



SCOTTISH
PATIENT
SAFETY
ALLIANCE

Pioneering Patient Safety

Strengthening Patient Safety

Patient safety in Scotland is good by international standards, however too many people experience care that could be safer. This is why NHSScotland is the first health service in the world to adopt a national approach to improving patient safety.

Research shows that 1 in 10 patients in Scotland may experience an adverse event (such as contracting an infection) in hospital. Half of these adverse events are believed to be avoidable.

By implementing evidence-based interventions that will become routine, patient safety can be significantly improved. Improving our safety processes should minimise adverse events and save lives.

About the Alliance

The Scottish Patient Safety Alliance brings together the NHS, The Scottish Government, professional bodies, patient representatives and the Institute of Healthcare Improvement in a new drive to significantly reduce adverse events.

In the Alliance's first programme of work, hospitals across the country are taking part in the Scottish Patient Safety Programme.

Working Together to Improve Patient Safety

The Scottish Patient Safety Programme has been developed in partnership with Scotland's NHS professionals. It takes a practical

approach and supports frontline staff to make changes in practice.

The Programme recognises the complexities involved in delivering modern healthcare, and has been designed to standardise approaches to care.



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PROGRAMME

Drawing on international evidence, a series of interventions will be delivered to every patient, every time.

These will:

- Ensure early interventions for deteriorating patients
- Deliver evidence-based care to prevent deaths from heart attack
- Prevent adverse drug events
- Prevent central line infections
- Prevent surgical site infections
- Prevent ventilator associated pneumonia
- Prevent pressure ulcers
- Reduce staphylococcus aureus (MRSA plus MSSA) infection
- Prevent harm from high alert medications
- Reduce surgical complications
- Deliver evidence-based care for congestive heart failure
- Drive a change in the safety culture in NHS organisations