

Estates and Facilities Alert



Action

Ref: EFA/2010/001 Issued: 12 January 2010

Device

UK-wide Estates & Facilities Alert (EFA):

Problem

A change to the format of the safety warning Alerts published by the Northern Ireland Adverse Incident Centre (NIAIC).

Action

Please take note that NIAIC will provide Alerts in one of the following three formats:-

- UK-wide Estates & Facilities Alert – red referenced EFA
- UK-wide Medical Device Alert – Blue referenced MDA
- Northern Ireland specific – Green referenced NIAIC

Action by

Trusts Liaison Officers only require to acknowledgement of receipt of this Alert by:

1st February 2010

Contact

Northern Ireland Adverse Incident Centre (NIAIC)
Health Estates
Estate Policy Directorate
Stoney Road
Dundonald
Belfast BT16 1US

Tel: 028 9052 3868
Fax: 028 9052 3900
Email: NIAIC@dhsspsni.gov.uk

Problem

SUMMARY

In 2010 a new format safety warning will be adopted across the UK dealing with estates & facilities equipment. It will be called an Estates & Facilities Alert (EFA).

Background

1. Each EFA will be issued in one of two priorities:
 - Action (standard priority)
 - Immediate Action (top priority)
2. An EFA may originate from Scotland (Health Facilities Scotland), England or Northern Ireland (Wales normally adopts English alerts). After consultation with these partners, the same EFA will be published in each country. Each organisation is responsible for the co-ordinated distribution in its own country.
3. An appendix may be used to give extra information which applies only in Northern Ireland.
4. Medical Device Alerts published by the MHRA (Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency) will continue to be used in Northern Ireland in the format adopted in April 2009 to cover medical device issues.

Action

5. This information should be brought to the attention of all appropriate managers and staff.
6. Estates & Facilities Alerts should be assessed, distributed and acted upon in the same way as the Medical Device/Equipment Alerts (MDEA) which they replace.

Onward Distribution

Directors of Estates and Facilities

Regional Information (Northern Ireland)

The above sections of this Alert was compiled by (insert regional organisation) and distributed nationally without modification.

Enquiries in Northern Ireland should be addressed directly to NIAIC quoting the reference of Alert and should be addressed to:

Northern Ireland Adverse Incident Centre (NIAIC)
Health Estates
Estate Policy Directorate
Stoney Road
Dundonald
Belfast BT16 1US

Tel: 028 9052 3868
Fax: 028 9052 3900
Email: NIAIC@dhsspsni.gov.uk

HOW TO REPORT ADVERSE INCIDENTS

Adverse Incidents relating to medical devices, non-medical equipment, plant and buildings should be reported to NIAIC as soon as possible. Advice on how to report is given in DB2010-001. If you are in doubt about how to report incidents, please speak to your liaison officer or contact NIAIC using the telephone number provided. Adverse Incident reporting forms and an on-line reporting facility are available on the NIAIC website at www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/niaic

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