

NHS England Estates and Facilities alerts and safety messages

CAS Reference: CHT/2023/001

Date: 20 February 2023

Summary

The NHS England Estates and Facilities Team is now accredited issuers of [National Patient Safety Alerts](#) for Estates issues.

From the week commencing 20th February 2023, communication of all estates issues by NHS England that carry a significant patient safety risk and meet the National Patient Safety Alert Criteria ([NatPSA Criteria Flowchart](#)) will be issued as National Patient Safety Alerts. These alerts follow the criteria and template agreed by the National Patient Safety Alerting Committee (NaPSAC). From this date, Estates and Facilities Alerts will cease to exist.

Changes to Estates and Facilities Alerts

All estates issues that meet the National Patient Safety Alert criteria will now be issued as National Patient Safety Alerts (NatPSA) which will replace the former Estates and Facilities Alerts (EFA). Responses will continue to be collected via the Central Alerting System (CAS) website.

Estates issues that do not meet the NatPSA criteria will continue to be issued via the [estates and facilities hub](#). If you have an NHS email address please email england.efmportalsubmissions@nhs.net to request access to the site. If you do not please email england.estatesandfacilities@nhs.net to gain access to a separate Teams site where estates notifications that do not meet the criteria for a National Patient Safety Alert will also be shared. In extreme situations notification may be via the NHS England EPRR process, but this would not be a common occurrence.

Reference numbers for National Patient Safety Alerts will always be noted in the following format: NatPSA/Year/Number/Issuing organisation (For example: NatPSA/2022/006/DHSC or NatPSA/2022/006/CMU.) The numbers will run sequentially, so the next NatPSA issued will take the next number in the sequence (007, 008, 009 etc) regardless of which organisation is issuing the NatPSA.

Actions

- Providers should already have systems in place for handling National Patient Safety Alerts, as communicated in previous updates in [September 2019](#) and [February 2022](#). You should now include Estates issues as part of your systems.
- Providers should note the route of communication of estates issues that do not meet the NatPSA criteria.
- Contact us via email if you have any questions or concerns: england.mb-defectsandfailures@nhs.net

CAS Liaison Officers: there is no response required via the website to this message.