

# Safety Information Message

Reference: SIM2301

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## NHS Scotland Master Indemnity Agreement: addition and removal of suppliers

### Summary

The NHS Scotland Master Indemnity Agreement (MIA) is issued and developed by Health Facilities Scotland (HFS) Equipping Services. The MIA indemnifies Health Boards in respect of equipment and other goods supplied on loan free of charge (including for trial and testing).

### Action

1. Each Health Board should familiarise themselves with the NHS Scotland MIA.
2. Each Health Board is responsible for ongoing review of the published MIA register [Access the Master Indemnity Register | National Services Scotland \(nhs.scot\)](#).
3. Each Health Board is responsible for identifying/updating a suitable MEMS Contact (preferably with a shared and monitored mailbox) that communications can be sent to.
4. Each Health Board's MEMS contact is responsible for:
  - a. monitoring IRIC Safety Information Messages which are now the standard way of notifying when companies have been recently removed from the NHS Scotland MIA register
  - b. identifying whether their Board is being supplied with affected equipment or other goods and taking any appropriate action.
5. Health Boards must put in place alternative indemnity arrangements for equipment or goods that have been supplied on loan free of charge, through the MIA, where the company is no longer registered as a MIA member.
6. The Standard Form of Indemnity may be used in cases where a company has been removed from the MIA register and where there is no requirement for compliance with GDPR legislation: [How the Master Indemnity Agreement works | National Services Scotland \(nhs.scot\)](#).

### Equipment details

All equipment, and other goods, supplied on loan free of charge (including for trial and testing) through the NHS Scotland Master Indemnity Agreement.

### Contact details

Enquiries relating to the NHS Scotland Master Indemnity Agreement should be addressed to:

Health Facilities Scotland Equipping Services. Email: [nss.miascotland@nhs.scot](mailto:nss.miascotland@nhs.scot)

## Background

The NHS Scotland Master Indemnity Agreement (MIA) is issued and developed by Health Facilities Scotland (HFS) Equipping Services. It indemnifies Health Boards in respect of equipment and other goods supplied on loan free of charge (including for trial and testing). The MIA lists the companies which are currently registered as well as details of their public and product liability insurance, thereby reducing unnecessary duplication.

Companies may apply to join the NHS Scotland MIA, voluntarily withdraw or be withdrawn from the NHS Scotland MIA at any time.

Changes to the MIA register are recorded locally and the online version of the MIA register updated in the next edition of the publication. The online register is available at: [Access the Master Indemnity Register | National Services Scotland \(nhs.scot\)](#) and is published every two weeks.

Companies that voluntarily withdraw, or are withdrawn, from the NHS Scotland MIA will be communicated to Health Boards through IRIC Safety Information Message system (please note this will only occur when companies withdraw or are withdrawn from the register).

## Enquiries

Enquiries and adverse incident reports should be addressed to:

**Incident Reporting & Investigation Centre (IRIC)**

NHS National Services Scotland

Tel: 0131 275 7575 Email: [nss.irc@nhs.scot](mailto:nss.irc@nhs.scot)

**Accessibility:** Please contact us using the above details if you are blind or have a sight impairment and would like to request this alert in a more suitable format.

**IRIC remit:** general information about adverse incidents, safety alerts and IRIC's role can be found in [CEL 43 \(2009\)](#), *Safety of Health, Social Care, Estates and Facilities Equipment: NHS Board and Local Authority Responsibilities*, issued 30 October 2009.

**Report an incident:** Information on [how to report an adverse incident](#)

NHS National Services Scotland is the common name for the Common Services Agency for the Scottish Health Service <https://www.nss.nhs.scot/>