

> **NHS Patient Safety Alert on Bowel Care Pathways**

Compliance needed by 25th January

This letter is to inform you that NHS Improvement has issued a Patient Safety Alert requiring all NHS healthcare providers treating patients with neurogenic bowel dysfunction to ensure that policies, procedures and appropriately trained staff are in place to meet patient needs. The deadline is 25th January 2019.

Patient group, Spinal Injuries Association (SIA) are welcoming this Alert as an important first step in providing crucially important care for Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) patients.

The Excellence in Continence Care NHS Guidelines state the NHS England policy and vision for personal health budgets aims to enable people with long term conditions and disabilities to have greater choice, flexibility and control over the healthcare and support they receive. At Coloplast we are looking to do just that.

Coloplast® is here to help to reduce the risk of patient harm

Our goal is to make a difference for people with intimate health care needs, and the advantages for healthcare professionals are increased efficiency and outcomes, as well as a reduced burden on NHS services. We can achieve this together by leveraging our clinical experience providing examples of best practice from our network across the country.

“Coloplast recognises the fact that care across providers in the NHS varies and that the Patient Safety Alert requirements specific to the risk of Autonomic Dysreflexia along with wider indications will vary depending on existing service delivery levels and the nature of bowel management processes in place. For those healthcare professionals looking for support to review and optimise pathways including training programme development; we’re here to support with our experienced team of clinical advisors,” Mary Speirs, Director of Nursing, Coloplast.

Introducing Peristeen®

Peristeen® Trans Anal Irrigation (TAI) is an evidence-based long term solution to bowel dysfunction and offers many benefits over manual evacuation where a patient’s (or carer’s) finger is used to remove faeces.

Peristeen works by introducing lukewarm water into the rectum and colon via the anus by using a balloon catheter design which creates a constant pressure flow of water to simulate bowel function. The water is subsequently evacuated into a toilet together with the contents of the descending colon, sigmoid and rectum. Peristeen is evidenced to provide fuller evacuations meaning patients spend less time on the toilet, have less accidents and have an improved quality of life (versus patients on standard bowel care).

Peristeen is the only Trans Anal Irrigation (TAI) system to receive a device specific guidance from NICE based on proven outcomes.

Learn more about Peristeen® Trans Anal Irrigation (TAI) at www.coloplast.co.uk/peristeen