



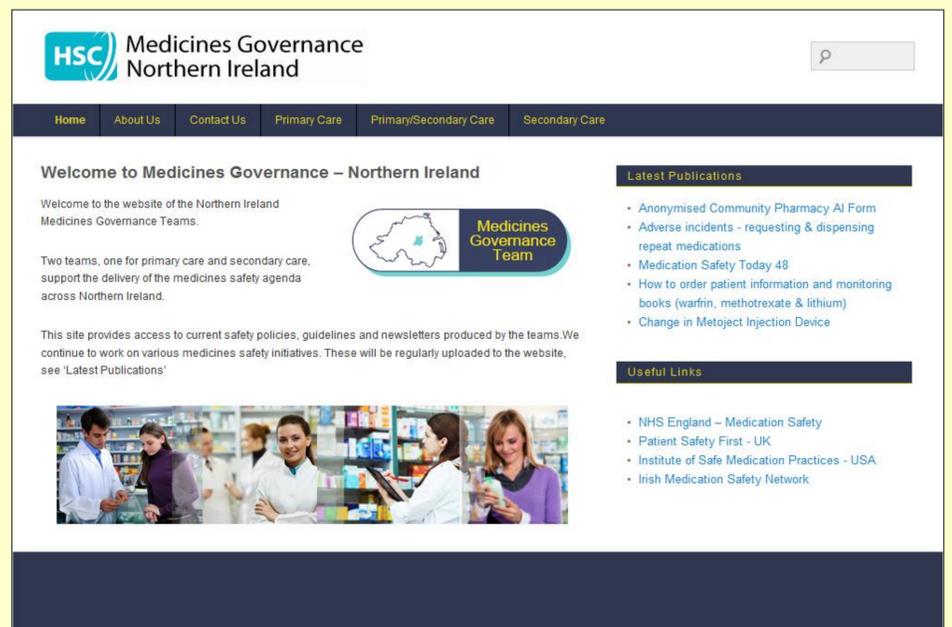
# Optimising Access to Medicines Safety Resources: Development of a Northern Ireland Medicines Governance Website

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[www.medicinesgovernance.hscni.net](http://www.medicinesgovernance.hscni.net)

## Background

- Northern Ireland has two Medicines Governance Teams:
  - Primary Care Team
  - Secondary Care Team
- The teams provide a risk management function for the use of medicines in their healthcare sector
- Each team is comprised of :
  - 1 lead pharmacist
  - 5 pharmacists each covering geographical Trust/primary care locality areas



## The Problem

- Working in isolation could create a greater risk for patients if different arrangements for medicines safety existed within the two care settings
- Access to resources in the two sectors was disparate.
- Primary care staff could not access policies in secondary care intranet sites and vice versa
- Online access to the Medicines Governance Teams' resources was split across eight different healthcare websites
- Opportunities to share learning from medication incidents with the wider healthcare audience was restricted by access and a lack of clear signposting to the resources

## Aim

To optimise access to medicines safety resources in Northern Ireland

## Objective

To develop a medicines governance website providing unrestricted access to staff across all healthcare sectors

## Actions:

- Website development team – one pharmacist from each team & IT officer
- Agreed structure, graphics & layout
- Pharmacists were trained in website management e.g. file management, graphics
- Site developed in desktop/mobile formats
- Teams transferred their resources to the new website
- Launched March 2014.
- Plan to analyse website use after 6 months in September 2014

## What medicines safety resources can you find on the website?

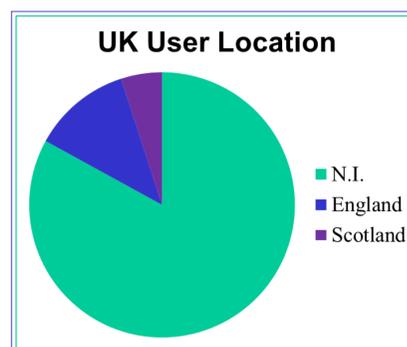
Learning from incidents - Newsletters	Correspondence to healthcare staff
Alerts	Audits
Toolkits	Controlled Drugs Information
Guidance	Useful links
Contact details	Community pharmacy anonymous AI reporting forms
N.I. implementation of NPSA alerts	Regional policies & recommendations

## Analysis

In September 2014 (approx. 6 months use) the Google Analytics tool was used to analyse direct internet traffic to the website (there was also an unknown number of website users accessing the website from links included in medicines governance correspondence or other websites)

Website Hits	
Number of users	1771
Number of views	7909

User Location	
UK	Canada
Ireland	India
Germany	Portugal
USA	Qatar



Top 5 downloads
FAQs Changes to CD legislation (>1000 hits)
Primary Care Warfarin Guidance
FAQs Controlled Drugs
Medicines Safety Matters Newsletter Nov 11
N.I. Insulin passport PIL

**Conclusion:** The new website provides a focal point for medicines safety resources in N.I. Access is simple and open to all internet users including patients. Analysis indicates that there is already a significant level of website use. The most frequently downloaded documents include those providing guidance and patient information to promote the safe use of high risk medicines e.g. opioids, warfarin & insulin. Work continues to develop and promote the website.