

State of New Jersey  
*Department of Health and  
Senior Services*

Patient Safety Reporting System

Module 3 – Root Cause Analysis



# Patient Safety Reporting System

## Course Contents:

- I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan
- II. RCA Review by Patient Safety
- III. Communications about the RCA

# Patient Safety Reporting System

## I. Root Cause Analysis (RCA) and Action Plan

Determination Made by Patient Safety -

### **RCA Required**

Events can be accessed by:

- View Events – All Events

### **RCA Not Required**

- E-mail notification will indicate that internal analysis is recommended, but an RCA does not need to be submitted to Patient Safety. If you would still like to submit an RCA for review, contact Patient Safety.

# Patient Safety Reporting System

## I. Root Cause Analysis (RCA) and Action Plan - Cont.

### System Navigation

#### **“Main Menu” Bar**

- View Events – event listing, may create custom reports

#### **“Report Menu” Bar**

- Moves you through each report section with red arrow to indicate next step
- RCA Summary page builds as information is entered

#### **Instructions**

Provides instructions and options for each screen

#### **Information Consulted**

- Under “Resources”, information used for RCAs

#### **“Save/Next” Button**

- Move to next screen



# I. Root Cause Analysis (RCA) and Action Plan - Continued



Logged in as: ptrainee5

[Home](#)

[Add Event](#)

[View Events](#)

[Resources](#)

[User Maintenance](#)

## Welcome to the NJ Patient Safety Reporting System

NJ is committed to promoting patient safety and preventing serious preventable adverse events. In 2004, the **New Jersey Patient Safety Act** (P.L. 2004, c9) was signed into law. The statute was designed to improve patient safety in hospitals and other health care facilities by establishing a serious preventable adverse event reporting system. This site is designed to help healthcare facilities develop strong patient safety programs, collect and analyze aggregate data and fulfill the law's mandatory reporting requirements

Additional resources may be found on the Patient Safety website at:  
<http://nj.gov/health/ps/>

Program staff are also available to speak with you at: 609.633.7759

### Action Items

#### Initial Event Comments

Report Number	Submit Date
No data to display	

#### RCA Comments

Report Number	RCA Due Date
No data to display	

#### Other Communications

Report Number	Respond	Comment
No data to display		



# I. Root Cause Analysis (RCA) and Action Plan - Continued

## View Events with Event Type "RCA- Facility Edit"

Logged in as: facilityWriterA

[Home](#) [Resources](#) [Add Event](#) [View Events](#) [User Maintenance](#)

- You can sort the data by clicking on the column headers
- [Show Customization Window](#)- Use the 'Customization Window' to add/remove fields from the grid.
- [Saved Reports](#) - Click to view your saved reports.
- [Save a Report](#) - Click to save the report.

[Export to Excel](#)

Drag a column header here to group by that column

View	Report Year	Facility Name	Report Number	Event Status	Event Type
<a href="#">Clear</a>	2010				(Non blanks)
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	20103004	Closed	Closed
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	20103005	Closed	Event-Facility Edit
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	20103006	Closed	RCA-DHSS Review
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	20103007	RCA-DHSS Review	RCA-Facility Edit
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	20103008	RCA-Facility Edit	Environmental - Electric Shock
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	20103009	RCA-DHSS Review	Care Management - Spinal
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	20103010	RCA-DHSS Review	Care Management - Other
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	20103011	RCA-Facility Edit	Environmental - Electric Shock

# Patient Safety Reporting System

## I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

The “Report Menu” will guide you through the event

- A red arrow will indicate the next step in the process

Complete fields for:

- General information
- Facts of the Event
  - This screen can be saved if not completed by entering “NA” for questions that do not apply
- RCA-specific questions

# I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan – Continued

Report Menu: [Return to Detail](#)

Report Number: 20110007

Event Classification: Environmental - Fall

## RCA: General Information

1. List the individuals on the RCA Team:

Staff nurse, charge nurse and patient safety officer.

1947 Characters left

2. How many similar events has your facility had in the previous 3 years? (numbers only)

0

If your facility has similar events, please answer the following questions

a. What changes did the organization make in response to these previous events?

2000 Characters left

b. How are you tracking the effectiveness of these changes?

2000 Characters left

c. What procedures are in place to ensure that the facility knows about all the reportable events?

2000 Characters left

Save/Next





# I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

Event Classification: Environmental - Fall

## RCA Specific Questions

1. Does your facility have a fall team that regularly evaluates your falls program?

Yes  No

2. Was a Fall Risk Screening documented at admission?

Yes  No

3. When was a fall assessment done?

Date:

Time:

Enter Time in Military

(e.g 1800=6:00PM)

If assessment date is unknown, check here

4. Was a validated, reliable fall risk screening tool used?

Yes  No

Which tool?

5. Did the screening tool indicate that the patient was at risk for a fall?

Yes  No  NA

a. Does the patient have a history of a fall prior to admission?

Yes  No

6. If screening tool did not indicate the patient was at risk for falls:

a. Was patient still placed at risk due to clinical judgment?

Yes  No  NA

b. If yes, what were the additional factors that placed the patient at risk

c. Were universal fall precautions in place?

Yes  No  NA

d. Fall Precaution (Check at least one):

# Patient Safety Reporting System

## I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

For each event you may have:


- More than one Root Cause
  - Each root cause will have a causality statement
- More than one Action Plan per Root Cause
  - Each Action Plan will have one Methodology
- No Root Cause (justification required)

Work through one Root Cause at a time with the corresponding Action Plan(s)

# I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

## RCA: Root Cause/Causality Statement

1. Use this section to enter the root cause findings
2. Select the first root cause below and enter the corresponding causality statement.
3. Click Save/Next

 [Using the Five Rules of Causation](#)

\*If no Root Cause, click [HERE](#) to explain the findings

### 1. Root Cause Categories:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="radio"/> Behavioral assessment process          | <input type="radio"/> Patient observation procedures              |
| <input type="radio"/> Patient identification process         | <input type="radio"/> Staffing levels                             |
| <input type="radio"/> Care planning process                  | <input type="radio"/> Competency assessment/credentialing         |
| <input type="radio"/> Orientation and training of staff      | <input type="radio"/> Communication with patient/family           |
| <input type="radio"/> Supervision of staff                   | <input type="radio"/> Availability of information                 |
| <input type="radio"/> Communication among staff members      | <input checked="" type="radio"/> Equipment maintenance/management |
| <input type="radio"/> Adequacy of technical support          | <input type="radio"/> Security systems and processes              |
| <input type="radio"/> Control of medications(Storage/access) | <input type="radio"/> Labeling of medications                     |
| <input type="radio"/> Physical assessment process            | <input type="radio"/> Physical environment                        |

### 2. Causality Statement:

A process was not in place to ensure that the bed alarm was functioning properly resulting in the patient getting out of bed undetected and falling.

1852 Characters left

Save/Next

# I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

**Causality Statement:** A process was not in place to ensure that the bed alarm was functioning properly resulting in the patient getting out of bed undetected and falling.

- Enter the Action Plan for the causality statement displayed above
- Complete all RCA: Action Plan fields
- Click 'Save/Next' when finished

## RCA: Action Plan

### 1. Action Plan:

Environmental Services will do a safety check on bed plugs every week to make sure they are functioning properly. Staff will incorporate bed alarm safety checks as part of their safety rounds each hour.

1795 Characters left

### 2. Monitoring Strategy: ?

This practice will be monitored through checking for appropriate alarm functioning for all patients with alarms placed.

1881 Characters left

### 3. Methodology ?

Observational Audits

### 4. Frequency ?

Monthly

### 5. Sample Size ?

all beds with bed alarms

### 6. Implementation Start Date ?

1/17/2011

### 7. Staff position responsible for implementation:

Nurse manager

# Patient Safety Reporting System

## I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

When the first Root Cause and Action Plan are complete:

- Add an additional Action Plan to the Root Cause


# I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

Report Menu: [Return to Detail](#)

Report Number: 20110007


Event Classification: Environmental - Fall

## Use this section to edit/add root cause findings

- **To Edit a Root Cause** - Edit the root cause by clicking 'Edit' on the the appropriate row in the grid below .
- **To Add an Action Plan** - Click on  below to expand root cause then click on 'Add Action Plan'
- **To Add a Root Cause** - [Click to enter an additional Root Cause.](#)
- **To Continue** - When the RCA(s) and Action Plan(s) information is complete, click the button below to answer final RCA questions.

[Continue to RCA Additional Questions \(Required\)](#)

## RCA: Root Cause/Causality Statement

	Edit	Delete	RCA Category Text	Causality Statement
	<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">Delete</a>	Equipment maintenance/management	A process was not in place to ensure that the bed alarm was functioning properly resulting in the patient getting out of bed undetected and falling.


# I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

Report Menu: [Return to Detail](#)

Report Number: 20110007


Event Classification: Environmental - Fall

## Use this section to edit/add root cause findings

- **To Edit a Root Cause** - Edit the root cause by clicking 'Edit' on the the appropriate row in the grid below .
- **To Add an Action Plan** - Click on  below to expand root cause then click on 'Add Action Plan'
- **To Add a Root Cause** - [Click to enter an additional Root Cause.](#)
- **To Continue** - When the RCA(s) and Action Plan(s) information is complete, click the button below to answer final RCA questions.

[Continue to RCA Additional Questions \(Required\)](#)

## RCA: Root Cause/Causality Statement

	Edit	Delete	RCA Category Text	Causality Statement
	<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">Delete</a>	Equipment maintenance/management	A process was not in place to ensure that the bed alarm was functioning properly resulting in the patient getting out of bed undetected and falling.

## RCA: Action Plan

Edit	Add	Delete	Action Plan
<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">Add Action Plan</a>	<a href="#">Delete</a>	Environmental Services will do a safety check on bed plugs every week to make sure they are functioning properly. Staff will incorporate bed alarm safety checks as part of their safety rounds each hour.



# Patient Safety Reporting System

## I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

When the first Root Cause and Action Plan(s) are complete:

- Additional Root Causes can be added with Action Plan(s)

# I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

Report Menu: [Return to Detail](#)

Report Number: 20110007

Event Classification: Environmental - Fall

## Use this section to edit/add root cause findings

- **To Edit a Root Cause** - Edit the root cause by clicking 'Edit' on the the appropriate row in the grid below .
- **To Add an Action Plan** - Click on  below to expand root cause then click on 'Add Action Plan'
- **To Add a Root Cause** - [Click to enter an additional Root Cause.](#)
- **To Continue** - When the RCA(s) and Action Plan(s) information is complete, click the button below to answer final RCA questions.

[Continue to RCA Additional Questions \(Required\)](#)

## RCA: Root Cause/Causality Statement

	Edit	Delete	RCA Category Text	Causality Statement
<input type="checkbox"/>	<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">Delete</a>	Equipment maintenance/management	A process was not in place to ensure that the bed alarm was functioning properly resulting in the patient getting out of bed undetected and falling.

# Patient Safety Reporting System

## I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

When all Root Causes and Action Plans are complete:

- Complete final RCA questions
- Submit to Patient Safety for review
- Receive error message if any required information is not completed

# I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

Report Menu: [Return to Detail](#)

Report Number: 20110007

Event Classification: Environmental - Fall

## Use this section to edit/add root cause findings

- **To Edit a Root Cause** - Edit the root cause by clicking 'Edit' on the the appropriate row in the grid below .
- **To Add an Action Plan** - Click on ⊕ below to expand root cause then click on 'Add Action Plan'
- **To Add a Root Cause** - [Click to enter an additional Root Cause.](#)
- **To Continue** - When the RCA(s) and Action Plan(s) information is complete, click the button below to answer final RCA questions.

[Continue to RCA Additional Questions \(Required\)](#)

## RCA: Root Cause/Causality Statement

	Edit	Delete	RCA Category Text	Causality Statement
⊕	<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">Delete</a>	Equipment maintenance/management	A process was not in place to ensure that the bed alarm was functioning properly resulting in the patient getting out of bed undetected and falling.

# I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

## RCA Additional Questions

### 1. What were the contributing factors to the event? (Select all that apply):

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Team factors                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Work environment        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Task factors                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Staff factors           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patient characteristics      | <input type="checkbox"/> Organization/management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical devices              | <input type="checkbox"/> Medications             |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Procedures        | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation          |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Equipment         | <input type="checkbox"/> Home care               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patient record documentation | <input type="checkbox"/> Imaging and X-ray       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory and diagnostics   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                   |

Other:

### 2. Evaluate the impact of event for Patient (Select all that apply):

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of limb(s)                                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Visit to Emergency Department             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of digit(s)                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital admission                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of body part(s)                                | <input type="checkbox"/> Transfer to more intensive level of care  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of organ(s)                                    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Increased length of stay       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of sensory function(s)                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Minor surgery                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loss of bodily function(s)                          | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major surgery                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disability-physical or mental impairment            | <input type="checkbox"/> System or processes delay care to patient |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional laboratory testing or diagnostic imaging | <input type="checkbox"/> To be determined                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other additional diagnostic testing                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Death                                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Additional patient monitoring in current location   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                                     |

# I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

RCA additional questions:

- Information Consulted
- Gathered and can be viewed under “Resources”

5. Information consulted such as clinical literature/other published guidelines.

1000

Characters left

# I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

- Use the 'Report Menu' below to navigate this event.
- The menu will expand as the Event/RCA progresses
- Click on the link next to the red arrow → to continue entering information
- Click on the appropriate link below to edit information

**Please click the 'Submit' button below to notify DHSS that this RCA is ready for review**

Initial Event	Root Cause Analysis
<b>Report Menu:</b>	<a href="#">General Info</a> <a href="#">Facts of the Event</a> <a href="#">RCA Questions</a> <a href="#">Root Cause\Action Plan</a> <a href="#">Additional Questions</a> <b>→ Submit RCA</b>
<b>Report Number:</b> 2010-0061	
<b>Event Classification:</b> Surgical - Wrong Site	
<b>RCA: General Information</b>	
<a href="#">Edit</a>	

# I. Root Cause Analysis and Action Plan - Continued

Logged in as: sfacility [Home](#) [Add Event](#) [View Events](#) [Resources](#) [User Maintenance](#)

Initial Event [Root Cause Analysis](#)

Report Menu: [Under Review](#)

Report Number: 20110007

Event Classification: Environmental - Fall [Print Screen](#)

**RCA: General Information**

<b>1. List the individuals on the RCA Team:</b>	<i>Staff nurse, charge nurse and patient safety officer.</i>
<b>2. How many similar events has your facility had in the previous 3 years? (numbers only)</b>	0
<b>a. What changes did the organization make in response to these previous events?</b>	
<b>b. How are you tracking the effectiveness of these changes?</b>	



# Patient Safety Reporting System

## II. RCA Review by Patient Safety

1. Automated e-mail sent to Patient Safety
2. Patient Safety completes review
3. Review Outcomes:
  - RCA Comments
    - Additional information is needed and must be completed in 2 weeks
  - RCA Complete
    - RCA is complete; no further action needed
4. Patient Safety generates e-mail notification of outcome of review

# Patient Safety Reporting System

## II. RCA Review by Patient Safety - Continued

- RCA Comments can be accessed by:
  - Action Items – Listed under “RCA Comments”
  - View Event – By Status
- A comment link will only be visible in the sections of the RCA that have Patient Safety comments

# Patient Safety Reporting System

## II. RCA Review by Patient Safety - Continued

- Edit the field(s) necessary to respond to comments
- When edits are completed RCA must be re-submitted to Patient Safety for further review
- Cycle continues until RCA process is determined complete by Patient Safety

### III. Communications about the RCA

Action Items	
<b>Initial Event Comments</b>	
Report Number	Submit Date
No data to display	
<b>RCA Comments</b>	
Report Number	RCA Due Date
<a href="#">2010-0061</a>	10/29/2010
<b>Status Report</b>	
<a href="#">Status Report</a>	

### III. Communications about the RCA

Logged in as: Ptraine3

[Home](#)
[Resources](#)
[Add Event](#)
[View Events](#)
[User Maintenance](#)

- You can sort the data by clicking on the column headers
- [Show Customization Window](#) - Use the 'Customization Window' to add/remove fields from the grid.
- [Saved Reports](#) - Click to view your saved reports.
- [Save a Report](#) - Click to save the report.

[Export to Excel](#)

Drag a column header here to group by that column

View	Report Year	Facility Name	Report Number	Event Status	Event Type	Event Description
<a href="#">Clear</a>	2010	test				
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	2010-0090	RCA-DHSS Review	Environmental - Fall	<a href="#">Description</a>
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	2010-0091	Closed	Surgical - Retained Foreign Object	<a href="#">Description</a>
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	2010-0092	Event-DHSS Review	Surgical - Retained Foreign Object	<a href="#">Description</a>
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	2010-0093	Event-DHSS Review	Surgical - Retained Foreign Object	<a href="#">Description</a>
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	2010-0094	Event-DHSS Review	Surgical - Retained Foreign Object	<a href="#">Description</a>
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	2010-0095	Event-DHSS Review	Surgical - Retained Foreign Object	<a href="#">Description</a>
<a href="#">Detail</a>	2010	TEST FACILITY	2010-0100	Event-Facility Edit	Surgical - Retained Foreign Object	<a href="#">Description</a>



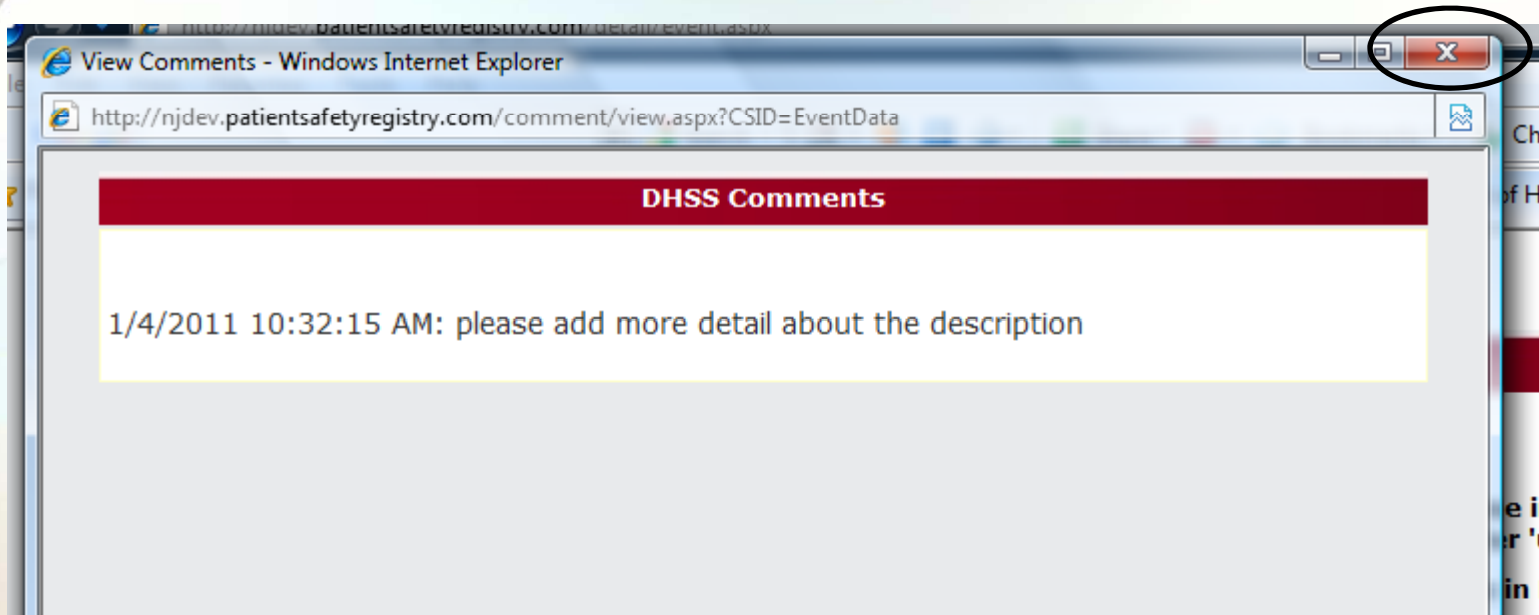
### III. Communications about the RCA - Continued

Please click the 'Submit' button below to notify DHSS that this RCA is ready for review

Initial Event	Root Cause Analysis
<b>Report Menu:</b>	<a href="#">General Info</a> <a href="#">Facts of Event</a> <a href="#">Root Cause\Action Plan</a> <a href="#">Additional Questions</a> → <a href="#">Submit RCA</a>
<b>Report Number:</b> 20103023	
<b>Event Classification:</b> Care Management - Medication Error	<a href="#">Print Screen</a>
<b>RCA: General Information</b>	
<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">Comments</a>
<b>1. List the titles only of the individuals on the RCA Team:</b>	<i>Risk Manager, Quality Management Specialist, Quality Manager for Nursing, Associate Program Director of Internal Medicine Residency Program, Attending Physician, Consulting Endocrinologist, Diabetes Educator, Diabetes Advanced Practice Nurse, Nursing Director of Critical Care, Nurse Manager of Critical Care and Internal Medicine Resident and nurses involved in the care of the patient.</i>
<b>2. How many similar events has your facility had in the previous 3 years? (numbers only)</b>	1
<b>a. What changes did the organization make in response to these previous events?</b>	<i>The action plan included revision of current hypoglycemic standing order and multidisciplinary education plan for management of the diabetic patient.</i>
<b>b. How are you tracking the effectiveness of these changes?</b>	<i>We stopped monitoring because we had achieved 100% compliance.</i>
<b>c. What procedures are in place to ensure that the facility knows about all the reportable events?</b>	<i>We monitor everything.</i>



### III. Communications about the RCA - Continued



# III. Communications about the RCA - Continued

Report Menu: [Return to Detail](#)

Report Number:20110007

Event Classification:Environmental - Fall

## RCA: General Information

### 1. List the individuals on the RCA Team:

Staff nurse, charge nurse and patient safety officer.

1947 Characters left

### 2. How many similar events has your facility had in the previous 3 years? (numbers only)

0

If your facility has similiar events, please answer the following questions

#### a. What changes did the organization make in response to these previous events?

2000 Characters left

#### b. How are you tracking the effectiveness of these changes?

2000 Characters left

#### c. What procedures are in place to ensure that the facility knows about all the reportable events?

2000 Characters left

Save/Next



### III. Communications about the RCA - Continued

Please click the 'Submit' button below to notify DHSS that this RCA is ready for review

Initial Event	Root Cause Analysis
<b>Report Menu:</b>	<a href="#">General Info</a> <a href="#">Facts of Event</a> <a href="#">Root Cause\Action Plan</a> <a href="#">Additional Questions</a> <a href="#">→ Submit RCA</a>
<b>Report Number:</b> 20103023	
<b>Event Classification:</b> Care Management - Medication Error	<a href="#">Print Screen</a>
<b>RCA: General Information</b>	
<a href="#">Edit</a>	<a href="#">Comments</a>
<b>1. List the titles only of the individuals on the RCA Team:</b>	<i>Risk Manager, Quality Management Specialist, Quality Manager for Nursing, Associate Program Director of Internal Medicine Residency Program, Attending Physician, Consulting Endocrinologist, Diabetes Educator, Diabetes Advanced Practice Nurse, Nursing Director of Critical Care, Nurse Manager of Critical Care and Internal Medicine Resident and nurses involved in the care of the patient.</i>
<b>2. How many similar events has your facility had in the previous 3 years? (numbers only)</b>	1
<b>a. What changes did the organization make in response to these previous events?</b>	<i>The action plan included revision of current hypoglycemic standing order and multidisciplinary education plan for management of the diabetic patient.</i>
<b>b. How are you tracking the effectiveness of these changes?</b>	<i>We stopped monitoring because we had achieved 100% compliance.</i>
<b>c. What procedures are in place to ensure that the facility knows about all the reportable events?</b>	<i>We monitor everything.</i>



# Patient Safety Reporting System Review

1. Use “View Events” menu to find Event requiring RCA
2. Enter Root Cause and Action Plan
3. Multiple Root Causes and Action Plans can be entered
4. Patient Safety reviews RCA and responds with next step
5. Review Patient Safety comments and edit event
6. Re-submit event to Patient Safety

# Patient Safety Reporting System

## Next Module

1. Creating Reports
2. Review of Resources
3. Support