



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management's comment on the Francis Inquiry

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Commenting on the Francis Report, Mr Peter Lees, Founding Director of Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management (FMLM) said:

“The Report demonstrated a profound understanding of today’s NHS and the Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management supports the five high level conclusions. We welcome the emphasis on the role of leadership and compassion in healthcare.

“Doctors have a vital role to play in leading teams to ensure that the failings that took place at Mid Staffordshire hospital do not happen again. Leadership is an integral part of the professionalism of doctors as is the delivery of compassionate care in patient centred teams.

“We are delighted that the Report recognises culture as a critical issue in creating better standards of care. Since its inception in 2011, FMLM has emphasised that good leadership creates the culture which allows staff to deliver care to the highest standards. However, Francis’ recurring emphasis on criminal prosecution creates a concern about the impact this threat has upon professionals trying to deliver complex, high quality care.”

Changing culture is complex and challenging; we believe that challenge needs to be owned and acted upon at every level: FMLM, through the unique relationship with its parent UK medical royal colleges and faculties has a vital role here. As the professional home of medical leadership, it has defined the standards of medical leadership and sees the new duty of revalidation and accompanying appraisals as excellent and timely tools to drive up standards as well as to address poor performance.

Because of the link between leadership and the quality and safety of patient care, FMLM is promoting both leadership education and medical leadership as a profession. We welcome the positive recognition of this FMLM role within the Report¹.

Summing up, Mr Peter Lees said “The NHS needs to recover from this report, reflect, and then act on the lessons in a relentless quest to improve. FMLM is will play its full part in all efforts to create a healthcare system that is committed to the highest quality of care. “

¹ Mentions of Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management within the Francis Report, volume II p1327 sections 19.212, volume III p1553 sections 24.28-24.29, volume III p1559 sections 24.54-24.56, volume III p1583 sections 24.149, volume III p1590 sections 24.183.

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Notes to editors:

Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management

FMLM's vision is to see excellence in medical leadership, driving continuous improvement in health and healthcare in the UK.

Set up October 2011, by the Medical Royal Colleges, the Faculty of Medical Leadership and Management has already gained over 2,000 members: including doctors from all specialties and at all stages of the medical career from medical student to medical director.

The FMLM sets standards and ensures best practice in leadership and management; as an organisation it also demonstrates the positive role that medical leadership and management can play in improving patient care, by sharing evidence of how leadership and management practices can, and have contributed to improved patient outcomes.

www.fmlm.ac.uk/francis

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