



EMERGENCY
MEDICINE

EMP News

April 2018

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Welcome to the latest edition of the EMP newsletter. In this issue, there is a further update about the ongoing rollout of the quality improvement initiative, clinical Microsystems. We also introduce EDAP, a tool that has been developed to improve access to close to real-time data which will be accessible to each ED in relation to their own data.

Fiona McDaid, Nurse Lead on the Programme has provided a detailed summary of the Foundation Programme in Emergency Nursing which will be officially launched on 13th June. Fiona also reports on the Post Triage Mental Health Triage Tool, which we recommend for patients presenting with acute mental health issues to EDs.

This issue also contains details on a HRB funded study of the added value from the programmed introduction of health and social care professionals into the ED, with the aim of understanding their effect on achieving safe admission avoidance for some patients and reducing the in-hospital length of stay for others.

Finally, I would like to welcome the publication of the policy for trauma network development in Ireland and the plans for early phased implementation of the plan. International evidence of the establishment of trauma networks for the management of patients with serious life changing trauma shows that this is undoubtedly a very positive development in Irish healthcare.

Gerry McCarthy, Clinical Lead, National Emergency Medicine Programme (emp@rcsi.ie)

Emergency Department Activity & Profile (EDAP): A New Application for EDs

Emergency Department Activity & Profile (EDAP) is a project that was developed between Health Intelligence Unit (HIU), OpenApp and the Emergency Medicine Programme (EMP). The purpose of EDAP is to provide “close to real time” data that is clinically and managerially relevant. It uses the BIU PET data to describe the activity of the department but also allows for the input of ED profile/resources information as well as “daily events” data to put context on that activity. Some information on patient profiles within an ED’s catchment area is also available.

EDAP has been developed collaboratively with heavy involvement from clinical staff. The software has just completed User Acceptance Testing and we are ready to commence roll-out. EDAP is available for use by Emergency Department Staff.

Data quality and completeness need to be managed on an ongoing basis but we hope that this application will be of interest to those who work in Emergency Departments. **For more information on EDAP, please email** emp@rcsi.ie



Quality Improvement Update

The Microsystems Collaborative for the Dublin Mid Leinster hospital group held the third training session recently in the Centre for Learning and Development in Tallaght Hospital. This is a collaborative piece of work with the Quality Improvement Division of the HSE. The frontline teams from Emergency Departments continue their great work in Quality Improvement Initiatives using the approach of Microsystems. There are a variety of initiatives underway including improving the patient experience, handover, triage, medication reconciliation, effective communication and engaging the whole department when it comes to new ideas for change and their implementation.

Date For Your Diary

There will be a “Sharing and Learning” event on June 6th in Dr Steevens Hospital. This is an important event for the teams engaged in this work to celebrate their tremendous efforts and to share the work they are doing with a wider audience. The day will be supported by Senior Managers both from within the hospitals and at group level.

Invitations will go out soon through Eventbrite. Places will be limited so early booking is advisable.

If you would like more information about this work please contact Lisa Toland on 087 3686842 or at lisa.toland@hse.ie

Foundation Programme in Emergency Nursing

In February 2018, 46 nurses commenced the first Level 8 “Foundation Programme in Emergency Nursing”. The programme is fully funded by the ONMSD and delivered in collaboration with five Institutes of Technology. There will be two intakes of up to 50 students across the five locations per year. The course is aimed at developing the knowledge and skills of staff new to Emergency Nursing and it is anticipated that this national approach to education will positively impact the recruitment and retention of nursing staff in Emergency Departments and Injury units.

The development of the programme began in March 2016 when the Office of the Nursing and Midwifery Services Director (ONMSD) and the National Emergency Medicine Programme (EMP) established an Advanced Skills Working Group led by Dr. Geraldine Shaw, collaboratively they undertook a national survey to identify the education and training needs of nursing, healthcare assistant and multitask attendant staff in Emergency Departments and Injury Units in acute hospitals in Ireland.

The findings of the survey provided the basis for the design and development of the clinical education programme in Emergency Nursing. The objective is to provide 550 nurses with access to a National Level 8 Education Foundation Programme in Emergency Nursing.

The 26 week programme has been approved as a Level 8 NMBI accredited course and is delivered on-line and through face-to-face clinical lectures and skills laboratory time. **Applications for the second intake will commence shortly and with the course scheduled to commence in September 2018.**

Date For Your Diary

The Foundation Programme in Emergency Nursing will be officially launched on Wednesday 13th June 2018, 14:30 – 16:00 (followed by Refreshments) in the Albert Theatre, Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, 123 St Stephens Green, Dublin 2. Please email emp@rcsi.ie if you would like to attend.

Post-Triage Mental Health Triage Tool

The National Emergency Medicine programme with the endorsement of the Faculty of Liaison Psychiatry of the College of Psychiatrists of Ireland has recently released the Post Triage Mental Health Triage Tool to improve the quality of triage and post-triage care for adult patients with Mental Health presentations to Emergency Departments.

The aim of the tool is to improve the quality of triage and post-triage care for adult patients with Mental Health presentations to Emergency Departments. The Victorian Emergency Department Mental Health Triage Tool has been modified to reflect care processes in Ireland.

The tool can be found [here](#) and is now available for Emergency Departments to implement.

RQPS Project-Overview of progress to date and upcoming activities

Brief summary

A HRB-funded research project is looking at the impact of early assessment and intervention provided by teams including Health and Social Care Professionals (HSCPs) in the emergency department (ED). The research is being carried out by researchers in the School of Allied Health at the University of Limerick, led by Dr Rose Galvin. The overall aim of the project is to determine and measure the impact of early assessment and intervention by a multidisciplinary Health and Social Care Professions (HSCP) team in the ED in enhancing the quality of patient care by safely avoiding a hospital admission, improving the patient experience and optimising overall patient flow.

To achieve project will include an international literature review, flow analysis in a large Irish ED (University Hospital Limerick), focus groups with patients and families and a controlled before-and-after study of a HSCP pilot intervention.

If you work in an emergency setting and would like to share an upcoming event with the EM community, please e-mail emp@rcsi.ie