



Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for joining the effectiveness working group of the 25th EPSO Conference in Copenhagen, Denmark. (16th of April 9-12am at the DPSA offices, Islands Brygge 67, Copenhagen)
We are excited that you will be joining us for this exhilarating and informative session on patient safety.

Background

The Care Quality Commission in England has been asked by our Minister for Health and Social Care to look at how avoidable patient safety events in hospitals can be reduced. Whilst we do not have many of these every year there is a drive to reduce the number as it is believed with the right guidance they can be eradicated altogether.

For our review we will look at:-

- what patient safety guidance looks like as a product,
- how hospitals implement this guidance including what they perceive to be the key barriers and enablers,
- what system partners do to support hospitals in driving down patient safety incidents
- what we can learn from other high risk industries and other countries internationally.

Preparation

For our EPSO session we are interested in finding out how patient safety guidance is created in your country, how it is implemented and how you drive compliance.

We have attached the slides we intend to talk through on the day which include the questions for discussion.

We would be very grateful if you could also gather some information for us in preparation for the day.

1. We are interested in how your country classifies/defines safety incidents. Is there a scale from most serious to least serious? Is there differentiation between preventable errors and non-preventable errors
2. Do you cascade safety guidance from central bodies to hospitals? If so, how do you ensure compliance with it and what are the consequences if services don't comply?
3. How many safety incidents do you have each year and has this gone up or down in recent years?
4. What they do when a safety incident occurs/ what is the expectation on hospitals? Is a root cause analysis completed, is there a central reporting requirement etc.

If you are able to send any responses to the project mailbox at nevereventsthematic@cqc.org.uk by Friday 6th April we would be very grateful.

Thank you again for your interest in our discussion and we look forward to meeting you next month in Denmark.

Best wishes

Victoria Howes and Anna Edwards- Care Quality Commission, England