



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SENIOR SERVICES

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JON S. CORZINE
Governor

HEATHER HOWARD
Commissioner

TO: Patient Safety Liaisons for Psychiatric, Special and Rehabilitation Hospitals

FROM: Frances Prestianni, PhD
Program Manager

DATE: March 19, 2008

Subject: Implementation of the "Patient Safety Act"

Enclosed is a copy of the **Mandatory Patient Safety Reporting Requirements for Licensed Health Care Facilities**. Psychiatric, special and comprehensive rehabilitation hospitals are required to begin reporting events on April 1, 2008 following these instructions. This reporting manual and reporting forms are available on the Department's web site at www.nj.gov/health/ps. This web site also includes the newsletters and annual reports which have been developed as a result of the reporting system and may be useful in developing your patient safety program.

You will receive a link to additional instructional materials on preparation of root cause analyses before the end of this month. Our plan is to hold a training session within several months to assist hospitals in understanding both reporting requirements and how to develop a root cause analysis. If you have any questions, please contact me at (609) 530-7473.

Enclosure

c. Hospital Administrators
Cynthia Kirchner, Senior Policy Advisor to the Commissioner
Emmanuel Noggoh, Director, Health Care Quality Assessment