Emergency Medicine

• What is it?
• How do you get into it?
• What’s the training program like?
• What’s it like being a consultant?
• What are the best & worst bits?
• What other things can I do as well?
• Is it for me?
Emergency Medicine is a field of practice based on the knowledge and skills required for the prevention, diagnosis and management of acute and urgent aspects of illness and injury affecting patients of all age groups with a full spectrum of undifferentiated physical and behavioural disorders.

It further encompasses an understanding of the development of pre-hospital and in-hospital emergency medical systems and the skills necessary for this development.
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Working in Emergency Medicine

• **DO**
  – Interesting, sometimes challenging procedures
  – Make a difference to people
  – What can only be done by someone there at the right time
  – What has to be done, even if you haven’t always done it before

• **SEE**
  – Wide variety of conditions
    (some rare, unusual or surprising)
  – A unique side of life

• **MEET**
  – Huge numbers of patients
  – People at vulnerable times on their lives
  – Lots of highly motivated staff
Emergency Medicine

• The good bits
  – 5% adrenaline, 95% fun
  – Chance to make a difference
  – See, sort and send somewhere else
  – Shifts: bite-sized chunks
  – Work in teams with other professional groups
  – Great for ‘can do’ mentalities

• The bad bits
  – Never stops
  – Difficult to find out what happened to your patients subsequently
  – Can be stressful – need good coping strategies
Optional Extras

- Dual accreditation
  - Paediatrics
  - Critical care
  - Sports medicine
- Prehospital Care
  - BASICS
  - HEMS
- Portfolio careers
- Regional & National influence
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- Are you ‘hands on’?
- Do you like talking to patients?
- Do you like working with other people?
- Can you lead a team?
- Can you make a plan?
- Do you like variety?
- Can you cope without routine?
- Can you think on your feet?
- Can you handle stress?
- Can you overcome obstacles?
- Do you want to make a difference?
- Do you mind being ‘different’?
- Are you ok working shifts?
- Do you like teaching?
- Are you comfortable with change?
- Can you keep learning?
- Do you have a political streak?

YOU DECIDE