The College of Emergency Medicine

Patron: HRH The Princess Royal

7-9 Breams Buildings
London
EC4A 1DT

Tel +44 (0)207 404 1999
Fax +44 (0)207 067 1267
www.collemergencymed.ac.uk

PRESS STATEMENT

Thursday 13 September 2012

Re: Report from the RCP: Hospitals on the edge? The time for action

The College of Emergency Medicine welcomes the publication of the Royal College of Physicians (RCP) report 'Hospitals on the edge? The time for action'.

The College agrees with both the analysis and conclusions of the report. The continued rise in attendances and the severity and complexity of patient conditions presenting, without provision of adequate resources for assessment and admission, has contributed to severe difficulty in the recruitment and retention of doctors specialising in Emergency Medicine. A tipping point has been reached; failure to realign resources with patients' needs will lead to failures in the care of patients.

Dr Clifford Mann, College Registrar, commented that: "The College of Emergency Medicine is concerned about patient safety and the welfare of those working in these pressurised hospital departments. It joins with the RCP in agreeing that now is the time for action."

Dr Mann added "The College is hosting a "crisis summit" of key stakeholders later this month and this report is a timely reminder of the challenge faced."

-Ends-

Contact

For further information, or to speak with a member of The College of Emergency Medicine, please contact Red Door Communications:

Lottie Tupholme +44 (0)20 8392 6937 LTupholme@rdcomms.com

About the College of Emergency Medicine (CEM)

The College of Emergency Medicine is the single authoritative body for Emergency Medicine in the UK. The College works to ensure high quality care by setting and monitoring standards of care, and providing expert guidance and advice on policy to relevant bodies on matters relating to Emergency Medicine.

The College has over 3500 fellows and members working in Emergency Departments (often called Accident & Emergency Departments).