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ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS OF IRELAND

13th of March 2023

Dear Clinical Director,

As you are aware it is a requirement for accreditation of RCPI BST (medical SHO) training posts that trainees working under the supervision of a consultant physician confine their practice to the care of patients suffering from medical complaints.

It has come to my attention that a number of hospitals are now triaging patients presenting to Emergency Departments as 'medical' and referring them for evaluation by BST trainees without them first having been reviewed and appropriately worked up by Emergency Department doctors.

I would be grateful if you could ensure that this is not happening in your hospital - the practice may initially have arisen as a response to the covid pandemic, but hospitals where it is still occurring are at risk of having their status as BST training sites removed. The RCPI Institute of Medicine will be reviewing training sites in the coming academic year to ensure compliance.

Is mise, le meas,

Prof John McDermott

Associate Director Basic Specialist Programme

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