

## **Emergency Medicine in Estonia, Autumn 2013**

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**Status of EM:** Emergency medicine (EM) continues to be a separate state-funded speciality in Estonia, as recognised by the Estonian government since 2000.

**EM Doctors:** There is still lack of EM specialists in Estonia, although EDs in bigger hospitals have enough senior EM physicians to cover need for treating acute patients. EM physicians work also in Ambulance Services, as 30% of ambulance crews have doctor on board.

**Education:** Residency programme in Tartu University is still 4 years, from year 2013 residents' working hours are counted and paid as full-time (before it was 0.8). Education is built up in different cycles in both university and non-academic hospitals, covering 12 different specialities. Longest cycles are emergency medicine, traumatology and intensive care.

**Guidelines:** Guidelines for pre-hospital therapeutic hypothermia together with educational film are published at the beginning of 2013 ([www.kiirabi.ee](http://www.kiirabi.ee))

**Development:** E-ambulance project development is still in the process, but we hope to start implementation next year.

**Conference:** As is tradition, we had two EM conferences in 2013. Conference focused mainly on in-hospital topics in April and mainly on pre-hospital topics in May (in cooperation with Union of Estonian Medical Emergency).