

Editor's Commentary	Page no.
The National Rare Disease Strategy Ireland 2025-2030	126
Editorial	
In-room surveillance of residents in long term care: it's complicated	127
Occasional Piece	
The Rockefeller Foundation and its attempts to develop medical education in 1922	128
Short Reports	
Prevalence of Complications in Chest Drain Insertion in the Emergency Department Legge et al. report on the insertion of 130 intercostal drains in 107 patients. Most 82% were inserted successfully at the first attempt. The complications included dislodgement of the drain, kinking of the guidewire, subcutaneous emphysema, and infection.	129
All-Island Congenital Heart Disease Network referrals to tertiary centres Meenaghan et al. describe the success of the PEC (paediatricians W/I cardiology) programme. The number of children requiring referral from the regional centres to the tertiary centres has decreased from 1348 to 466 (65%) between 2018 and 2024.	130
Original Papers	
Out with the old, in with the new and sustainable! Pre-filled syringes, a re-audit of use following introduction to our theatre complex McCarthy et al. describe the use of pre-filled syringes of Atropine and	131

Suxamethonium. This resulted in a reduction of the number of ampoules that were used. It would also lead to a reduction of 120 syringes and needles each week.	
Electric-scooter-related facial injuries in children: A Christmas case series De Blacam and Keating report 4 young teenagers who sustained facial injuries following e-scooter accidents. They required surgical procedures under general anaesthesia. The authors welcome new legislation to restrict e-scooter use those over 16 years.	132
Beyond the Needle: Innovative Approaches for Reducing Blood Culture Contamination Rates in the Emergency Department Kenny et al. have reduced the blood culture contamination rates from 18.4% to 4.9% using a Kurin Lock device and ChloroPrep. The Kurin Lock diverts the 0.15ml of blood which is the portion of the sample that is most likely to be contaminated.	133
Maternal sepsis: a 5-year single center review McCormick et al. report 82 mothers with sepsis, corresponding to a 0.2% rate. The onset timing varied, 39% antenatal, 23% intrapartum, and 38% postpartum.	134
Leveraging consumer purchase data (CPD) for effective contact tracing: balancing public health benefits and privacy concerns Quintyne and Franca describe a novel tracing process used in Bordeaux to contact customers that purchased tins of pesto that may have been contaminated with botulism. Consumer purchase data in the shops selling the product was obtained in order that individual customers could be contacted and advised not to use the product.	135
Use of Hemopatch Does Not Prevent Post-Operative Pancreatic Fistula Rates in Distal Pancreatectomies Daoud et al. investigated the efficacy of hemopatch use in the management of post-operative pancreatic fistula (POPF) in 33 cases compared with standard management in 38 cases. POPF did not reduce the rate of POPF.	136

Case Reports	
Unexplained Ascites Leading to the Diagnosis of Primary Fallopian Tube Carcinoma Alauddin et al. describe a female patient with chronic pancreatitis who developed ascites, dyspnoea, and peripheral oedema. The ascitic fluid revealed malignant cells. Further investigations revealed a primary fallopian tube carcinoma.	137
Acute Spinal Cord Ischemia: Presenting with Back Pain Rana and Rafeeqe describe a case of acute spinal cord ischaemia in a 33-year-old woman that presented with mid-thoracic back pain and reduced power in the right lower limb. The MRI showed cord ischaemia at T2. The treatment included high dose steroids and thromboprophylaxis.	138
Psychogenic respiratory distress – anxiety induced airway collapse McGeary and Porter describe a case of psychogenic stridor which involves upper airway collapse in the absence of mechanical obstruction in a patient who had a fine needle thyroid biopsy. An endoscopy investigation demonstrated an unobstructed glottis on expiration but a transient glottis obstruction on inspiration due to patient agitation.	139
Grave's Hyperthyroidism presenting as Thyroid Encephalopathy without typical hyperthyroid features Alkhouli et al. describe a 69-year-old male who presented with neurological features including cognitive impairment and myoclonic jerks. Investigations confirmed a diagnosis of hyperthyroidism with raised TFTs with TSH-receptor antibodies.	140
Letters to the Editor	
Safety and feasibility of a virtual exercise programme for pulmonary fibrosis	141

Edition: September 2025; Vol 118; No. 8

Publication Date: September 18th, 2025.

Effects of electronic laboratory ordering on Emergency Department process efficiency	142
A Century in Focus: Reflections on Dermoscopy	143