

PICU RISK EVALUATION MATRIX FOR MEDICATION RELATED INCIDENTS /EVENTS

A Datix must be completed for every event, regardless of score.

		ACTUAL CONSEQUENCE TO PATIENT				
LIKELIHOOD OF RECURRENCE	Insignificant 1	Minor 2	Moderate 3	Major 4	Catastrophic 5	
Almost certain 5	5 Low	10 Moderate	15 Moderate	20 High	25 High	
Likely 4	4 Low	8 Moderate	12 Moderate	16 High	20 High	
Possible 3	3 Very Low	6 Low	9 Moderate	12 Moderate	15 Moderate	
Unlikely 2	2 Very Low	4 Low	6 Low	8 Moderate	10 Moderate	
Rare 1	1 Very Low	2 Very Low	3 Very Low	4 Low	5 Low	

References:

LTHT Risk Matrix for Incident Grading. Approved July 2016

Sentinel Incident Reporting System. Worcester Health Authority 2015

Categorising a Medication Related Incident

Risk Score / Incident Potential	Action
<p>Very Low Risk (1-3)</p> <p>Events/ circumstances have occurred which have the capacity to cause an error</p> <p>An error occurred but the error did not reach the patient (An error of omission does reach the patient)</p> <p>An error occurred that reached the patient but did not cause patient harm</p> <p><small>[Aligns to Categories A and B of MERP Index for Categorizing Medication Errors]</small></p>	<p>Report to Band 7 on duty and together assess the risk severity of the incident. Undertake investigation at local level.</p> <p>The Band 7 uses his/her judgement and takes into account the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The level of actual harm to patient • The nurses previous practice relating to medication administration • The nurses knowledge of and adherence to LTHT Policies / Procedures • The nurses overall standard of professional practice <p>The question to be considered is whether this nurse is safe to continue to administer medication or does your assessment of this incident mean that it is more appropriate to escalate it into the Low Risk category - generating Proforma's</p> <p>The Medicines Management Lead for PICU will oversee the process and follow up incidents with the personnel involved.</p> <p>PICU team leader will monitor trends associated with the grade of the incident and take appropriate action to address any local system failures.</p> <p>Any event graded as very low can be considered as acceptable risk.</p>

Low Risk (4-6)

An error occurred that reached the patient and required monitoring to confirm that it resulted in no harm to the patient and/or required intervention to preclude harm

An error occurred that may have contributed to or resulted in temporary harm to the patient and required intervention

[Aligns to Categories C, D and E of MERP Index for Categorizing Medication Errors]

Report to Band 7 on duty and together assess the risk severity of the incident. Undertake investigation at local level.

The Band 7 uses his/her judgement and takes into account the following:-

- The level of actual harm to patient
- The nurses previous practice relating to medication administration
- The nurses knowledge of and adherence to LTHT Policies / Procedures
- The nurses overall standard of professional practice

In addition to the above consideration should be given as to whether the incident may have implications for the reputation of the service or potential for litigation. Your assessment of the incident may make it more appropriate to escalate into a higher category.

The Medicines Management Lead for PICU will oversee the process and follow up incidents with the personnel involved.

PICU team leader will monitor trends associated with the grade of the incident and take appropriate action to address any local system failures. Consideration will also be given to the number of previous errors in which the individual nurse has been involved.

Any event graded as low should be kept under review.

Moderate Risk (8-15)

An error occurred that may have contributed to or resulted in temporary harm to the patient and required initial or prolonged hospitalisation

An error occurred that may have contributed to or resulted in permanent patient harm

[Aligns to Categories F and G of MERP Index for Categorizing Medication Errors]

The situation should be dealt with immediately in an appropriate manner with safety of the individual(s) being the paramount consideration.

An action plan must be developed to indicate how the risk will be reduced, who will be responsible for implementation and the timescale involved.

The incident must be reported immediately to the Senior Manager as per Incident Reporting Policy.

The Medicines Management Lead for PICU will oversee the process and follow up incidents with the personnel involved.

High Risk (16-25)

An error occurred that required intervention necessary to sustain life

An error occurred that may have contributed to or resulted in the patient's death

[Aligns to Categories H and I of MERP Index for Categorizing Medication Errors]

Activity must be stopped and the situation made safe immediately in the most appropriate manner.

Immediate action must be taken to either eliminate or adequately control the risk before further activity is undertaken. The incident must be reported immediately to the Senior Manager as per Incident Reporting Policy.

A full root cause analysis must be undertaken as per LTHT Policy and consideration given to the need to report to external agencies.

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