

June 21, 2017

Health Minister: Excelentísima Sra. Doña Dolors Montserrat  
Ministra de Sanidad, Servicios Sociales e Igualdad  
Paseo del Prado,18  
28014 Madrid Spain

Dear Sra. Doña Montserrat:

The American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP), along with its more than 36,000 members, wishes to congratulate its Spanish colleagues on their continued efforts to establish emergency medicine and achieve recognition as a full medical specialty in Spain.

In the United States today, emergency medicine is well-established and widely recognized by the government, the house of medicine, and patients. However, that has not always been the case. Our specialty is, in fact, one of the youngest medical specialties in America, indeed, in the world. Even so, more than 131 million patient encounters take place in our country's emergency departments every year.

Today, as the largest emergency medicine specialty organization in the world, ACEP is proud to see the specialty of emergency medicine flourishing in all corners of the world, because wherever they live, patients with emergent conditions deserve to be treated by physicians expressly trained to treat the broad spectrum of illnesses and injuries requiring specialized emergency care.

As one of the four founding organizations of the International Federation for Emergency Medicine (IFEM), ACEP continues to collaborate with international emergency medicine societies around the world, and actively supports and participates in local, national, and international emergency medicine development projects, conferences, and initiatives.

The establishment of a national organization that has been accepted by IFEM as an affiliate member is an important milestone in achieving recognition of emergency medicine as a specialty, and the recent passage of a resolution supporting recognition of emergency medicine as a specialty by the MOH and medical specialty board are important steps in the process.

Possibly the most important step remaining is official recognition of the specialty by your government. To that end, ACEP would like to offer its complete and unconditional support of the recognition of emergency medicine as a full medical specialty in Spain.

Sincerely,



Rebecca B. Parker, MD, FACEP  
President

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