



Yellow Card Centre Northern Ireland

Report problems with healthcare products to increase patient safety in Northern Ireland

Yellow Card reporting for patient safety in Northern Ireland

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Working together



Excellence



Openness & Honesty



Compassion

Yellow Card centre Northern Ireland

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Health professionals can get in touch:




028 9504 0558

Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm



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Aims

- **Increase and Improve** yellow card reporting in NI by health professionals and patients
 - **Raise the profile** of adverse events as a safety and quality issue
 - **Raise awareness** through education, promotion and stakeholder engagement
 - **Promote research** into the understanding of causes, effect and avoidance of adverse events
- 

Yellow Card Scheme

UK's spontaneous adverse reaction reporting scheme

- Vital public health mechanism
 - to identify **unrecognised** problems
 - Gain information about the safety of healthcare products **in practice**
- Receives 88-90,000 reports annually
- More reports mean improved data for signal detection
- Voluntary scheme
- Under-reporting consistent challenge: **est. 94% of ADRs not reported**
- **Est 40-70% of adverse reactions can be prevented**
- Barriers to reporting: understanding what and how to report, time, complacency, feedback

Adverse Drug Reactions

1 month study in Liverpool:

- direct cause or contributed to 16.5% total admissions
- Mortality rate of 0.34%
- 40% classified as avoidable/potentially avoidable
- Average length of stay for those with an ADR was 6 days.
- Direct 1 month cost to trust: £490,716
- ADRs may also mimic disease

Definition

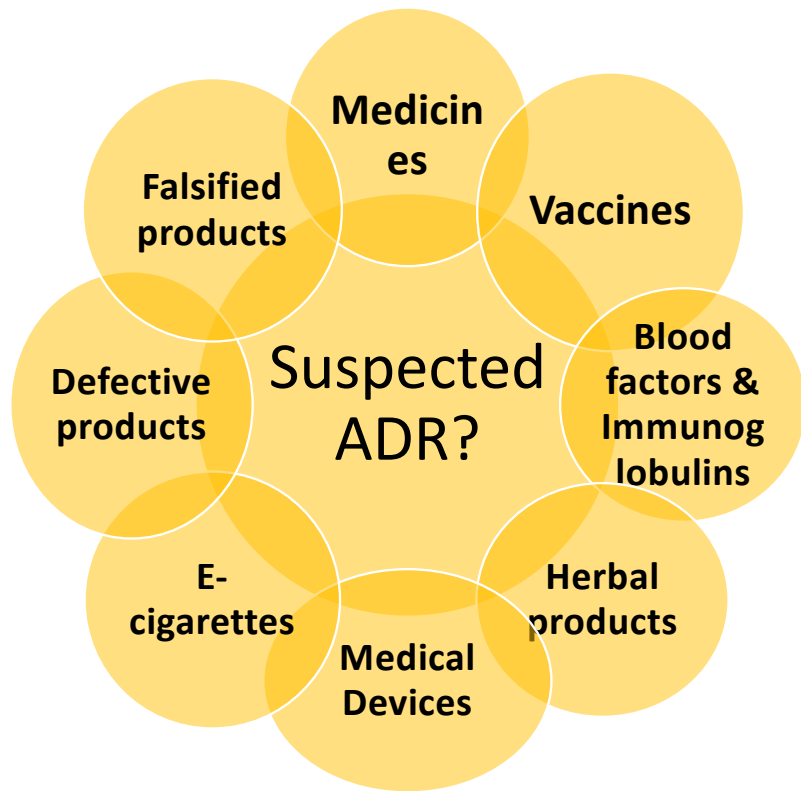
- Response to a medicinal product which is noxious and unintended
- Where a causal relationship between the medicinal product and adverse event is either known or suspected.
- May arise following the use of a medicinal product within or outside the terms of the marketing authorization,
 - off-label therapeutic use,
 - overdose,
 - misuse,
 - abuse,
 - medication errors,
 - occupational exposure.

NI Yellow Card reports

- Northern Ireland has the lowest rate of adverse drug reaction reporting by members of the public within the United Kingdom
- NI has the lowest reporting rate per 100,000 population over the last 5 years in the UK
- Pharmacists are the most frequent Yellow Card reporter among HCP



What to report



For established medicines & vaccines	Black triangle scheme ▼
<p>All serious suspected ADRs, even if the effect is well recognized</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are fatal • are life-threatening • are disabling or incapacitating • involve or prolong hospitalisation • are congenital abnormalities • are medically significant 	<p><u>ALL</u> suspected ADRs should be reported for any black triangle product</p>

Particular interest

- In children
- Over 65
- Congenital anomalies
- Biological medicines (such as blood products, antibodies and advanced therapies such as gene and tissue therapy) and vaccines
- Associated with polypharmacy, interactions or delayed effects
- Complementary remedies such as homeopathic and herbal products



How to Report



Online

Yellow Card website –

www.mhra.gov.uk/yellowcard



Free Yellow Card app

-Apple App Store or Google Play Store – just search ‘Yellow Card’.



Freepost

Downloaded from website,
(send to FREEPOST YELLOW
CARD (no other address details necessary))



Free phone

Freephone 0800 731 6789
(9am to 5pm Monday-Friday
only).



IT systems

For medicines-
MiDatabank system





Vision ✓

YC reporting function enabled
[How to report | CPD for General Practitioners \(heiw.wales\)](#)

Emis ✗

YC reporting
function not
currently
enable in NI

What information should be included?

Only need **four** critical pieces of information

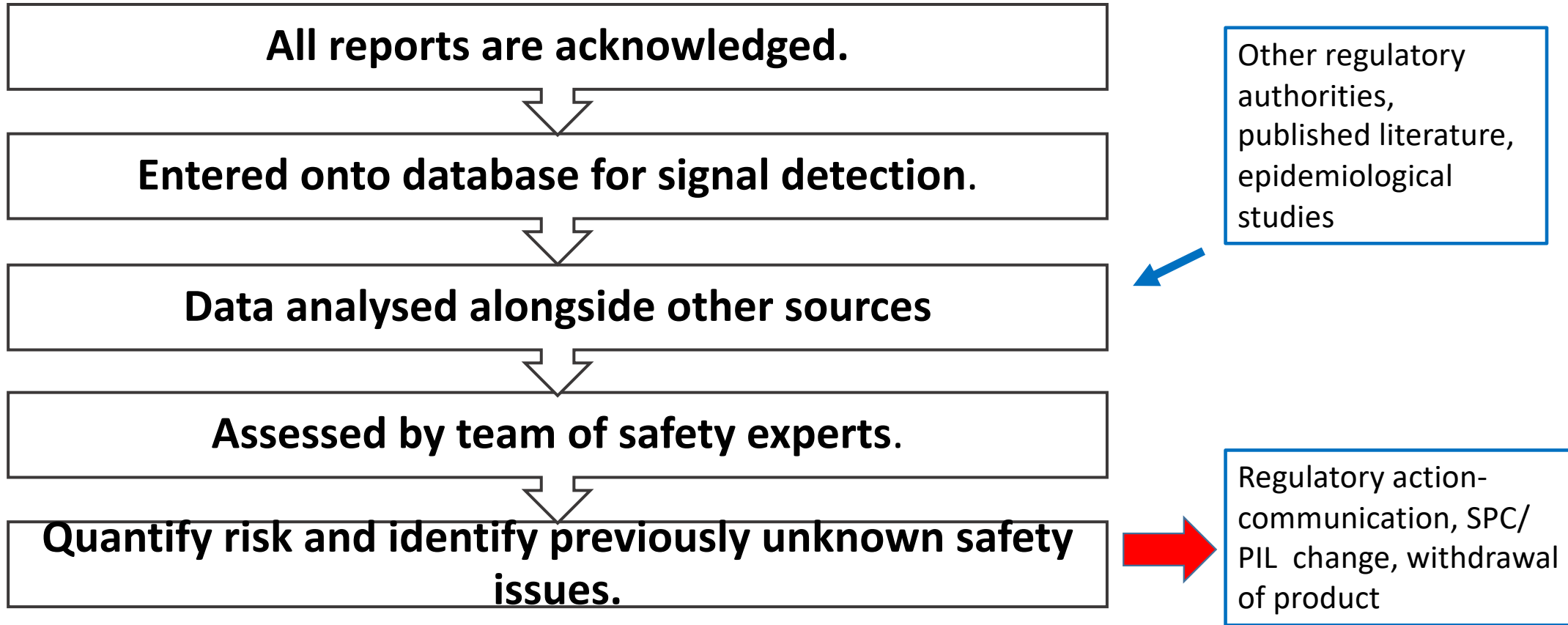
Additional information is useful but don't delay reporting if not available.

You do not have to prove that the medicine caused the issue

Submitting a Yellow Card is simply reporting a suspicion.



What happens to a Yellow Card report



References

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- Yellow Card Website. Available at: [Yellow Card | Making medicines and medical devices safer \(mhra.gov.uk\)](#)
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- García-Abeijon, P., Costa, C., Taracido, M. *et al*. Factors Associated with Underreporting of Adverse Drug Reactions by Health Care Professionals: A Systematic Review Update. *Drug Saf* **46**, 625–636 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s40264-023-01302-7> Available at: [Factors Associated with Underreporting of Adverse Drug Reactions by Health Care Professionals: A Systematic Review Update | Drug Safety \(springer.com\)](#)
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- Drug Safety update- available at: [Drug Safety Update - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)
- NHSCT Health Literacy resource area, available at: [Health Literacy Resources - Health Literacy Resource Area \(pagetiger.com\)](#)
- Community Development & Health Network, Health Literacy, available at: [Health Literacy | Community Development and Health Network \(cdhn.org\)](#)
- Electronic Medicines Compendium (EMC)- available at: [Home - electronic medicines compendium \(emc\)](#)

Thank you for listening



What do you want to see from us at
YCCNI?

