

Safety Information Message

SIM2106

12 May 2021

Changes to IRIC Safety Alerts

Summary

IRIC is changing the name of its information messages and simplifying the format of its safety alert references.

Information / background

We are changing the title of our Information Message (IM) format to Safety Information Message (SIM). This follows the format's change from an email to a document and is intended to make the title more relevant.

We are also changing the reference formats on our safety alerts which currently use letters and numbers as well as spaces, hyphens, slashes and brackets. Feedback indicates this can lead to errors when keying into databases and communications. In future our safety alert references will consist of a single continuous string of characters made up of numbers and upper case letters. The constituent parts will indicate the format (SAN, SIM or MDSI), year (YY) and alert number (nn). Examples are given below:

Safety alert type	Current	Future
Safety action notice	SAN(SC)2109	SAN2109
Safety information message	SIM/2021/009	SIM2109
MHRA device safety information	MDSI (SC) 21/9	MDSI2109

This will only apply to IRIC's own safety alerts and not to those produced by other agencies which we distribute such as MHRA's National Patient Safety Alerts (NatPSA). Estates and Facilities Alerts (EFA) are also not included in this change.

Enquiries and further information

Enquiries (and adverse incident reports) in Scotland should be addressed to:

Incident Reporting & Investigation Centre (IRIC)

NHS National Services Scotland

Gyle Square, 1 South Gyle Crescent, Edinburgh EH12 9EB

Tel: 0131 275 7575 Email: nss.irc@nhs.scot

Reporting options are available on the HFS website: [How to report an Adverse Incident](#)

Further information about reporting incidents can be found in [CEL 43 \(2009\)](#) or by contacting IRIC at the above address.

NHS National Services Scotland is the common name for the Common Services Agency for the Scottish Health Service. www.nhsns.org

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