



## National Quality and Patient Safety Competency Framework

### Background

Education and training are key components in improving Quality and Patient Safety (QPS) across our health services. Slaintecare and the Patient Safety Strategy both highlight the need to ensure staff have the necessary knowledge and skills to deliver safe, quality and person centred care. Through a research collaboration with University College Dublin (UCD) the National Quality and Patient Safety Directorate are co-designing with staff, patient partners and academic bodies a national competency framework for quality and patient safety. This is a wonderful opportunity to create consensus not only on a shared language for QPS but also on the knowledge, skills and behaviours that will support safer, better care across Irish health services.

### What do we want to achieve?

We want to develop a single national competency framework for quality and patient safety that will transform how we build QPS capacity and capability by:

1. Providing a consistent, standardised and evidenced based approach for everyone (clinical and non-clinical) working across the Irish healthcare system and for patients and service users who partner with us to improve the safety and quality of care.
2. Influencing and underpinning healthcare education and quality and safety curricula delivered at undergraduate and postgraduate levels
3. Informing all QPS learning programmes and activities developed to support the continual professional development of staff and patient partners
4. Guiding and supporting patient partners and all those working within healthcare to continually assess and develop their competence in QPS.

### How will we do this?

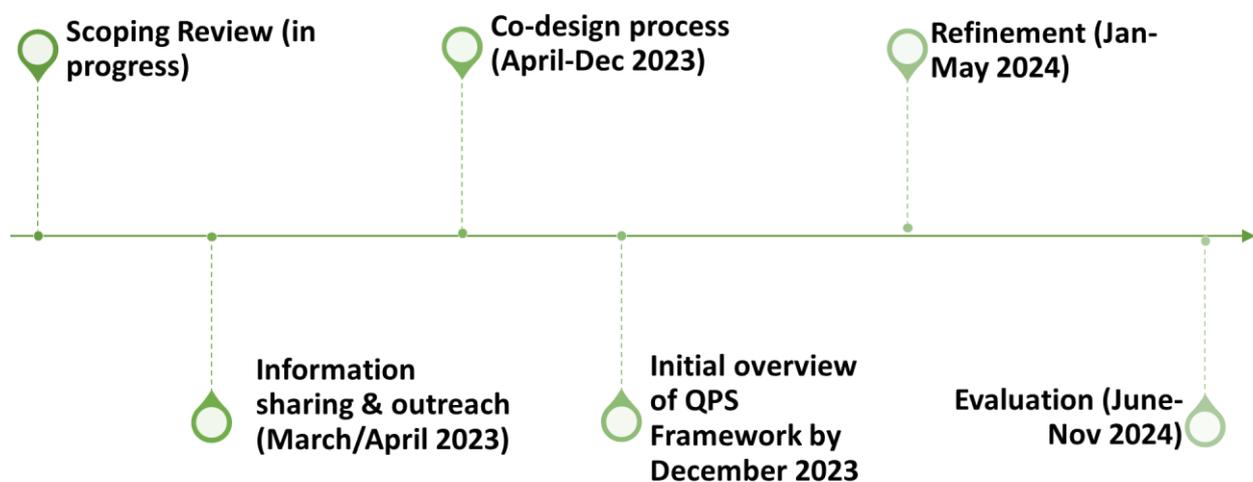
- Harness available knowledge internationally and nationally through a literature review and map existing QPS competency frameworks relating to patient safety, quality improvement, human factors and their application across various system levels
- Undertake a participatory co-design research approach to agree and populate the key competency domains
- Through focused working groups agree the knowledge, skills and behaviours relevant for each key domain
- Test the draft framework with a number of identified groups prior to finalisation



## Benefits

- Build shared ownership for a national QPS competency framework at policy level, service delivery level, regulatory level and across professional groups and academic bodies
- Promote consistency and clarity around language and key competencies for QPS
- Set out a national QPS learning pathway within the Irish healthcare
- Standardise job descriptions, employee induction and support professional development and performance achievement within services
- Build consistency across under and post graduate curricula
- It provides an opportunity to guide personal and professional development in relation to quality and patient safety.

## Timeline



### For further information:

If you would like to learn more please contact:

Email: [Stephanie.horan@hse.ie](mailto:Stephanie.horan@hse.ie) or [Dimuthu.rathnayake@ucd.ie](mailto:Dimuthu.rathnayake@ucd.ie)