

**From the Chief Medical Officer
Professor Sir Michael McBride**



HSS(MD)50/2021

For Action:

Chief Executives of HSC Trusts
Chief Executive of RQIA
Medical Directors, HSC Trusts (*for onward distribution to all Medical Practitioners*)
Chief Executive HSCB (*for onward distribution to All General Practitioners, Practice Managers, GP Locums and GP Out of Hours Services*)
Louise McMahon, Director of Integrated Care, HSCB
Head of Pharmacy and Medicines Management, HSCB (*for onward cascade as appropriate*)

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Our Ref: HSS(MD)50/2021

Date: 27 July 2021

Dear Colleagues

REVISED RQIA/GAIN HYPERKALAEMIA GUIDELINE

Action required

Chief Executives must ensure that this information is drawn to the attention of all clinical staff to enable them to respond accordingly.

Revised RQIA/GAIN guidelines for the Treatment of Hyperkalaemia in Hospitalised Adults were published in March 2021. The updated Hyperkalaemia Guideline can be found at: <https://www.rqia.org.uk/what-we-do/rqia-s-funding-programme/guidelines/2020-21/>.

The information within the hyperkalaemia kits to be used to treat hyperkalaemia in adults has been updated.

The hyperkalaemia kit will now contain a combined treatment algorithm and glucose monitoring sheet for use by the clinical team managing a patient with hyperkalaemia.

The hyperkalaemia kit will also contain an updated standard operating procedure (SOP) for the addition of insulin (using an insulin syringe) to a vial of glucose.

Hyperkalaemia kits with updated information will be available from July 1st 2021.

Yours sincerely

Professor Sir Michael McBride
Chief Medical Officer

Professor Charlotte McArdle
Chief Nursing Officer

Mrs Cathy Harrison
Chief Pharmaceutical Officer

