



For Attention and Action by:
Chief Executive of each HSS Trust
General Manager/Chief Executive of each HSS Board
Chief Executive of each Agency

**NORTHERN
IRELAND
ADVERSE
INCIDENT
CENTRE**

TITLE:
**ARJO TRIxie PATIENT HOISTS:
RISK OF INSTABILITY AND USER INJURY**

MANUFACTURER/SUPPLIER

Arjo Ltd

PROBLEM

Modifications required to ensure the safety of Arjo Trixie hoists may not have been undertaken. If the ‘Tee’ shaped leg lock handles are not correctly locked or make contact with other equipment when being used, it may be possible for the lock handles to be released, presenting an instability risk to all those using the hoist.

DISTRIBUTION

This notice should be brought to the attention of all who need to know or be aware of it, including those listed below, in accordance with local procedures. This will include:

- Liaison Officers
- Risk Managers
- Health & Safety Officers/Advisors
- Medical Directors
- Nurse Directors
- Medical, Nursing and Care Staff including District Nursing and Occupational Therapy Services
- Supplies Staff
- Loan Store Managers
- Social Care Staff
- Community Care Staff
- Residential and Nursing Homes
- Hospices
- Private Clinics
- District Nurses
- Health Visitors
- Practice Nurses
- Occupational Therapists

Boards/Trusts should ensure that if appropriate, this information is passed to all persons having the responsibility for the premises registered under "THE REGISTERED HOMES (NI) ORDER 1992.

ACTION

Identify all Arjo Trixie hoists in use. Check that the ‘Pear’ shaped leg lock handles shown in fig 2, Annex 1 are fitted and NOT the earlier designed ‘Tee’ shaped leg lock handles shown in fig1, Annex 1.

- If the ‘Pear’ shaped leg lock handles are fitted, no further action is necessary and use can be resumed.
- If the ‘Tee’ shaped leg lock handles are fitted, users should contact Arjo Ltd to make arrangements for replacement handles to be supplied and/or fitted at the earliest opportunity.

**SAFETY
NOTICE**

BACKGROUND

NIAIC has been informed that the Medical Devices Agency (MDA) has received reports of nine incidents where injuries have occurred, and more serious injuries could have occurred. When the hoist is used near other equipment such as a wheelchair or a bed, parts of the other equipment could catch the 'Tee' shaped leg lock handle and cause it to release, allowing the hoist to tilt to one side.

Arjo Ltd issued a Technical Advice Notice, AMGB/1002/064 (further copies of this notice are available from Arjo Technical Support) which provides a summary, corrective action and procedure for changing the leg lock handles. However the company have informed MDA that they believe there are hoists in use that have not been upgraded with the new leg lock handles. The Arjo Trixie and Trixie Lift up to serial number GB0699818487001 are potentially affected, manufactured between 1995 and January 1999.

ENQUIRIES

Enquires to the manufacturer should be addressed to:

Arjo Technical Support
Arjo Ltd
St Catherine Street
Gloucester
GL1 2SL

Tel: 08702 430430 Key 3 for Technical Support
Fax: 01452 428300

Enquires to the NIAIC should quote the reference number SN(NI) 2002/38 and be addressed to:

Northern Ireland Adverse Incident Centre (NIAIC)
Health Estates
Estate Policy Directorate
Stoney Road
Dundonald
Belfast BT16 1US
Marked for the attention of Mr Brian Godfrey

Tel: 02890 523714
Fax: 02890 523900
Email: brian.godfrey@dhsspsni.gov.uk



Brian Godfrey
NIAIC 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 Safety Notice SN (NI) 2002/01. 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

*Health Estates is an Executive Agency of the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety
Aisíneacht Feidhmeannach don Roinn Sláinte. Serbhísí Sáisialta agus Sábháilteacht Phoibhlí*



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Annex 1: Identification: Leg Lock Handles



Figure 1

**'TEE' Shaped Leg Lock
Handle: Needs Replacing**



Figure 2

**'PEAR' Shaped Leg Lock
Handle: Not Affected**

Note: If these pictures are unclear they may be seen electronically on the NIAIC Website at <http://www.dhsspsni.gov.uk>