National System for Incident Reporting: Program Overview

Spring 2011
NSIR at a Glance

> A new patient safety initiative launched by CIHI in April 2010

> A voluntary reporting system designed to facilitate sharing and learning from medication incidents

> Program Objectives:
  – To enable system-wide and local solutions to medication incidents
  – To give risk managers on the front-lines the tools, access and knowledge to implement local solutions
  – To develop partnerships that create and disseminate strategies, recommendations and solutions
NSIR Attributes

> **Web-based application**
  – Requires only internet access; no software to purchase or install
  – Complements existing risk management systems

> **Simplified data submission**
  – Only 10 mandatory data elements (23 optional)
  – Data submitted via web-based data entry screens or batch upload

> **Standardized drug product list**
  – More than 6,000 products listed by both brand and generic names

> **Integrated Tools**
  – MicroStrategy™ query tool enables learning and analysis
  – Communication Tool facilitates anonymous discussion within the application
Key Features

> **Minimal financial investment required**
  > System is built, tested and launched
  > No cost for facilities to register
  > CIHI trains staff to submit and analyze data
  > Implementation can begin with a single ward/unit

> **Multiple data views**
  > Participants have identifiable access to their own data and de-identified access to data from other facilities
  > Allows provincial, regional, corporation, site-level and peer group views

> **Modular design**
  > Supports expansion beyond medication incidents and beyond acute care sector
Data Collection

> Most data elements are codified to facilitate analysis; text fields for event description and preventative strategies.

> Six data domains:

- **Incident Impact**: degree of harm to the patient
- **Incident Discovery**: who, when and where
- **Patient Characteristics**: age and sex
- **Medication Incident Details**: medication/IV fluid problem and process, contributing factors
- **Drug Product Information**: drug name, strength, dosage form
- **Investigation and Findings**: results of the investigation, lessons learned

**Degree of Harm**
- Reportable circumstance
- Near miss
- None
- Mild
- Moderate
- Severe
- Death
Analytic Capabilities

> **MicroStrategy™ query tool simplifies data analysis**
  - Customizable canned reports and templates for users
  - ‘Drill-down’ function moves users from aggregate totals to individual records

> **Comparison Reports**
  - Compare query results across the units of a hospital, between campuses of a multi-site hospital or between multiple hospitals
  - Peer groups enable comparisons to facilities outside the region

> **Link to Communication Tool**
  - Individual records include a hyperlink to the communication tool, where users can send a non-identifying e-mail to the submitting facility
NSIR Information

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