

# **Mandatory Reporting of Serious Adverse Drug Reactions and Medical Device Incidents by Hospitals**

**Educational Support for Mandatory Reporting**

**Module 2:  
Reporting Processes to Health Canada**

# Module 2 – Learning Outcomes

## Completion of Module 2 will enable you to:

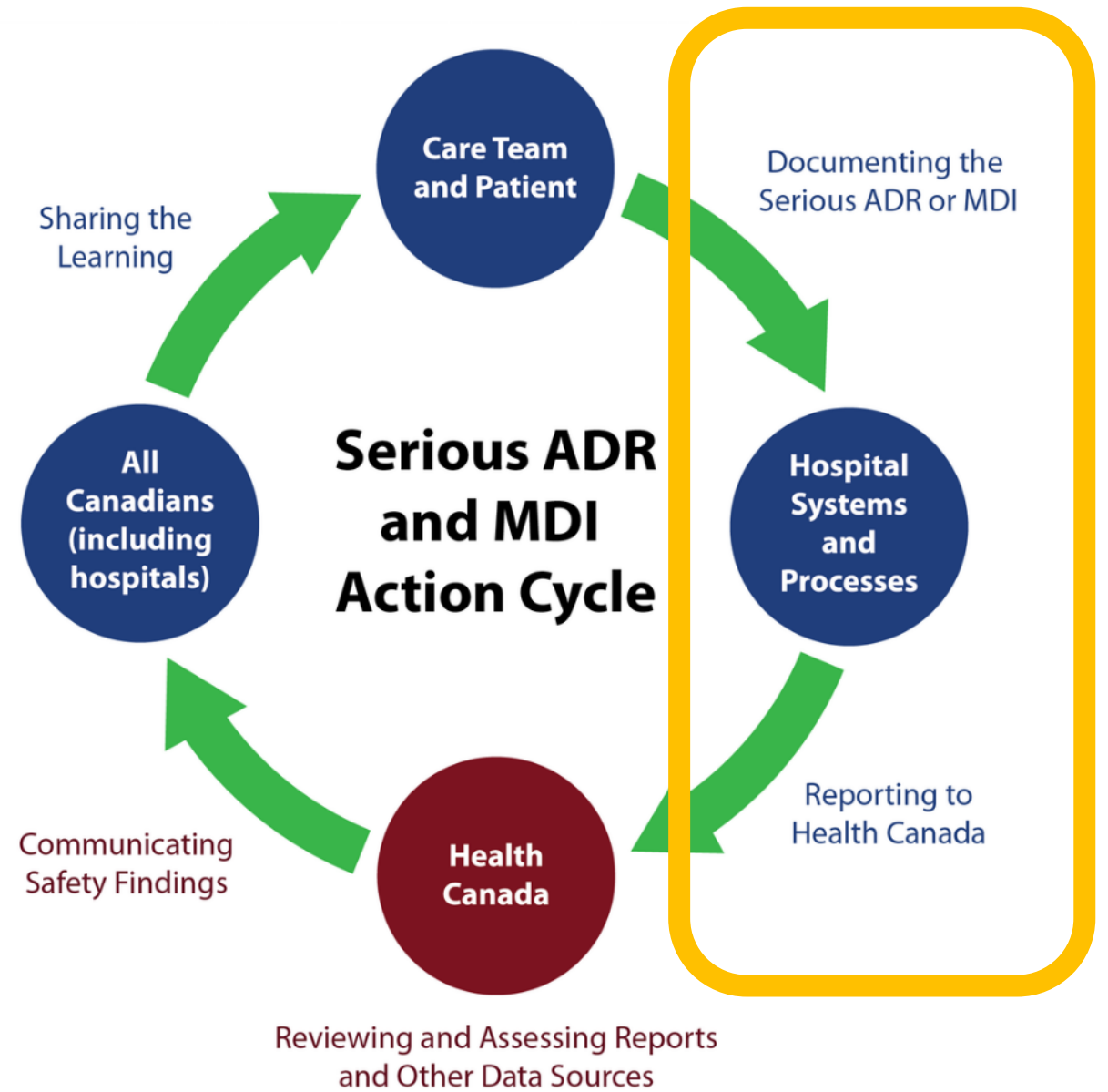
- Describe considerations for mandatory reporting
- Describe reporting options to Health Canada
- Differentiate among the following:
  - Serious adverse drug reaction (serious ADR)
  - Medical device incident (MDI)
  - Medication incident
  - Adverse reaction (AR)
  - Medical device problem (MDP)
- Describe the information contained within the Guidance Document
- Describe voluntary reporting of ARs and MDPs to Health Canada

## Module 2 – Outline

- Considerations for Mandatory Reporting
- Submitting Reports to Health Canada
- Case Examples
- Guidance Document
- Voluntary Reporting to Health Canada
- Key Points to Remember
- Abbreviations
- Resources

# Conceptual Model of Serious ADR and MDI Reporting by Hospitals

**Module 2** describes reporting processes to Health Canada.



# **Considerations for Mandatory Reporting**

# Hospital Considerations

- Hospital systems, processes, policies, procedures, and forms may need to be updated to reflect requirements for mandatory reporting of serious ADRs and MDIs to Health Canada.
- Hospitals are expected to:
  - Develop and maintain internal policies and procedures in order to comply with the requirements for mandatory reporting of serious ADRs and MDIs to Health Canada
  - Determine and communicate internal roles and responsibilities of staff in meeting the mandatory reporting requirements
- The mandatory reporting requirements apply to the hospital and not to the individual health care providers working in the hospital. However, health care providers will have an important role in recognizing and documenting serious ADRs and MDIs.



# Health Care Provider Considerations

- Health care providers have a role in identifying and documenting serious ADRs and MDIs, in accordance with hospital-defined processes.
- Health Canada is interested in reports about a serious ADR or MDI, even if:
  - its association with the drug and/or medical device is only suspected;
  - causality is not confirmed;
  - all the details are not known; and/or
  - it hasn't caused serious harm but has the potential to cause serious harm if it was to reoccur (only in case of MDIs).



# Tips for Recognizing a Serious ADR or MDI

- Serious harm from a drug or from a medical device can be mistaken for a symptom of a disease.
- A high level of suspicion, clinical awareness, and patient dialogue are key components in identifying a serious ADR or MDI. The following can help:
  - Ask about the patient's medical history
  - Consider a serious ADR or MDI if there is:
    - an unexpected change in the patient's clinical condition
    - a new health problem for the patient
    - a need for urgent additional therapies, procedures or surgeries
    - a sudden need for a rescue drug (e.g., naloxone, epinephrine, glucagon)
    - a medical order for an acute change to therapy (e.g., abrupt discontinuation)
- A serious ADR or MDI can occur shortly after beginning treatment or much later



# Considerations for Reporting to Industry/Vendors

- Mandatory reporting regulations do not require hospitals to report to industry/vendors; however, reporting to industry/vendors is strongly encouraged.
- Prompt voluntary reporting from hospitals to industry/vendors enables industry/vendors to conduct investigations to determine causes and corrective actions in a timely manner.
  - **MDIs:** the hospital should inform industry/vendors of an MDI as soon as possible. The manufacturers/importers are required to determine causes and corrective actions.
    - Hospitals should consider including a report to industry/vendors in internal reporting policies and procedures.
    - Hospitals should consider sequestering the medical device involved in an MDI; it is important that industry/vendors have the device for further investigation and analysis.
- Communication among all parties is an effective mechanism to ensure product improvement and patient safety.

# **Submitting Reports to Health Canada**

# Submitting Serious ADR and MDI Reports to Health Canada

- Health Canada remains flexible and is able to receive reports in various formats via multiple secure submission methods, recognizing that hospital systems vary.
  - If interested in submitting reports electronically to Health Canada, please email the Canada Vigilance Program at [hc.canada.vigilance.sc@canada.ca](mailto:hc.canada.vigilance.sc@canada.ca).
  - Health Canada supports report submissions using a secure File Transfer Protocol (sFTP) and continues to explore system-to-system options.
- The reporting forms for serious ADRs and MDIs, together with instructions, are available on the Health Canada website:
  - Serious ADR reporting form: <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/hc-sc/documents/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting/mandatory-reporting-hospital-drug-eng.pdf>
  - MDI reporting form: <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/hc-sc/documents/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting/mandatory-reporting-hospital-device-eng.pdf>

# Serious Adverse Drug Reaction (Serious ADR)

- A noxious and unintended response to a drug that occurs at any dose and that
  - requires in-patient hospitalization or prolongation of existing hospitalization,
  - causes congenital malformation,
  - results in persistent or significant disability or incapacity,
  - is life-threatening, or
  - results in death.<sup>1</sup>




## Examples of Serious ADRs

- Kidney damage from a diuretic (water pill) that requires dialysis
- Lung damage from a chemotherapy drug that requires long-term oxygen therapy
- Allergic reaction to an antibiotic that is life-threatening

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting/mandatory-hospital-reporting/drugs-devices/guidance.html>

# New Form for Mandatory Reporting of Serious ADRs



**Health Canada / Santé Canada**

Protected 'B' When Completed

## Serious Adverse Drug Reaction Reporting Form for Hospitals

Canada Vigilance – Adverse Reaction Reporting Program

**\* = required if this information is in the control of or reasonably accessible by the hospital**

**\*\* = required, but hospital is exempt from reporting if this information is unavailable**

Specific field instructions can be found at the end of the form. Submission of a report does not constitute an admission that medical personnel or the suspect product(s) caused or contributed to the serious adverse drug reaction(s).

**Privacy Notice:** The personal information you provide to Health Canada is governed in accordance with the Privacy Act. We only collect the information Health Canada needs to administer the Canada Vigilance Adverse Reaction Reporting Program authorized under the Department of Health Act, section 4 and the Food and Drug Regulations, Section C.01.002.

**Purpose of collection:** Health Canada requires this information to assess adverse reaction reports, monitor the safety of health products and enforce relevant legislation where applicable. Personal information may be used to analyze general trends, report to senior management and evaluate related programs and services. Trend and safety data in a de-identified format may be communicated by a variety of risk communication tools and/or responses to inquiries. A subset of de-identified Canada Vigilance Adverse Reaction Reporting Program data is made publicly available from the Canada Vigilance Adverse Reaction Online Database.

**Other uses or disclosures:** Personal information may be shared within Health Canada and with the Public Health Agency of Canada, the Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System Program (managed in partnership with the Canadian Institute for Health Information), the Institute for Safe Medication Practices, the Canadian Patient Safety Institute, and international regulatory and health product monitoring authorities, for monitoring adverse reactions. In limited and specific situations, your personal information may be disclosed without your consent in accordance with subsection 8(2) of the Privacy Act.

**For more information:** This personal information collection is described in Info Source, available online at [infosource.gc.ca](http://infosource.gc.ca). Refer to the personal information bank HC PPU 417.

**Your rights under the Privacy Act:** In addition to protecting your personal information, the Privacy Act gives you the right to request access to, and correction of your personal information. For more information about these rights, or about our privacy practices, please contact Health Canada's Privacy Coordinator at 613-946-3179 or [the.privacy@canada.ca](mailto:the.privacy@canada.ca). You also have the right to file a complaint with the Privacy Commissioner of Canada if you think your personal information has been handled improperly.

### A. General Information

1. Type of Report* <input type="checkbox"/> Initial <input type="checkbox"/> Follow-up		2. Health Canada (HC) Reference No.:	
3. Organization File No.		4. Date report submitted	
5. Documentation Date*		6. a. Organization Contact First Name*	
7. a. Phone No.*		ext.	
b. Last Name*		c. Email	
c. Fax			
8. Organization Name*			
9. Source of report (profession)			
10. HC Institutional ID (if ID provided, no need to provide address)		11. Province/Territory	
12. Address		14. Postal Code	
15. Reason for seriousness* (explain (g) in section F)			
<input type="checkbox"/> (a) Death (yyyy/mm/dd) <input type="checkbox"/> (b) Life-threatening <input type="checkbox"/> (c) Caused disability <input type="checkbox"/> (d) Admitted to hospital <input type="checkbox"/> (e) Lengthened hospital stay <input type="checkbox"/> (f) Congenital malformation <input type="checkbox"/> (g) Required medical intervention to avoid any of (a) to (f)			

### B. Patient Information

1. Patient ID (e.g. initials, record no.)		6. Known medical conditions and relevant lifestyle factors* (e.g. hepatic and/or renal impairment, diabetes mellitus, current pregnancy, tobacco, cannabis or alcohol use, recreational drug use, etc.)	
2. Sex**		3. Age**	
*Minterex is a term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a reproductive anatomy that does not fit the typical definitions of female or male.			
4. Height		5. Weight	
cm or ft in		kg or lbs oz	
7. Known allergies* (e.g. food, drugs, environmental, etc.; provide details)			

### C. Reporting Form for Hospitals

1. (a) Drug identification number (DIN)*			2. Reaction start date*			3. Reaction end date*		
4. Common/Proper Name** (active ingredient)			5. Dose			7. Frequency		
6. Product start date*			9. Product end date*			10. Product end date*		
12. Lot No.			13. Expiry date			15. Did the reaction stop if dose was reduced or removed?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A 16. Did the reaction return with reintroduction of the product? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A 17. Is the product still being administered? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No								

provide the Brand Name or the Proper Name, as well as the Manufacturer Name if known important for traceability of an adverse reaction to a specific suspect product.


### D. Identifying Code for Urgent Public Health Need Drugs\*\*

1. Identifying Code for Urgent Public Health Need Drugs**		
4. Common/Proper Name** (active ingredient)		
5. Dose		
7. Frequency		
9. Product start date*		
10. Product end date*		
12. Lot No.		
13. Expiry date		
15. Did the reaction stop if dose was reduced or removed?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A 16. Did the reaction return with reintroduction of the product? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A 17. Is the product still being administered? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

provide the Brand Name or the Proper Name, as well as the Manufacturer Name if known important for traceability of an adverse reaction to a specific suspect product.

### E. Identifying Code for Urgent Public Health Need Drugs\*\*

1. Identifying Code for Urgent Public Health Need Drugs**		
4. Common/Proper Name** (active ingredient)		
5. Dose		
7. Frequency		
9. Product start date*		
10. Product end date*		
12. Lot No.		
13. Expiry date		
15. Did the reaction stop if dose was reduced or removed?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A 16. Did the reaction return with reintroduction of the product? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> N/A 17. Is the product still being administered? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		



2019/06/04

2019/06/04

The new reporting form for serious ADRs, together with instructions, are available on the Health Canada website: <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/hc-sc/documents/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting/mandatory-reporting-hospital-drug-eng.pdf>

# Medical Device Incident (MDI)

- An incident related to a failure of a medical device or a deterioration in its effectiveness, or any inadequacy in its labelling or in its directions for use that has led to the death or a serious deterioration in the state of health of a patient, user, or other person, or could do so were it to recur.<sup>1</sup>



## Examples of MDIs

- An infusion pump stopped due to a malfunction, but failed to give an alarm. The patient received an under-infusion of antibiotics; septic shock occurred and prolonged the patient's stay in the hospital's intensive care unit.
- An external defibrillator failed to deliver the programmed level of energy to a patient due to a malfunction. The patient was not revived.

Note: If the patient was revived, this would be considered a potential to cause serious harm (if it had not been for the timely intervention by a health care provider) and would also be reportable.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting/mandatory-hospital-reporting/drugs-devices/guidance.html>

# New Form for Mandatory Reporting of MDIs

The image displays two pages of the Medical Device Problem Report Form for Health Care Professionals. The front page (left) includes the Health Canada logo, the title 'Medical Device Problem Report Form for Health Care Professionals', and the 'Canada Vigilance – Medical Device Problem Reporting Program' logo. It contains a 'Privacy Notice' and 'Your rights under the Privacy Act' sections. The main reporting section is divided into 'A. Report and Submitter Information' (fields 1-17) and 'B. Affected Person' (fields 18-20). The back page (right) contains 'C. Incident Details' (fields 21-24) and 'D. Additional Information' (fields 25-28). The form is dated 2019-05-09.

The reporting form for MDPs was created for multiple reporting uses:

- Mandatory reporting for
  - hospitals,
  - [Special Access Program \(SAP\)](#),
  - [Investigational Testing Authorization \(ITA\)](#)
- Voluntary reporting to [Canadian Medical Devices Sentinel Network \(CMDSNet\)](#) by participating institutions

The new reporting form for MDPs, together with instructions, are available on the Health Canada website: <https://www.canada.ca/content/dam/hc-sc/documents/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting/mandatory-reporting-hospital-device-eng.pdf>

# Case Examples



# Case Example: Is the Hospital Required to Report?

A patient had been taking warfarin, among other medications, and presented to the emergency department with a life-threatening gastrointestinal bleed. The patient required hospitalization in order to be stabilized.

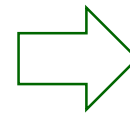


## RATIONALE

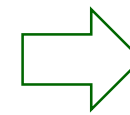
Life-threatening condition



Resulted in in-patient hospitalization



ADR meets the criteria of "serious"



A. Incident Information	
1. Type of Event	1.1 Inpatient 1.2 Outpatient
2. Date of Event	2.1 Month 2.2 Day 2.3 Year
3. Department/Unit	3.1 Name 3.2 Code
4. Drug(s) Involved	4.1 Name 4.2 Dose 4.3 Route 4.4 Duration
5. Patient Information	5.1 Name 5.2 Age 5.3 Sex 5.4 Weight 5.5 Height
6. Reporting Information	6.1 Name 6.2 Title 6.3 Department 6.4 Signature 6.5 Date

# Case Example: Is the Hospital Required to Report?

A patient diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma was being treated with doxorubicin, bleomycin, vincristine, and dacarbazine. Following cycle 3, the patient was admitted as an in-patient with complaints of dry cough and shortness of breath on exertion. Bleomycin-induced pulmonary fibrosis was suspected.



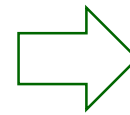
A. Incident Information	
1. Report Number	2. Date Received
3. Patient Name	4. Patient Age
5. Patient Sex	6. Patient Address
7. Patient Phone	8. Patient Email
9. Patient Health Card	10. Patient Insurance
11. Patient City	12. Patient Province
13. Patient Postal Code	14. Patient Country
15. Patient Date of Birth	16. Patient Date of Admission
17. Patient Date of Discharge	18. Patient Date of Reporting
19. Patient Date of Death	20. Patient Date of Reporting

## RATIONALE

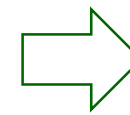
Life-threatening condition



Resulted in in-patient hospitalization



ADR meets the criteria of "serious"



Note: This ADR also meets the criteria of "serious" because bleomycin-induced pulmonary fibrosis may be considered a persistent and significant disability as it can impact the patient's quality of life, given that it can take a long time for an improvement in pulmonary function.

# Case Example: Is the Hospital Required to Report?

A patient has been recently started on the oral anticoagulant warfarin and is having international normalized ratio (INR) monitored at an out-patient anticoagulation clinic at a hospital. The patient reported a nosebleed that occurred in the time between clinic appointments. Based on the patient's INR level, the patient's warfarin dose was adjusted. The patient will continue to have INR monitored at the hospital.



**RATIONALE** While the patient may be at increased risk for another bleed (with an elevated INR and recent nosebleed), the ADR does *not* meet the criteria for “serious”.

# Case Example: Is the Hospital Required to Report?

A patient was being treated with doxorubicin and cyclophosphamide, and developed neutropenia. After assessing the severity of the neutropenia, a decision was made to continue with chemotherapy at a reduced dose with growth factor support.



## **RATIONALE**

While the patient may be at increased risk for potentially fatal infections, the ADR is *not* immediately life-threatening.

Note: This ADR would need to be reported if the patient developed febrile neutropenia and required in-patient hospitalization for treatment (e.g., antimicrobials to prevent infectious complications from febrile neutropenia).

# Case Example: Is the Hospital Required to Report?

A patient experienced dizziness and sweating after a dose of insulin. The patient required glucose tablets to recover. It was discovered that a short-acting insulin had been provided instead of the patient's usual long-acting insulin.



## **RATIONALE**

- A medication incident, also referred to as a medication error, is a mistake with medication or a problem that could cause a mistake with medication.
- Medication incidents are generally preventable and include errors such as receiving the wrong medication or dose, or using the wrong route of administration.

Note: Medication incident-related reporting and learning occurs through a separate and complementary program: the Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System ([CMIRPS](https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/medeffect-canada-role-management-prevention-harmful-medication-incidents.html)).

Source: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/medeffect-canada-role-management-prevention-harmful-medication-incidents.html>

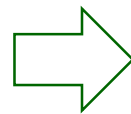
# Case Example: Is the Hospital Required to Report?

Patients undergoing endometrial ablation of the uterus suffered burns to adjacent organs; these burns were due to thin uterine walls and were an unanticipated side effect of ablation. The manufacturer failed to change the ablation device label to warn users of this side effect (which may be produced when the device is working within specification).

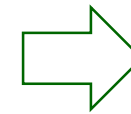


## RATIONALE

Serious deterioration in the state of health of a patient



Reportable MDI



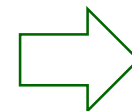
# Case Example: Is the Hospital Required to Report?

A health care professional reported that the sewing cuff was discovered to be defective during a heart valve implant. The defective valve was abandoned, a new valve was implanted, and pumping time during surgery was extended. This defect had the potential to cause serious harm.

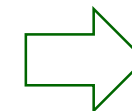


## RATIONALE

Potential for death or serious deterioration in the state of health of this patient due to extended surgical time and this possible defect being missed prior to surgical close on other patients leading to emergency failure



Reportable  
MDI



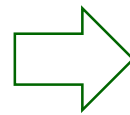
# Case Example: Is the Hospital Required to Report?

A batch of out-of-specification blood glucose test strips is released by a manufacturer. The patient uses strips according to instructions, but readings provide incorrect values leading to incorrect insulin dosage, resulting in hypoglycemic shock and hospitalization.

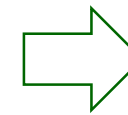


## RATIONALE

Serious deterioration in the state of health of a patient



Reportable MDI



Form 1001 (Rev. 2015) - Canada  
Form 1001 (Rev. 2015) - Canada

Drugs and Health Products (DHP) - Mandatory Reporting Form for Health Products

The purpose of this form is to collect information about adverse drug reactions (ADRs) and other health product related events (HPRs) that are reportable under the Food and Drug Regulations. This information is used to assess the safety of health products and to take action to protect the public health.

This form is to be completed by the person who has the most knowledge of the event. It should be completed as soon as possible after the event has occurred. The form should be completed in duplicate. One copy should be retained by the reporter and the other copy should be submitted to the Health Canada. The form should be submitted to the Health Canada within 15 days of the event.

**Section 1: Patient Information**

1. Name of patient: \_\_\_\_\_  
2. Sex:  Male  Female  
3. Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
4. Age: \_\_\_\_\_  
5. Date of admission: \_\_\_\_\_  
6. Date of discharge: \_\_\_\_\_  
7. Date of death: \_\_\_\_\_  
8. Date of reporting: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2: Drug Information**

9. Name of drug: \_\_\_\_\_  
10. Trade name: \_\_\_\_\_  
11. Manufacturer: \_\_\_\_\_  
12. Lot number: \_\_\_\_\_  
13. Expiry date: \_\_\_\_\_  
14. Date of use: \_\_\_\_\_  
15. Route of administration: \_\_\_\_\_  
16. Dosage: \_\_\_\_\_  
17. Frequency: \_\_\_\_\_  
18. Duration of use: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section 3: Description of the Reaction**

19. Description of the reaction: \_\_\_\_\_  
20. Onset of reaction: \_\_\_\_\_  
21. Duration of reaction: \_\_\_\_\_  
22. Outcome:  Serious  Life-threatening  Disabling

**Section 4: Reporting Information**

23. Name of reporter: \_\_\_\_\_  
24. Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
25. Institution: \_\_\_\_\_  
26. Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
27. City: \_\_\_\_\_  
28. Province: \_\_\_\_\_  
29. Postal code: \_\_\_\_\_  
30. Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
31. Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
32. E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Canada



# Case Example: Is the Hospital Required to Report?

A user performed an inflation test prior to inserting the balloon catheter into the patient, as required in the instructions for use accompanying the device. A malfunction on inflation was detected and another balloon was used.



## **RATIONALE**

This device deficiency would always be found by the user prior to patient use and is an expected potential deficiency noted in the product's instructions for use.

If the user performed the testing prior to use, as per the instructions, no harm would come to a patient.

# Case Example: Is the Hospital Required to Report?

A patient died after dialysis treatment. The patient had end-stage renal disease and died of renal failure.



## **RATIONALE**

When the hospital has information that the cause of the incident was definitely due to a patient's condition, the incident does not need to be reported. The patient's condition could be pre-existing or occurring during device use. An incident due to a patient's condition does not meet the requirements of an MDI.

**Mandatory Reporting  
of Serious ADRs and MDIs by Hospitals:  
Guidance Document**

# Guidance Document

## 1. Introduction

## 2. The regulations and their purpose

- Purpose
- Serious ADR and MDI definitions

## 3. Roles and responsibilities

- Role of hospitals / health care professionals
- Other types of facilities (e.g., private clinics, nursing homes, outpatient clinics)
- Hospital's requirement to report in other situations (examples)

## 4. Applicability of the regulations according to product type

- Applicable therapeutic products / medical devices
- Non-applicable therapeutic products / medical devices
- Determination of applicability for combination products

# Guidance Document

## **5. Serious ADRs or MDIs to be reported by hospitals**

- Serious ADR / MDI reportability considerations
- Serious ADR / MDI examples
- Outcomes associated with MDIs
- Causality assessment / hospital investigations
- Documentation examples

## **6. Information requirements for serious ADR and MDI reports**

- Serious ADR / MDI data elements

## **7. When and how to submit serious ADR and MDI reports**

- Reporting timeline
- Health Canada follow-up requests
- How to send reports (submission methods and formats)
- Links to ADR/MDI reporting forms
- Use of third-party reporters
- Feedback

# Guidance Document

## 8. Privacy

- Privacy considerations when submitting reports

## 9. Additional reporting considerations

- Submission of reports to manufacturers
- Submission of reports to CMDSNet

## 10. Compliance and enforcement

- Health Canada compliance and enforcement actions for hospitals

## Appendices

- **Appendix 1:** Acronyms, Definitions and Terminology
- **Appendix 2:** Third-party Reporting Authorization Form
- **Appendix 3:** Reporting requirements for therapeutic products not subject to the new regulations for hospitals
- **Appendix 4:** Quick Reference Guide

# **Voluntary Reporting to Health Canada**

# Voluntary Adverse Reaction (AR) and Medical Device Problem (MDP) Reporting

- Health Canada builds post-market safety knowledge integral to informing effective clinical use of health products. This safety knowledge is derived from several data sources, including serious ADR and MDI reports.
- Voluntary reporting of suspected ARs or MDPs by health professionals and consumers is another method to monitor the safety and effectiveness of marketed health products.



# Adverse Reaction (AR)

- A noxious and unintended effect to a health product.<sup>1</sup>



## Examples of ARs

- Reduced kidney function from a diuretic (water pill)
- Reduced lung capacity from a chemotherapy drug
- Allergic reaction to an antibiotic

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting.html#a1>

# Medical Device Problem (MDP)

- A medical device problem is related to:
  - inadequate labelling or instructions for use
  - a failure of the device or a deterioration in its effectiveness
  - an actual or potential deficiency that may affect product performance or safety<sup>1</sup>

Note: Medical device problem reporting includes any type of medical device issue; it does not necessarily meet the definition of an MDI.



## Examples of MDPs

- Tubing leaked, causing a delay in treatment, but there was no serious harm to the patient
- Needle broke during a blood draw, but it was removed with minor injury to the patient

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/medeffect-canada/adverse-reaction-reporting.html#a1>

# Canada Vigilance Program

The [Canada Vigilance Program](#) is a national post-market monitoring program that collects and assesses reports of suspected ARs and MDPs involving health products marketed in Canada.

## AR Voluntary Reporting for Health Products

- Online form: <https://hpr-rps.hres.ca/static/content/form-formule.php>
- Telephone: 1-866-234-2345 (toll-free)
- Fax or Mail: Download, print and complete the [Side Effect Reporting Form](#) (please read the instructions before completing the form)
  - Fax: 1-866-678-6789 (toll-free)
  - Mail: Canada Vigilance Office (using the postage paid label)

# MDP Voluntary Reporting

- The [Canadian Medical Devices Sentinel Network](#) (CMDSNet) is a pro-active surveillance program that encourages the reporting of MDP reports from all types of institutions.
  - Only institutions participating in CMDSNet voluntarily report MDIs occurring within their organizations directly through the Canada Vigilance Program.
- Other voluntary reporting from non-participating CMDSNet institutions, consumers, and health professionals are encouraged to report device-related incidents directly to Health Canada by completing a [Health Product Complaint Form](#) via the Regulatory Operations and Enforcement Branch.

# Reporting ARs and MDPs to Health Canada

The [Report an Adverse Reaction or Medical Device Problem](#) web page provides access to more information and forms.

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MENU ▾

[Home](#) > [Departments and agencies](#) > [Health Canada](#) > [Drugs and Health Products](#) > [MedEffect Canada](#)

## Report an adverse reaction or medical device problem

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Reporting adverse reactions and medical device problems by consumers, health professionals and regulated parties, including industry and hospitals.

### On this page

- [What are adverse reactions and medical device problems](#)
- [Consumers and health professionals: voluntary reporting](#)
- [Voluntary reporting: how to report an adverse reaction or medical device problem](#)
- [Industry, hospitals and other regulated parties: mandatory reporting](#)
- [Mandatory reporting: how to report an adverse reaction or medical device problem](#)

# Key Points to Remember

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- **Hospital systems, processes, policies, procedures, and forms** may need to be updated to reflect requirements for mandatory reporting of serious ADRs and MDIs to Health Canada.
- Health care professionals have an **important role** in serious ADR and MDI reporting.
- Health Canada is open to accepting **different formats for reports** of serious ADRs and MDIs, recognizing that hospital systems vary.
- It is important to understand **the differences** between serious ADRs, MDIs, medication incidents, ARs, and MDPs, and how to report them.
- The **Guidance Document** offers information to help hospitals comply with the regulatory requirements for serious ADR and MDI reporting to Health Canada.
- Health Canada values **voluntary reporting** and has programs to support it.

# Abbreviations

**ADR:** Adverse Drug Reaction

**AR:** Adverse Reaction

**CMDSNet:** Canadian Medical Devices Sentinel Network

**CMIRPS:** Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System

**ITA:** Investigational Testing Authorization

**MDI:** Medical Device Incident

**MDP:** Medical Device Problem

**SAP:** Special Access Program

**sFTP:** Secure File Transfer Protocol

# Resources

- [Applications for Medical Device Investigational Testing Authorizations Guidance Document - Summary](#)
- [Canadian Medical Devices Sentinel Network](#)
- [Canadian Medication Incident Reporting and Prevention System](#)
- [Canada Vigilance Program](#)
- [MedEffect Canada](#)
- [Mandatory reporting of serious adverse drug reactions and medical device incidents by hospitals - Guidance document](#)
- [Health Canada's role in the Management and Prevention of Harmful Medication Incidents](#)
- [Health Product Complaint Form](#)
- [Medical Devices Regulations](#)
- [Medical Devices - Special Access Programme](#)
- [Side Effect Reporting Form](#)
- [Protecting Canadians from Unsafe Drugs Act \(Vanessa's Law\) Amendments to the Food and Drugs Act \(Bill C-17\)](#)
- [Regulations Amending the Food and Drug Regulations \(Serious Adverse Drug Reaction Reporting — Hospitals\): SOR/2019-190](#)
- [Regulations Amending the Medical Devices Regulations \(Medical Device Incident Reporting — Hospitals\): SOR/2019-191](#)
- [Report An Adverse Reaction or Medical Device Problem](#)

**For additional information, please contact the Canada Vigilance Program at:**

**Email:** [hc.canada.vigilance.sc@canada.ca](mailto:hc.canada.vigilance.sc@canada.ca)

**Telephone:** 1-866-234-2345



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