEM have noted recent statements in the media on the envisaged Paediatric Emergency Care Infrastructure that will be developed following the opening of the proposed National Children's Hospital at the Mater Misericordiae site. We are concerned that no consultation has taken place with the Association or any of its members, who include the accredited Consultants in Paediatric Emergency Medicine working in the Republic of Ireland.

The Association is currently developing a document that will put forward its vision of how Paediatric Emergency Medical Care should be provided when the new tertiary facility is commissioned. The Association believes that it is particularly important that Paediatric Emergency Care be provided safely to meet the needs of children and has concerns about provision of a network of ambulatory paediatric care facilities unless these are properly supported.

We look forward to genuine constructive engagement with the HSE following the publication of our vision of appropriate future Paediatric Emergency Care provision. It would be untenable that access to such expertise would be ignored, especially given the implications for a child or their family of an avoidable significant adverse outcome.

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