HSE National Patient Safety Alerts

Step 1: Identifying patient safety issues that require a HSE National Patient Safety Alert (NPSA)

- Potential patient safety issues are identified from regular analysis of patient safety information sources including incident data and international research. Suggestions for HSE NPSAs can also be emailed to patientsafetytogether@hse.ie
- The HSE NPSA Committee consider which patient safety issues meet the criteria for development into a HSE NPSA.

Step 2: Developing a HSE NPSA

- Once a patient safety issue is selected, additional experts may be asked to join the Committee to contribute to the development of that specific alert.
- The Committee then develops the alert including implementable actions that will help reduce the risk of harm in the future.
- Prior to publication, the HSE NPSA will be reviewed and approved by the National Clinical Director for Quality and Patient Safety and the Chief Clinical Officer

Step 3: Communicating a HSE NPSA

- HSE NPSAs are sent via an eAlert system to NPSA Coordinators and Officers within the HSE and HSE funded agencies.
- The NPSA Officer reviews the alert and shares it with Senior Leads who will identify the Responsible Person for that alert locally to lead on the action implementation.
- The NPSA Officer forwards the alert to the Responsible Person for action
- The HSE NPSA can also be forwarded to other interested staff for information purposes

Step 4: Implementation of HSE NPSA Actions

- Local Services will then oversee the implementation of the alert actions and share the learning within their service.
- NPSA Officers then update the eAlert system to indicate that actions have been implemented **OR** that the alert was not applicable to their services.
- Local management of HSE NPSAs should be in line with local QPS governance structures.

Step 5: Making HSE NPSA available to all

- HSE NPSAs are freely available on the online resource "Patient Safety Together: learning, sharing and improving." - https://healthservice.hse.ie/organisation/nqpsd/pst