

You are part of a movement of organisations and individuals who have joined the Sign up to Safety campaign. We know you are committed to not just believe in, but to embody and embed the values and beliefs that make us all proud to work in the NHS. The campaign values are found in our **five Sign up to Safety pledges** – these are more than words on paper. They mean something.

Five pledges, five focus-months

We want to help you bring each of the five pledges to life and by supporting your colleagues to understand how they can do this too; you are helping to creating the right conditions for safer care.

In each of the five focus months taking place between October 2015 and June 2016, we will celebrate progress, discuss what good practice looks like, support those that lead on safety to articulate what they mean to all your staff, and share ideas and experiences across our community.

We will start in October, when together we'll focus on the first of the five safety pledges;

Put safety first

*Commit to reduce avoidable harm in the NHS by half and saving lives through a **systematic approach** to safety. Make **public** your locally developed goals, plans and progress. Instil a **preoccupation with failure** so that systems are designed to prevent human error and avoidable harm.*

SignPost: we have curated key resources, links and materials to help you

One of our most important jobs at Sign up to Safety is to use our time well, to save yours. We've curated some of the many existing resources out there that can help you and your colleagues learn more about how to put each action we recommend into place;

- **Bringing action to life; useful links**

We're also bringing together a series of example materials to help with some of the actions & will aim to show how these will help those at the frontline (to follow in October);

- **Examples of communications from Chief Executive to staff & Board report examples**
- **Template press release to update your community about your progress**
- **Example of a procurement policies that reduces variation and buys with safety in mind**
- **Example of a HR policy that supports a just culture**

Three things you can do for us

1. Bring *Put safety first* to life

At the end of this document we have provided suggested actions and key messages that we, as a campaign team, think will help embed this pledge deeply into a NHS organisation when taken as a holistic approach. These are a mixture of short term and long term actions.

You aren't expecting to do all of the actions within a specific time frame and certainly not over the course of October; you can use these in your own time, at a pace that works for your safety improvement work locally. We would love you to participate and share your feedback as we all take these steps together. By moving forward together, you will stop feeling like you're banging the same drum without being heard.

2. Share

There are a lot of great resources you all use; it would be lovely if you were to share these with your fellow campaign members. We'd like to know what you think. What are the challenges and opportunities these actions present and which are you tackling already? We would like to share your experiences with the community, shine a light on your success and what you're learning along the way in order to help others make progress too.

Ask yourself:

- What has your organisation/your area of work/your team done to put safety first?
- Do you have a story to tell?
- What actions are you undertaking to bring this pledge to life that you can share for others to use?
 - Even if you don't think you have done much or you have only just started we are interested in how you are thinking about this pledge.

So if you have ideas, links, favourite websites, favourite documents then please send [HERE: signuptosafety@nhsla.com](mailto:signuptosafety@nhsla.com).

3. Place the dates and reminders in your diary

From 28th September; read Suzette's blog post discussing *Put safety first* and watch Suzette's video on *Put safety first* – you can find out about these through SignUPdate.

21st October, 10am; take part in our *Put safety first* webinar with Suzette (registration details to follow) and tell us your reflections on the actions we have recommended.

Visit www.signuptosafety.nhs.uk/webinars to stay up to date on the guest webinars we're planning in for October and beyond. You'll hear from others in our community on how they are putting safety first. If you have questions you'd like answered during any of these webinars or you would like to lead one of your own, email signuptosafety@nhsla.com.

Don't forget to look out for our e-newsletter SignUPdate & notices on twitter @signuptosafety

Subscribe to our newsletter and pass it on, keep an eye out on twitter – these are where we will share our learning across this month and beyond including our work on getting beneath the surface of why there is an implementation gap.

We will share our videos, your videos, webinars which focus on the pledges as well as the cross cutting themes and we will share a variety of blogs, podcasts, and polls so you and your staff can get directly involved in our shared cause.



Sign up to Safety is fostering a movement across the NHS in England to make care safer.

*****Be part of it *****

www.signuptosafety.nhs.uk

Put safety first; recommended actions and messages

