

Medical Errors Reporting Rule. Definitions
(January 1, 2009 -)

"Ambulatory outpatient surgical center" means a center as defined in IC 16-18-2-14.

"ASA Class I patient" means a normal, healthy patient.

"Authenticate" means the author or responsible individual has reviewed the clinical content of the order and validated an entry in the record by:

- (1) a full signature, including first initial, last name, and discipline;
- (2) written initials if full signature appears on the same page;
- (3) a unique identifier such as a number or computer key; or
- (4) a signature stamp.

"Biologics" means a biological product, such as:

- (1) a globulin;
 - (2) a serum;
 - (3) a vaccine;
 - (4) an antitoxin;
 - (5) blood; or
 - (6) an antigen;
- used in the prevention or treatment of disease.

"Burn" means any injury or damage to the tissues of the body caused by exposure to any of the following:

- (1) Fire.
- (2) Heat.
- (3) Chemicals.
- (4) Electricity.
- (5) Radiation.
- (6) Gases.

"Commissioner" means the state health commissioner or the state health commissioner's designee.

"Council" means the body defined in IC 16-18-2-84(1).

"Department" means the Indiana state department of health.

"Division" means the division of acute care of the department.

"Donor" means an individual as defined in IC 29-2-16.1-1.

"Elopement" means any situation in which a registered or admitted patient, excluding events involving adults with decision making capacity, leaves the hospital without staff being aware that the patient has done so.

"Executive board" means the board as defined in IC 16-18-2-120.

"Governing board" means the body defined in IC 16-18-2-149.

"Health care provider" means a provider as defined in [IC 16-18-2-163](#).

"Health care worker" means a person who provides services whether as an individual health care provider, volunteer, or student at or employee of a hospital.

"Hospital" means an organization as defined in IC 16-18-2-179.

"Hyperbilirubinemia" means total serum bilirubin levels greater than twenty-five (25) mg/dl in a neonate.

"Hypoglycemia" means a physiologic state in which:

- (1) the blood sugar falls below sixty (60) mg/dl (forty (40) mg/dl in neonates); and
- (2) physiological or neurological, or both, dysfunction begins.

"Immediately postoperative" means within twenty-four (24) hours after either of the following:

- (1) Administration of anesthesia (if surgery or other invasive procedure is not completed).
- (2) Completion of surgery or other invasive procedure.

"Informed consent" means a patient's authorization or agreement to undergo surgery or other invasive procedure that is based upon communication between a patient and his or her physician regarding the surgery or other invasive procedure.

"Joint movement therapy" means all types of manual techniques, to include:

- (1) mobilization (movement of the spine or a joint within its physiologic range of motion);
- (2) manipulation (movement of the spine or a joint beyond its normal voluntary physiologic range of motion); or
- (3) any other type of manual musculoskeletal therapy;

regardless of their precise anatomic and physiologic focus or their discipline of origin.

"Kernicterus" means the medical condition in which elevated levels of bilirubin cause brain damage.

"Licensed health professional" means an individual as defined in IC 25-23-1-27.1.

"Low-risk pregnancy" means a woman sixteen (16) to thirty-nine (39) years of age with no previous diagnosis of any of the following:

- (1) Essential hypertension.
- (2) Renal disease.
- (3) Collagen-vascular disease.
- (4) Liver disease.
- (5) Preeclampsia.
- (6) Cardiovascular disease.
- (7) Placenta previa.
- (8) Multiple gestation.
- (9) Intrauterine growth retardation.
- (10) Smoking.
- (11) Pregnancy-induced hypertension.
- (12) Premature rupture of membranes.
- (13) Other previously documented condition that poses a high risk of pregnancy-related mortality.

"Medical staff" means a group as defined in IC 16-21-2-7.

"Neonates" means infants in the first twenty-eight (28) days of life.

"Pharmacist" means an individual licensed under IC 25-26-13.

"Physician" means an individual licensed under IC 25-22.5-5.

"Practitioner" means an individual as defined in IC 25-1-9-2.

"Registered nurse" means an individual licensed under IC 25-23-1.

"Rural hospital" means, for purposes of designation as a critical access hospital, a hospital located in a city or town with a population not greater than twenty thousand (20,000).

"Serious disability" means either of the following:

- (1) Significant loss of function including sensory, motor, physiologic, or intellectual

impairment:

(A) not present on admission and requiring continued treatment; or

(B) for which there is a high probability of long term or permanent lifestyle change at discharge.

(2) Unintended loss of a body part.

"Sexual assault" means a crime included under IC 35-42-4 or IC 35-46-1-3.

"Surgery or other invasive procedure" means surgical or other invasive procedures that involve a skin incision, puncture, or insertion of an instrument or foreign material into tissues, cavities, or organs. A procedure begins at the time of the skin incision, puncture, or insertion of an instrument or foreign material into tissues, cavities, or organs. A procedure ends when the surgical incision has been closed or operative devices, such as probes, have been removed. The procedures include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Open or percutaneous surgical procedures.

(2) Percutaneous aspiration.

(3) Selected injections.

(4) Biopsy.

(5) Percutaneous cardiac and vascular diagnostic or interventional procedures.

(6) Laparoscopies.

(7) Endoscopies.

(8) Colonoscopies.

The term excludes intravenous therapy, venipuncture for phlebotomy, diagnostic tests without intravenous contrast agents, nasogastric tubes, or indwelling urinary catheters.

"Toxic substance" means chemicals that are present in sufficient concentration to pose a hazard to human health.

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