Patient Safety Tool Box Talks®

Frequently Asked Questions

What are they?

Patient Safety Tool Box Talks® are a resource to enable short, discussions or presentations by line managers to their staff which is generally focused on one specific topic or theme which it addresses in simple terms to prompt staff to practice in a safer and more meaningful manner.

Tool Box Talks were first developed by manufacturing and construction industries for on the job learning where it is common that participants gather around the tool box for the session, hence the name.

What do they achieve?

Patient Safety Tool Box Talks® are an opportunity for staff to be briefed, reminded and prompted in regard to applying the principles of practice in delivering high quality safe care to patients. They are an onsite and online accessible resource which should be used within the work setting where front line care is provided and supported.

There are key messages in each talk which are relevant to all frontline providers of care so each talk can be a shared approach to learning in the clinical setting using an interdisciplinary approach.

Patient Safety Tool Box Talks® should become embedded in creating a culture of safe patient care where prompts for practice are easily accessible. Talks can be delivered in line with national or international campaigns or indeed to support front line staff dealing with specific patient scenarios.

Are the talks intended to replace current training programmes?

Absolutely not! These are purely brief workplace interventions and not a substitute for formal training and education programmes. They are intended to compound existing knowledge and skills and prompt high quality safe practice in the health care setting.

They are intended to support and embed a culture of patient safety and enhance how health care practice is delivered.

How are the talks developed?

- Service need requests for specific talks
• Relevant subject experts invited to participate in development
• Content submitted
• Standardised format and editing applied to talk
• Returned to subject experts for sign-off
• Finalised and included in toolbox

Additional talks commissioned to be available by the end of 2013

- End of life care
- Tissue viability
- Open Disclosure
- Children first
- Health records management
- Sepsis Recovery
- Cognitive Behavioural Therapy

What is the Regional Quality and Patient Safety Department role in relation to these talks?

• To ensure overall governance of the Patient Safety Toolbox Talks©
• To support the implementation of talks with local implementation teams
• To maintain a data base of site link people and number of Patient Safety Toolbox Talks© distributed to them.
• To assist in the development of new talks based on service need
• To conduct a review of existing talks in March 2015.
• To agree an audit process of implementation with sites in the region