

Safe environments

Quality statement

We expect providers, commissioners and system leaders live up to this statement:

We detect and control potential risks in the care environment. We make sure that the equipment, facilities and technology support the delivery of safe care.

What this quality statement means

- People are cared for in safe environments that are designed to meet their needs.
- Facilities, equipment and technology are well-maintained and consistently support staff to deliver safe and effective care.
- There are effective arrangements to monitor the safety and upkeep of the premises.
- Equipment used to deliver care and treatment is suitable for the intended purpose, stored securely and used properly.
- Leaders and staff consider how environments can keep people safe from psychological harm as well as physical harm, for example in relation to sexual safety and in relation to sensory needs.

I statements

[I statements](#) reflect what people have said matters to them.

- I feel safe and am supported to understand and manage any risks.

Subtopics this quality statement covers

- Premises (including gas, electrical and fire safety)
- Equipment
- Environmental risks (adverse weather such as heatwaves and flooding)
- Digital systems/technology assurance

Also consider

- Staff safety (e.g. risks in the homes of people who use services)

Related regulations

Regulated Activities Regulations 2014

- [Regulation 12: Safe care and treatment](#)
- [Regulation 15: Premises and equipment](#)
- [Regulation 17: Good governance](#)

Additional legislation

[The Regulatory Reform \(Fire Safety\) Order 2005](#)

[The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999](#)

[The Gas Safety \(Installation and Use\) Regulations 1998](#)

[The Electricity at Work regulations 1989](#)

[The Health and Safety \(First Aid\) regulations 1981](#)

[The Health and Safety \(Miscellaneous Amendments\) Regulations 2002](#)

[Medical Devices Regulations 2002](#)

[Medical Devices \(Amendment\) Regulations 2012](#)

[Civil Contingencies Act 2004](#)

[The Reporting of Injuries, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 2013](#)

[The Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992](#)

[The Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992](#)

[The Workplace \(Health, Safety and Welfare\) Regulations 1992](#)

[The Hazardous Waste \(England and Wales\) Regulations 2005](#)

[The Ionising Radiations Regulations 1999](#)

[The Ionising Radiation \(Medical Exposure\) Regulations 2017](#)

[The Ionising Radiation \(Medical Exposure\) \(Amendment\) Regulations 2018](#)

Best practice guidance

We expect providers to be aware of and follow the following best practice guidance.

Premises

[Control of Substances Hazardous to Health \(COSHH\) \(Health and Safety Executive\)](#)

[Slips and trips in health and social care \(HSE\)](#)

[Falls in older people: assessing risk and prevention \(NICE Guidance \[CG 161\]\)](#)

Equipment

[Managing medical devices \(Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency\)](#)

[Devices in practice - checklists for using medical devices \(Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency\)](#)

[Medical Devices \(NHS Confederation\)](#)

[Maintaining portable electric equipment \(HSE\)](#)

[PAT - Portable appliance testing FAQs \(HSE\)](#)

[Equipment safety \(HSE\)](#)

[Moving and handling in health and social care \(HSE\)](#)

[Moving and handling equipment \(HSE\)](#)

[Falls from windows or balconies in health and social care \(HSE\)](#)

Digital systems/technology assurance

[Using surveillance in your care service \(CQC\)](#)