



EMP News

December 2018



- [What is the Emergency Medicine Programme?](#)
- [Who are the Members of the EMP Working Group?](#)
- [Emergency Medicine Programme Report](#)
- [Link to EMNOW](#)
- [Twitter: @EmergencyProg](#)
- [If you have any Comments or Inquiries please contact: emp@rcsi.ie](#)

Welcome to our December 2018 Newsletter

In this edition, there are many “good news” stories, including cross-border developments in quality initiatives, an invitation from our colleagues in RCEM (Royal College of Emergency Medicine) Northern Ireland to their Spring Conference and celebration of the everyday collaborations that are the hallmark of the various emergency services across the Chain of Emergency Care, in our reports on the EMS Gathering and the burgeoning Emergency Nursing Parallel Session at the Annual Scientific Meeting of the Irish Association for Emergency Medicine in Castlenock, hosted by the ED team in Connolly Hospital.

The award of the Inaugural Valerie Small Excellence in Emergency Nursing Award is more great news, tinged with sadness as it marks the retirement of our stalwart colleague and friend who has done so much for emergency nursing, emergency medicine and advanced nursing practice in general in her career. We wish Val all the best in her next adventure.

Whilst not mentioned further in this edition, there is ongoing progress in other areas of EMP participation, including ongoing work to establish a National Trauma Office and implementation of Trauma Networks in Ireland, the Acute Floor Information System, identifying and optimising pathways of care and follow up for patients who attend ED frequently and ongoing HRB funded research in Limerick into “what good looks like”, in terms of HSCP intervention in the pre-admission phase of emergency care. We will shortly be conducting a research project involving 24hour cross sectional analysis of patient attendances across a mix of ED types, to gain an in depth understanding of “who our ED patients are and what are their emergency care needs?” We are also working with our colleagues in other relevant Clinical Programmes on optimising Ambulatory Care and patient flow in general across the Acute Floor.

The Injury Unit Model of Care and governance, with linkage to a hub ED, is increasingly established, understood and continues to be well received by the 100,000 patients who now attend across the 11 units each year. In collaboration with the National Ambulance Service and after endorsement by the Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council, we are shortly commencing a pilot project of appropriate ambulance-borne patients being brought to the Injury Unit in Roscommon University Hospital.

At this time of year, there is much emphasis on Winter Readiness and Staying Well, in preparation for the anticipated increase in attendances of patients living with frailty and chronic disease, very often as a result of an episode of infection. As noted below, the ED-specific Early Warning Score (EMEWS) has completed the NCEC approval process and was launched by Minister Harris in October. We would like to acknowledge the huge support from national and international colleagues in the process. Ms. Fiona McDaid and Mr. Fergal Hickey, as Co-Chairs of the Guideline Development Group deserve special mention for tenacious and unstinting work. The roll-out of this tool is intended help further in the core function of all staff working in EDs, i.e. the early identification, assessment and treatment of the most seriously ill and injured as a priority, even in the most crowded environments.

Finally, as ever, ED and many other healthcare staff will be working at many different stages across the Festive Period. May you all enjoy the camaraderie at work but, importantly also, get sufficient “down time” to stay well and enjoy some of the festivities.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the EMP.

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



EMP Working Group - December Meeting, RCSI – Ms Small's (Val)edictory

Cross Border QI Work Shop

We recently held a cross border workshop in collaboration with our QI colleagues in the Western Trust and also attended by colleagues from the Southern Trust. The purpose of this 2 day workshop which was kindly funded by CAWT was to bring those engaged in QI using the Microsystems approach together to share and learn from each other. The workshop was held in the Four Seasons in Monaghan and was very well represented by 45 healthcare staff from both sides of the border. Steve Harrison from Sheffield MCA joined us for the second day and led some interesting workshops on spreading and sustaining QI.



Pictured at the QI Cross Border Work Shop

Back row: Lorraine Murphy, Marie Ward, Louise Potts, Ciara Hughes, Lisa Toland

Front Row: Dr Catherine McDonnell, Dr Anne Kilgallen, Dr Philip Crowley, Mandy Gormley.

EMS Gathering 2018

The EMS Gathering is now the biggest pre-hospital conference in Western Europe and was held on 12th and 13th of September in Cork City. With over 350 delegates attending from all areas of pre-hospital emergency care and from many corners of the world, it truly was a remarkable event that demonstrated the idea of learning through leisure with workshops such as Airport Disasters at Cork Airport's training facility, a Street Medicine workshop involving Addiction, Homeless, Liaison Psychiatry and Ambulance Services, Crew Resource Management training on board a vessel with members of Irish Air Corp, difficult entrapment and extrication challenges with the ATACC faculty, health and well-being workshops on kayaks on the River Lee.



TRAUMA THROUGH THE AGES

Left : Dr. Cathal O'Donnell, (NAS Medical Director) , Professor Pat Plunkett, Emeritus Consultant in EM St James's Hospital and Dr. Conor Deasy, Consultant in EM (CUH)

Below Left to Right : EMS Looking Deadly at the Everyman theatre, Garda Statler and Paramedic Waldorf, Explosive Disposal unit and Tánaiste Simon Coveney, T.D., Guest speaker at the Gala dinner



Emergency Nursing parallel session at IAEM 2018

L – R, Susanna Byrne (Service Planner, EMP), Val Small (ANP), Fiona McDaid (Nurse Lead EMP)



Another successful Emergency Nursing parallel session was hosted by the Emergency Nursing Interest Group at the Irish Association for Emergency Medicine Annual Scientific Meeting in the Castleknock Hotel and Country Club in October. Forty people attended the session to hear from a wide variety of speakers and the launch of the inaugural Valerie Small Excellence in Emergency Nursing Award.

Valerie Small was the first registered advanced nurse practitioner in Ireland, and 2018 sees her retirement from Emergency Medicine Nursing. As recognition for her invaluable contribution to the profession a bursary has been named after her. The purpose of this bursary award is to provide a mechanism for recognition of the contribution of emergency nursing within the emergency healthcare setting in Ireland. The main audience will be nurses of all grades who work in Emergency Departments (EDs) and Injury Units (IUs) in Ireland.

The bursary award of €500 can be used to support professional development for example; enable winners to attend a professional conference or a structured visit to a designated clinical site or to support the development and promotion of the winning initiative. It is not intended to support normal service delivery.

This year out of 28 abstracts, the bursary was awarded to Ms Ann Scanlon, Clinical Skills Facilitator, Emergency Department, University Hospital Limerick for her presentation “Embedding In-Situ Simulation into Emergency Medicine Nursing shifts”.

Many thanks to the Nursing and Midwifery Planning & Development, Dublin South, Kildare & Wicklow for providing this year’s bursary. All of the presentations are available on the ENIG section of www.emnow.ie. A big thank you to all the contributors to this year’s session.



Congratulations Ann from EMP!

Ann Scanlon Clinical Skills Facilitator Emergency Department University Hospital Limerick being presented with the award by Valerie Small for her winning abstract entitled: Embedding In-Situ

The launch of the Emergency Medicine Early Warning System (EMEWS)

Globally, increasing attendances at Emergency Departments and exit block has caused worsening delays for patients to be seen by clinicians. These delays cause an additional risk for patients; the risk of deterioration following triage but before being seen by the clinician. In an attempt to lessen this risk, the National Clinical Guideline 18: Emergency Medicine Early Warning System (EMEWS) was developed in collaboration with the National Clinical Effectiveness Office to improve the safety of patients where the number of patients waiting to be seen exceeds the ED’s capacity to see them within standard timeframes.

Emergency Medicine Early Warning System (EMEWS) was launched on 17th October 2018 by the Minister for Health, Mr Simon Harris, T.D at the National Patient Safety Conference and mandated that EMEWS is used in all EDs to aid recognition of and response to the adult deteriorating patient. EMEWS is being implemented on a phased basis, commencing with Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital, Drogheda and the Mater Misericordiae University Hospital, Dublin.



L- R: Fiona McDaid Nurse Lead EMP), Mr. Simon Harris T.D. Minister for Health, Dr Fergal Hickey Consultant in Emergency Medicine, Sligo)



Mr. Simon Harris T.D. pictured with the EMP staff and key contributors to the development of EMEWS

Role profiles for Nursing Staff Working in Emergency Care



The National Emergency Medicine Programme is delighted to announce the release of Version 2 of Role Profiles for Nursing Staff Working in Emergency Care Settings in Ireland (August 2018). This work was led by Susanna Byrne, Service Planner for the EMP.

Version 2 now presents role profiles for namely Clinical Facilitator, GP Liaison and Clinical Nurse Manager 1, in addition to those for Staff Nurse, Shift Leader & Nurse Manager. In addition, all six role profiles are aligned with the new 6 domains of competence recently introduced by the Nursing & Midwifery Board of Ireland (NMBI). The six roles now represent 94% of the total nursing workforce employed in HSE Emergency settings in Ireland. These role profiles are supplementary to existing nationally agreed job descriptions. The EMP and the Office of the Nursing and Midwifery Services Director (ONMSD) are pleased to endorse these role profiles which have undergone extensive stakeholder consultation, and anticipate that nursing staff working within the emergency setting will find them beneficial in their roles. This can be accessed at <http://emnow.ie/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Role-profiles-for-Nursing-Staff-working-in-Emergency-Care-settings-in-Ireland-August-2018.pdf>.

Congratulations to our colleagues in RCSI

RCSI's Emergency Medicine Training Programme has been awarded a prestigious Global PMI Award for Project Excellence. The award, which recognises complex projects that deliver superior performance of project management practices and positive impacts on society, was presented at the PMI Professional Awards Gala in Los Angeles in October this year. The project focused on three key systems across online application, application management and an online tool for training to submit on-site clinical assessments of procedures, including an electronic validation system for the trainee supervisors. This work shows the commitment to excellence and training by the Information Technology, Surgical Affairs and Emergency Medicine Teams in RCSI.

RCEM Spring CPD Conference

For its tenth year, RCEM Spring CPD conference will be coming to Belfast on 2 – 4 April 2019.

The Spring CPD conference focusses on attracting high quality speakers to present on engaging and relevant topics. It covers areas of your practice that are rapidly changing, pose frequent clinical dilemmas or occur with a rarity that warrants regular review.

The conference is aimed at Emergency Medicine Physicians looking to gain continuing professional development from high-quality sessions, covering cutting edge and frequently occurring topics.

The local liaison committee has put together an exciting programme for this year's conference. The themes for 2019 will be Head and Neck, Respiratory Emergencies, Realistic Emergency Medicine, Neurology, Paediatrics, and the Resus Room.

Visit the event website rcem.ac.uk/CPDConference2019 for full details and programme – discounted early bird rates end January 2019.

#RCEMcpd @RCEMEvents



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