Paediatric Early Warning System Implementation Guidance

Governance
It is essential to establish the governance structure for the deteriorating child in each hospital. A formal governance process (such as PEWS Group/Committee) and named Medical and Nursing Lead should oversee the development, implementation and ongoing review of PEWS. A designated PEWS Coordinator is essential. The implementation of PEWS is governed by the policy framework within the National Clinical Guideline No.12- PEWS available at: [http://health.gov.ie/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/NCG-12-PEWS-full-report-V21.pdf](http://health.gov.ie/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/NCG-12-PEWS-full-report-V21.pdf)

Implementation plan

- Identify local implementation leads to coordinate implementation
- Establish local PEWS implementation team and designated PEWS coordinator
- Agree implementation timelines
  - Develop local response based on Escalation Guide
  - Agree lines of responsibility
  - Arrange printing of PEWS Charts. Additions may be made to reflect local arrangements.
  - No changes to scoring elements
- Membership should include: Medical (consultant and NCHD), nursing (manager and clinical grades), quality & risk, audit, education personnel / practice development, hospital management
- Identify trainers and PEWS Champions in each local area
  - Develop training schedule
  - Ensure access to manual
  - Deliver training
- Implement PEWS when >75% nurses and all doctors are trained
- Introduce additional situation awareness strategies

Continuous improvement and embedding of good practice
- Incorporate PEWS into ongoing training, education, learning and risk structures
- Frontline ownership of audit and improvement strategies to promote good practice
- Leads, trainers and champions to meet regularly and engage with targeted training and updating for staff
- Share learning across hospitals, hospital groups and nationally
- Continue to engage with other situation awareness improvement strategies such as huddles, briefings, ISBAR communication or team building
PEWS Implementation Leads, Trainers and Champions
Implementation leads and PEWS trainers should expect to participate in and lead PEWS training, and should act as a resource to colleagues and promote PEWS in the hospital. The selection of trainers is important. In addition, ongoing simulation-based team training incorporating the use of PEWS and ISBAR communication is advised. NCHD trainers should be selected in addition to the Medical Lead and should provide multidisciplinary training together with the nominated nurse trainers. Multidisciplinary training is seen as key to ensuring successful team understanding of PEWS and responsibilities under the system. PEWS Trainers should have experience in clinical education including delivery of presentations, facilitating case discussion and practical case demonstration. Experience in simulation or skills training may be of particular advantage.

In addition to PEWS implementation leads and trainers, named PEWS champions are recommended to promote continued compliance and facilitate queries from colleagues and parents. PEWS champions can assist local implementation leads with audit where appropriate.

PEWS Training for Implementation
Raise awareness locally about PEWS, and schedule the face-to-face training sessions for all medical and nursing staff. The number of participants at each session will depend on the number of trainers available locally. Training is recommended to be multidisciplinary where possible. It is essential to ensure that all audiences receive the same information. Resources for PEWS Training are available online at www.hse.ie/pews.

PEWS Update Training
The multidisciplinary PEWS Update programme was launched in June 2017. This programme may be used for ongoing training in dedicated paediatric sites or clinical areas. Other sites should consider retraining with the PEWS Training programme to ensure retention of the key safety themes. This will be a PEWS Governance Group and hospital SMT decision.

Ongoing ward-level and team-based training should incorporate PEWS to reinforce learning and understanding of the system.

Resources to support implementation, training, audit and parent engagement are available on www.hse.ie/pews.