Major boost to intensive care training posts across England

The Faculty is incredibly pleased to hear the announcement from Health Education England that there will be a major boost for intensive care training.

We have long championed the need for an increase in posts across the United Kingdom. This is to both address historical inequity in the regional spread of funding and to give a more sustainable future for the specialty. Over the first 8 years of national recruitment, with the Faculty working with each region and devolved nation, we have doubled the number of trainee posts on offer, but this was still not enough to ensure we would be producing enough doctors in the future to keep critical care services sustainable for the NHS. It is therefore heartening to see such a significant growth in posts.

Dr Alison Pittard, Dean of the Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine, said:

Much as critical care lies at the heart of every acute hospital, it has also found itself at the centre of the ongoing coronavirus outbreak. This has thrown a bright light on critical care services and given the Faculty an opportunity to showcase critical care to a wider audience. Up and down the country, many medical students, foundation doctors and core specialty doctors will have had their first taste of Intensive Care Medicine during these busy and difficult times. I am sure they will have seen what a rewarding and stimulating specialty this is. I hope they will want to #DiscoverICM in future years.

My thanks to Professor MacLeod, Professor Reid, and their colleagues at HEE and the Department of Health and Social Care, for this crucial funding.

Launched in 2019, our #DiscoverICM careers campaign, contains lots of personal stories of why doctors have chosen ICM as their career path. Visit www.ficm.ac.uk for more information or follow us on Twitter @FICMNews and look for the #DiscoverICM hashtag.

NOTES TO EDITORS:

The Faculty of Intensive Care Medicine was founded in 2010 and has well over 3,500 members, making it the largest organisation of critical care medical professionals in the UK. The Faculty is the professional and statutory body for the specialty of intensive care medicine, the doctors who lead critical care services and Advanced Critical Care Practitioners.

https://www.ficm.ac.uk/faculty-membership/about-faculty

Intensive Care, also known as critical care, is a place in every acute hospital that manages patients who are critically ill. Critical care is normally divided into two units, a Higher Dependency Unit and an Intensive Care Unit (although they may physically inhabit the same floorspace).

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