

To: See distribution list

02 February 2015

Dear Colleague

**COMPETENCY FRAMEWORK – REDUCING THE RISK OF
HYPONATRAEMIA WHEN ADMINISTERING INTRAVENOUS INFUSIONS
TO CHILDREN - Version 2nd February 2015**

The attached document replaces the Framework previously sent on 20th January 2015 which had an error in 3rd paragraph of the introduction. This has now been corrected to:

“It should be noted that there may be some exceptions to the framework, for example preterm infants whose chronological age is greater than 4 weeks but corrected gestational age is less than 28 days, young women under the age of 16 years in labour or children under the age of 16 admitted in Diabetic Ketoacidosis (DKA)”.

The framework has been developed by HSC Trusts and the PHA in consultation with internal and external stakeholders to ensure consistency of approach in the implementation of RQIA recommendations across HSC Trusts in the following areas:

- The development of a competency assessment tool on the administration of intravenous fluids;
- Training and assessment of staff in the administration of intravenous fluids to children.

The Competency Framework document has been updated to take account of recent revisions to the regional IV fluid prescription charts, fluid balance charts and associated training packages for adults and children. Comments received from Trusts have also been integrated into the revised framework. We will review the Framework again in early 2016.

Action:

I would be grateful if you could disregard the previous version of this Framework (sent on January 20th) and issue this version to all relevant staff.

Our apologies for any inconvenience caused.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carolyn Harper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C'.

**DR CAROLYN HARPER
Medical Director/Director of Public Health**