

To:
GPs
Community Pharmacists

Tel : 028 9536 3375
Fax : 028 9536 1166
Web Site : www.hscboard.hscni.net

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Dear Colleague

LEARNING FROM REPORTED MEDICATION INCIDENTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND- A SUMMARY REPORT JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2018

The attached report, produced by the secondary care Northern Ireland Medicines Governance team and the HSCB Pharmacy Co-ordinator for primary care, is a thorough analysis of medication incidents reported in primary and secondary care in 2018.

The report includes information on the main types of medication incidents reported and the contributory factors which led to them occurring. It also acts as a resource to raise awareness of good medication safety processes and systems which HSC organisations have implemented to support patient safety. Although the report includes incidents that occurred in secondary care, as well as primary care, many of the drugs and systems involved in these secondary care incidents will be common to both areas of practice and the learning from them is therefore equally relevant to primary care practitioners.

Ensuring the safe prescribing, supply, administration and use of medicines is a key role for all Health Care Professionals and the content of this report can be used to support good practice. I would therefore encourage you to read and share this report, and review the findings and learning identified, in line with your own processes and responsibilities. If you have any feedback or comments on the report, please contact Matthew Dolan (matthew.dolan@hscni.net).

Yours sincerely,



Joe Brogan
Assistant Director of Integrated Care
Head of Pharmacy and Medicines Management

CC. Dr Margaret O'Brien, HSCB

Enc. HSC Medication Incident Report Jan-Dec 2018