The Faculty of Pre-hospital Care of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh was founded in 1996 with the following aims:

- To set and maintain standards of practice in pre-hospital care.
- To promote education in and teaching of pre-hospital care.
- To initiate technical developments and research in pre-hospital care.
- To integrate effectively the efforts of all participants in pre-hospital care, and to harmonise and facilitate the onward management of the sick and injured.

It has continued to establish examinations for a Diploma and Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in the field of out of hospital care and is now working to develop recognition of Pre-hospital Emergency Medicine as a new sub-speciality in medicine in the United Kingdom.

Membership of the Faculty covers all aspects of pre-hospital care emergency from bystander response, the voluntary aid societies, emergency services, the ambulance service and doctors - usually responding on a voluntary basis such as Scottish Basics – who are involved in this field of medical care.

All of these groups are exposed to the effects of alcohol abuse, both in adults and the underage drinkers.

The effects may range from those individuals who are simply drunk but causing interference with management of other casualties – often putting the providers such as the ambulance service personnel at additional risk – to the traumatic effects of actual bodily injury or involvement in serious incidents such as road traffic accidents.

We would therefore support any moves to reduce the unwanted effects of alcohol abuse and give the support of the Faculty Board to the proposals as listed in the Bill.

Lindsay Millar
Faculty of Pre-Hospital Care
The Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh
18 January 2010