



Adverse Event Definitions
 National Quality Forum Serious Reportable Events
 Chapter 70.56 Adverse Health Events and Incident Reporting System

1. Surgical Events	
A.	Surgery performed on the wrong body part.
B.	Surgery performed on the wrong patient.
C.	Wrong surgical procedure performed on a patient.
D.	Unintended retention of a foreign object in a patient after surgery or other procedure.
E.	Intraoperative or immediately post-operative death in an ASA Class 1 patient.
2. Products or Device Events	
A.	Patient death or serious disability associated with the use of contaminated drugs, devices, or biologics provided by the health care facility.
B.	Patient death or serious disability associated with the use or function of a device in patient care in which the device is used or functions other than as intended.
C.	Patient death or serious disability associated with intravascular air embolism that occurs while being cared for in a health care facility.
3. Patient Protection Events	
A.	Infant discharged to wrong person.
B.	Patient death or serious disability associated with patient elopement (disappearance).
C.	Patient suicide, or attempted suicide, resulting in serious disability, while being cared for in a health care facility.
4. Care Management Events	
A.	Patient death or serious disability associated with a medication error (e.g. errors involving the wrong drug, wrong dose, wrong patient, wrong time, wrong rate, wrong preparation or wrong route of administration).
B.	Patient death or serious disability associated with a hemolytic reaction due to the administration of ABO/HLA-incompatible blood or blood products.
C.	Maternal death or serious disability associated with labor or delivery in a low-risk pregnancy while being cared for in the health care facility.
D.	Patient death or serious disability associated with hypoglycemia, the onset of which occurs while the patient is being cared for in a health care facility.
E.	Patient death or serious disability (kernicterus) associated with failure to identify and treat hyperbilirubinemia neonates.
F.	Stage 3 or 4 pressure ulcers acquired after admission to a health care facility.
G.	Patient death or serious disability due to spinal manipulative therapy.
H.	Artificial insemination with the wrong donor sperm or egg.

5. Environmental Events

A.	Patient death or serious disability associated with electric shock or elective cardioversion while being cared for in a health care facility.
B.	Any incident in which a line designed for oxygen or other gas to be delivered to a patient contains the wrong gas or is contaminated by toxic substances.
C.	Patient death or serious disability associated with a burn incurred from any source while being cared for in a health care facility.
D.	Patient death or serious disability associated with a fall while being cared for in a health care facility.
E.	Patient death or serious disability associated with the use of restraints or bedrails while being cared for in a health care facility.

6. Criminal Events

A.	Any instance of care ordered by or provided by someone impersonating a physician, nurse, pharmacist, or other licensed health care provider.
B.	Abduction of a patient of any age.
C.	Sexual assault on a patient within or on the grounds of a health care facility.
D.	Death or significant injury of a patient or staff member resulting from a physical assault (i.e. battery) that occurs within or on the grounds of a health care facility.