

**Oversight Group for the Implementation of Recommendations in the HIQA
Investigation Report on Portlaoise Hospital
7th Meeting – Wednesday 16th December, 2015 by Teleconference**

Report of Teleconference Meeting

Present

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| Dr Tony Holohan (Chair) | Chief Medical Officer |
| Dr Kathleen Mac Lellan | Director of Patient Safety and Clinical Effectiveness |
| Tracey Conroy | Assistant Secretary, Acute Hospitals Division, |
| Joan Regan | Acute Hospitals Division |
| Sheila O'Connor | Patient Focus |
| Dr Siobhan O'Halloran | Chief Nursing Officer |

In Attendance

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| Liam Woods | Acute Hospitals Division, HSE |
| Angela Fitzgerald | Acute Hospitals Division, HSE |
| Eileen Ruddin | Acute Hospitals Division, HSE |

Admin Support

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| Robbie Breen | Patient Safety Unit |
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1. The minutes of the meeting on 17th November were agreed.
2. The 3rd report from the Oversight Group covering the period 1st September to 31st October, 2015 was submitted to the Minister on 26th November, 2015.
3. The Oversight Group reviewed the Implementation Plan Report No 4 which covered the period to 30th November, 2015. The Group concentrated on and discussed those actions that were indicating a “minor challenge” to being delivered by the target date.
 - 3.1 K MacLellan provided a summary of the plans to establish a National Patient Safety Office (NPSO) in the Department of Health. The plan received Government approval on 10th November. The NPSO will oversee the establishment of a National Advocacy Service and a national patient safety surveillance function and enhance the clinical effectiveness function. The Department wrote to the Director General of the HSE seeking the assistance of 2 staff with expertise in the advocacy area who could work with the NPSO on this task.
 - 3.2 A draft of the National Maternity Strategy is to be discussed by the Steering Group at its meeting on 17th December.
 - 3.3 The HSE circulated a draft of the job specification for the new Director of Midwifery posts. The HSE expects to conclude discussions on the posts with the INMO shortly and the posts will be advertised nationally.

- 3.4 With regard to milestone 6.20 “Design the metrics to measure compliance”, it was agreed that the HSE would insert additional milestones to provide greater clarity around this milestone.
- 3.5 L Woods explained that initial reporting of maternity patient safety statements (milestone 6.24) will be reported centrally by the HSE to provide a greater focus on the data being published. Subsequently each maternity unit would publish separately. The Chairperson clearly outlined the requirement for the Patient Safety Statement to be utilised locally on a monthly basis.
- 3.6 The Department would revert to the HSE on suggested improvements to the Hospital Patient Safety Statement (HPSS). It was agreed that a separate meeting between the Department and the HSE would take place to progress the HPSS.
- 3.7 The Chairperson informed the meeting that the Minister intended to visit Portlaoise Hospital in January 2016 to meet with families.

4. **Date of next meeting**

Dates of meetings in 2016 are to be arranged.

Robbie Breen
Patient Safety Unit
22nd December, 2015