

# Medical Device/Equipment ALERT

Ref. MDEA(NI)2008/066

Issued: 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2008



**HEALTH ESTATES**

creating healing environments

For:

IMMEDIATE ACTION	
<b>ACTION</b>	✓
UPDATE	
<b>INFORMATION</b>	✓

	Section			
<b>Medical Device/Equipment:</b> Syringe and Needles	▶ ①			
<b>Problem:</b> During September 2008 the regional contract for the supply of syringes and needles to HSC will change across Northern Ireland. All syringes and needles supplied under the regional contract will be supplied by Becton Dickinson (BD) Medical. This change will require all syringe pumps used throughout the HSC system to be calibrated in accordance with the manufacturers instructions for use for the syringe type being used.	▶ ②			
<b>Action by:</b> All Staff	▶ ③			
<b>Action:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be aware that from September the regional contract for the supply of syringes and needles will change</li> <li>Ensure that all syringe pumps are recalibrated for use with Becton Dickinson (BD) Medical LEUR LOCK syringes</li> <li>Ensure that all staff adhere to the manufacturers instructions when using syringe drivers</li> </ul>	▶ ④			
<b>Distributed by NIAIC to:</b> <table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">                     Chief Executive of each HSS Board                      Chief Executive of each HSS Trust                      Chief Executive of each Agency                      NIAIC Liaison Officers                 </td> <td style="width: 50%; border: none;">                     General Medical Practitioners                      General Dental Practitioners                      Community Pharmacists                      Hospices                 </td> </tr> </table>	Chief Executive of each HSS Board Chief Executive of each HSS Trust Chief Executive of each Agency NIAIC Liaison Officers	General Medical Practitioners General Dental Practitioners Community Pharmacists Hospices	▶ ⑤	
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<b>Contacts</b> Details of manufacturer and NIAIC contacts for technical and clinical aspects.	▶ ⑥			
<b>Action deadlines for the Safety Alert Broadcast System for HPSS Trusts (SABS)</b>	▶ ⑦			
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;"><b>Acknowledge Receipt of Alert:</b></td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;"><b>Action Under Way:</b> 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2008</td> <td style="width: 33%; border: none;"><b>Action Complete:</b> 1st Oct 2008</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Acknowledge Receipt of Alert:</b>	<b>Action Under Way:</b> 4 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2008	<b>Action Complete:</b> 1st Oct 2008	
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This Alert is on our web site: <http://sabs.dhsspsni.gov.uk>

## 1. DEVICE/EQUIPMENT:

Syringe and Needles

## 2. PROBLEM:

In May RSS were informed by Covidien (formerly Tyco Healthcare), the regionally contracted supplier of needles and syringes to the HSC Trusts in Northern Ireland, that they were giving notice of their intention to withdraw from the existing contract. RSS immediately initiated a new tender process to find a supplier and award a new contract, this has been successful and the new supplier will be Becton Dickinson (BD) Medical.

It is recognised that the change of syringe manufacturer will have a major impact on the use of syringe pumps, as most will require recalibration to accommodate the BD supplied LEUR LOCK syringes. Following recalibration of a syringe pump, the use of a syringe supplied by any other manufacturer could lead to over or under infusion to the patient.

## 3. ACTION BY:

All Staff

## 4. ACTION:

- Be aware that from September the regional contract for the supply of syringes and needles will change
- Ensure that all syringe pumps are recalibrated for use with Becton Dickinson (BD) Medical LEUR LOCK syringes
- Ensure that all staff adhere to the manufacturers instructions when using syringe drivers

## 5. ONWARD DISTRIBUTION TO:

Please bring this notice to the attention of all who need to know or be aware of it. This will include distribution to:

- Liaison Officers
- Risk Managers
- Health & Safety Officers/Advisors
- Clinical Governance Leads
- Device Managers
- Estates Managers
- Fire Officers
- Medical Directors
- Clinical Directors
- Nurse Directors
- Medical, Nursing and Care Staff
- Ambulance Staff and Paramedics
- Supplies Staff (RSS)
- Special Care Baby Units
- Maternity Units
- Paediatric and Neonatal Units
- Paramedical Staff
- Practice Nurses
- Pharmacy Managers
- Directors of Public Health
- Social Care Staff
- Community Staff
- Day Care Centres
- Independent Health and Social Care Providers – Private Clinics, Residential and Nursing Homes through RQIA
- Sterile Services Departments
- Operating Theatre Staff
- Outpatient Departments
- Infection Control Staff
- Accident & Emergency Departments
- Allied Health Professionals
- Coronary Care
- Intensive Care
- Resuscitation Officers
- Day Procedure Units

## 6. CONTACTS:

Enquiries to NIAIC should quote reference number MDEA(NI)2008/066 and be addressed to:  
Northern Ireland Adverse Incident Centre (NIAIC)

Health Estates  
Estate Policy Directorate  
Stoney Road  
Dundonald  
Belfast BT16 1US

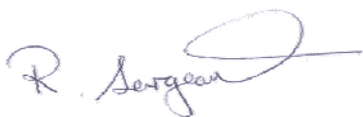
Tel: 028 9052 3868  
Fax: 028 9052 3900  
Email: [NIAIC@dhsspsni.gov.uk](mailto:NIAIC@dhsspsni.gov.uk)

## 7. FEEDBACK:

### Action deadlines for the Safety Alert Broadcast System for HPSS Trusts (SABS)

Action Under Way:  
4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2008

Action Complete:  
1st Oct 2008



Robert Sergeant  
NIAIC Operational Manager

#### 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 MDEA(NI)2008/01. 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](http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/niaic)

*Heath Estates is an Executive Agency of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety*