

# **CLINICAL SYSTEMS ALERTS PROCEDURE**

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Author/Lead	Tracey O'Mullane
Job Title	Information Governance Officer
Lead Director name	Hilary Gledhill, Director of Nursing
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# VALIDITY – Policies should be accessed via the Trust intranet to ensure the current version is used.

#### **CHANGE RECORD**

Version	Date	Change details		
1.0	Oct 2016	Procedure		
1.1	Aug 2017	Procedure review, rewrite of the introduction		
		Added purpose section		
		Added the principles section		
		Added new categories of alert.		
		Added Risk of Fire Setting to alert list		
		Added Lorenzo alerts procedure		
1.2	Jul 2018	Updated procedure to include SystmOne alerts		
		Added SystmOne procedure to Section 11		
		Moved section 12 and 13 to before the appendices		
1.3	Sept 2018	Removal of the SystemOne alerts procedure		
1.4	Dec 2021	Added Carers/family member/significant other is a service user to introduction and		
		initiation of alerts section.		
1.5	Sept 2022	Changed the title of the Procedure to Alerts Procedure		
		Added permanent alert . temporary alerts and alerts/information from other		
		organisations to Section 5		
		Added Alert Icons paragraph to Section 6		
		Updated Lorenzo Procedure		
		Added SystmOne procedure to Section 13		
		Updated alert list at Appendix 1		
		Approved QPaS 5-Oct-22		
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## **Contents**

1.	INTRODUCTION	3
2.	PURPOSE	3
3.	SCOPE	3
4.	PRINCIPLES	3
5.	ALERT TYPES	3
ţ	5.1. Permanent Alerts	4
ţ	5.2. Temporary Alerts	4
į	5.3. Alerts/Information from other agencies	4
6.	ALERT ICON	4
7.	INITIATION OF ALERT	5
8.	NOTIFICATION OF ALERT	5
9.	DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES	7
10.	EQUALITY & DIVERSITY	8
11.	MENTAL CAPACITY	8
12.	MONITORING & AUDIT	8
13.	PROCEDURES FOR ADDING AN ALERT TO PATIENT ADMINISTRATION SYS	TEM9
14.	REFERENCES/EVIDENCE/GLOSSARY/DEFINITIONS	19
15.	RELEVANT TRUST POLICIES/PROCEDURES/PROTOCOLS/GUIDELINES	19
API	PENDIX 1 - PATIENT ALERT REGISTRATION FORM	20
API	PENDIX 2 – REMOVAL OF AN ALERT	23

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

More than one individual or service is usually involved in the delivery of care and treatment of patients. Staff may sometimes need to share key information. This might be to manage risk arising from patients / service users and associated persons throughout Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust via the use of alerts placed on the patient record.

Patient alerts are a method of informing users/clinicians that;

- there are aspects of care that they must be aware of when dealing with a particular patient.
- a means of identifying and recording individuals and associates who pose or could possibly pose a risk to the members of staff who come into contact with them.
- that a patient may have information or communication needs relating to a disability, impairment, or sensory loss.
- a patients' carer/family member/significant other is also accessing mental health services either within the Trust or via another provider.

#### 2. PURPOSE

The purpose of this guidance is to;

- Enable a robust approach to be consistently applied to the management of alerts.
- To clarify the circumstances in which use of alerts are considered and applied.
- To set out the process for entering and removing an alert.
- To establish a process for review and monitoring alerts.

#### 3. SCOPE

The procedure is aimed at all staff (including seconded, contract, temporary and agency staff) who may be involved in the handling of health records. This includes members of staff with an honorary contract or paid an honorarium. It establishes the Trust's commitment to the principles of clinical safety.

#### 4. PRINCIPLES

The Clinician initiating the alert is solely responsible for the authorisation, content, and removal of an alert once it has expired, this responsibility cannot be devolved to non-clinical staff, although non clinical staff can apply the alert on behalf of the Clinician.

Alerts must be based solely on factual information and not subjective opinion. The clinician requesting or applying an alert must always be able to justify their decision on this basis to the patient or potentially in a court of law.

An alert must always be based on information from an appropriate source within health or social care organisations and the sharing of that information must comply with Caldicott Principles.

Data Protection Legislation applies equally to patient alerts as to any other part of a record held by the Trust. Staff are reminded that information contained within the alerts will normally be subject to disclosure on receipt of a Subject Access Request under Data Protection Legislation.

#### 5. ALERT TYPES

There are a twelve alert types that can be placed on a patient's record. Each alert type contains a number of sub-categories. All alerts will have a type and a sub-category recorded.

Type of alert - see Appendix 1 for alert list and sub-categories

- Behavioural (R)
- Clinical
- Communication
- End of Life
- Environmental
- FGM
- Impairment
- Infection (R)
- MAPPA
- Preference
- Research
- Safeguarding (R)

(R) Indicates the Alerts to be reviewed on a regular basis.

The use of 'Behavioural and MAPPA' alert markers will help to alert staff and serve as an early warning of a particular individual, associate or situation that may present a risk to themselves, colleagues, or other patients. This will help to reduce the number of violent incidents at a local level and assist in creating a safe and secure environment for all.

**NOTE**: Behavioural Alert Type should not include details of contagious/infectious disease as guidelines regarding universal precautions are in existence. (Unless the Service User or relatives use this as a means of assault)

#### 5.1. Permanent Alerts

Some alerts are permanent alerts, they alert staff to something about the service user that they should always be mindful of, eg learning disability or accessible information standard, these types of alerts would not have an end date.

#### 5.2. Temporary Alerts

Some alerts may only be relevant for a time limited period eg an infection or behavioural risk Where an alert has a known duration the end date should be included at the point of creation. If an alert needs a periodic review the review date should be added to the alert.

#### 5.3. Alerts/Information from other agencies

Information about risk and concerns may be received from other agencies eg police or housing. Clinicians will need to document the information received, the source of the information and actions in the service users record and manage the risk in line with established pathways.

Information on managing specific risks is available in;

Safeguarding Adults Policy

Safeguarding Children Policy

MAPPA Protocol

Sharing Personal Data with the Police SOP

#### 6. ALERT ICON

If an alert is present on a record an alert icon is visible on the patients record. It is important that staff pay attention to the Icon when it appears in each system. It is notifying other professionals there may be a risk to themselves or others, that there is something they need to be aware of to ensure safe care or the service user has a specific need.

The icon is different in each system.

#### Lorenzo

icon visible in the patient banner. The banner remains visible on all screens in the record. It is visible on the IP pegboard and OP pegboard. The alert information is not visible with the icon. Staff need to hover over the icon to view alerts on a record.

!! icon visible on the homescreen and throughout the record, on the sidebar down the left-hand side of the screen, and visible in the appointment booking module. The alert information is included with

#### 7. INITIATION OF ALERT

When a clinician identifies a potential need to place an alert on a record. They should complete the patient alert form (Appendix 1). A copy of the form containing evidence to support the alert will be scanned onto Patient Administration Systems (PAS) for 24 hours availability.

Where an alert is to identify that a service users' carer/partner/significant other is also accessing mental health services, the clinician must offer a Carers assessment and complete the carers documentation in the service user's electronic record.

Where an alert is based on risk to staff or others the following risk factors should be considered when determining whether a record should be marked:

- nature of the incident (i.e. physical or non-physical)
- degree of violence used or threatened by the individual
- injuries sustained by the victim
- the level of risk that the individual poses
- · whether an urgent response is required to alert staff
- impact on staff and others who were victims of or witnessed the incident
- impact on the provision of services
- likelihood that the incident will be repeated
- any time delay since the incident occurred
- the individual has an appointment scheduled in the near future
- staff are due to visit a location where the individual may be present in the near future
- the individual is a frequent or daily attender (e.g. to a clinic or out-patients)
- the individual is an in-patient
- the incident, while not serious itself, is part of an escalating pattern of behaviour
- the medical condition and medication of the individual at the time of the incident.

All details within a Behavioural alert must be listed within the patients' risk and relapse plan and entered onto PATIENT ADMINISTRATION SYSTEMS (PAS) giving enquirers further information.

Staff must check the Risk and Relapse Plan and check the patient's manual record or PAS prior to any contact with the patient or relatives.

NOTE: If the alert is temporary do not forget to end date the alert, or set a review date

#### NOTIFICATION OF ALERT

To comply with Data Protection Legislation the patient needs to be notified that an alert will be placed on their record. The patient should be informed as soon a reasonably possible following a decision to place an alert on their records. If a patient has a Care Co-ordinator, the Care Co-ordinator is responsible for sending a notification to the patient, otherwise it is the Clinician who raised the alert who is responsible for sending a notification (This is done by giving them a copy of the Patient Alert Form (Appendix 1) with a covering explanation letter for the reasons for the alert. The letter should

#### clearly explain:

- the nature of the incident;
- that their records will show an alert;
- the reasons why the alert is being placed on their records;
- who the information may be shared with and for what purpose;
- when the marker will be reviewed/removed;
- the process for complaints;
- · relevant contact details:

The same principles will apply when considering an alert on the record of a patient's associate, relative, friend or carer. All decisions on marking records should be based on the risk to staff rather than on any relationship between the individuals concerned. If the incident is committed by an associate of the patient, a letter should be sent to both the patient and associate, if the associate's identity and whereabouts is known. The patient's letter should inform them of the decision that has been made; the associate's letter should include the same information provided to the individual taking care not to disclose any confidential medical information.

There may be exceptional cases when it is decided that notifying the individual / associate may increase the risk that they pose to staff, and that notification is not appropriate. These may include situations where:

- informing the individual may provide a violent reaction and put staff at further risk. In these cases, a detailed record of the evidence to support this (e.g. the individual has prolonged history of violence against NHS staff) must be kept along with the decision not to notify and the reasons for this course of action.
- Notification of a marker may adversely affect an individual's health. Any decision, based on exceptional circumstances, not to notify an individual must be evidenced in the patient's record explaining the reasons why notification may adversely affect an individual's health.

For other alerts the service user's key worker should explain that an alert has been logged and the reason for the alert and note the explanation on the record, eg Allergic to penicillin, Advanced Directive.

#### Right of Appeal

The patient or their relatives have the right to appeal against the decision to put an alert on the system. This is done via the Trusts standard complaints procedure.

### **Duration of Alerts**

Alerts duration will vary dependent on the reason for the alert. Alerts must be reviewed and managed once placed on the system.

The period between reviews should not exceed one year.

#### **Alert Monitor**

A Senior Clinician should be made responsible for monitoring alert types within their teams to ensure alerts are applied and removed appropriately and monitors the usage of that Alert type; this person would be referred to as an Alert Monitor. The Alert Monitor may designate a deputy who will perform the reviews and monitor the alerts under their supervision. In reviewing the alert consideration should be given as to whether the alert content is still required based on gravity of the incident, the length of time since it has occurred and the previous and subsequent behaviour of the individual.

To facilitate the Alert Monitor's role an electronic report can be created in report manager which

gives details of all patients in their teams who have a particular alert against their record both current and historical with the alert owners/Information Source and current key workers or co-ordinators for those patients.

Alert reviews should form part of the service user/s regular clinical case review, eg MDT/Community Team Review, CPA\* review and at any other time that the risk/relapse plan is reviewed.

#### **Removal of Alerts**

All Alerts must be reviewed at natural assessment review, MDT, or each Care Programme Approach (CPA)\* review or as circumstances change and revoked as appropriate.

Alerts will be removed, subject to the correct documentation being completed authorising the removal by the Alert Monitor/Information Source. Appendix 2 (\*CPA system is under review and will be changed to Person Centred Planning)

#### 9. DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

#### **Chief Executive**

Will assume overall responsibility for ensuring the Trust has appropriate arrangements in place for the management and response to alerts. The Chief Executive delegates responsibility for the management of alerts to the Director of Nursing, AHP and Social Care Professionals

#### **Director of Nursing, AHP and Social Care Professionals**

Has delegated responsibility for ensuring the Trust has in place appropriate policies and procedures for the management and response to all alerts.

#### Managers and Clinical/Professional Leads

Responsible for the implementation of this Procedure in their areas of responsibility and ensuring that systems are in place to achieve the standards within this Procedure for information, dissemination, monitoring, incident reporting and employee training.

#### **Team Leaders and Charge Nurses**

Responsible for implementing operational systems to ensure adherence to the principles and standards of this procedure.

#### Safeguarding Adults Team

The Safeguarding Adults team is the Trust's Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for MARAC and PREVENT

#### Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) Champions

The MAPPA Champions are the SPOC for MAPPA.

Where requested through MAPPA process or by the Trust's Security Manager, to place an alert on individual's medical records they will be responsible for placement of alert on: -

- E-Record and SystmOne (within reminder function) and any other Trust Systems. Comment alert will only be on Electronic Systems.
- Reviewing alerts on a 12 monthly basis to ensure these remain appropriate.
- Removal of alert at the request of MAPPA or Security Manager.
- Maintenance of MAPPA / Security Alert database.
- Provision of advice to staff in hours regarding security risk and measure required once alert has been tagged.

#### All Staff

Responsible for keeping Alerts accurate and checking the Trusts PAS on each occasion of patient contact, in order to access existing alerts, pick up details of changes or requirements for a new additional alert.

#### 10. EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

The introduction of an Alert System will have positive benefits for the individual service user; her/his family; caregivers and the community in terms of reductions in actual/potential risks; maintenance of individual dignity and feelings of self-worth; and enhancement of the therapeutic relationship.

An Equality and Diversity Impact Assessment has been carried out on this document using the Trust approved EIA.

#### 11. MENTAL CAPACITY

The Trust supports the following principles, as set out in the Mental Capacity Act and has applied them in the development of this policy:

- A person must be assumed to have capacity unless it is established that they lack capacity.
- A person is not to be treated as unable to make a decision unless all
  practicable steps to help him to do so have been taken without success.
- A person is not to be treated as unable to make a decision merely because they make an unwise decision.
- An act completed, or decision made, under this Act for or on behalf of a person who lacks capacity must be done, or made, in their best interests.
- Before the act is completed, or the decision made, regard must be had as to whether the purpose for which it is needed can be effectively achieved in a way that is less restrictive of the person's rights and freedom of action.

#### 12. MONITORING & AUDIT

Compliance with this Procedure will be monitored in the following ways:

**Training**: Inclusion in Clinical Procedure Update session.

Key staff need to be competent to input onto Patient Administration Systems (PAS) and will require training session if not already trained.

**Communications/Dissemination**: Communicate to all practitioners via global/Team Talk and staff meetings. Place a copy of the procedure on clinical document store via the Intranet.

Audit: as part of normal record keeping audits

Data/Information Requirements: data protection information and advice included in policy.

Effectiveness of Procedure- monitored through Trend Analysis to incidence reports/Datix

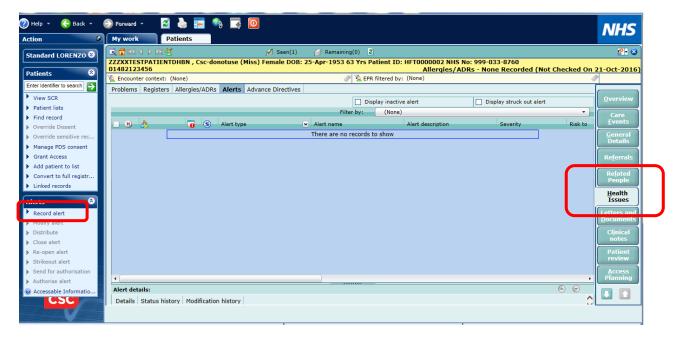
# 13. PROCEDURES FOR ADDING AN ALERT TO PATIENT ADMINISTRATION SYSTEM

**LORENZO** – An alert on a Lorenzo record will be shown in the patient banner as a symbol.

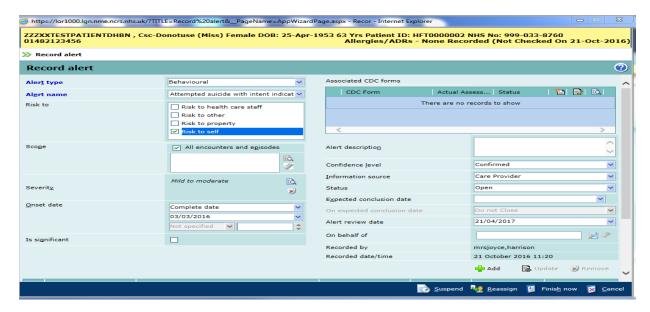
Hover over the symbol in the banner to view the alerts placed on the record.

#### Recording an Alert on behalf of another Clinician

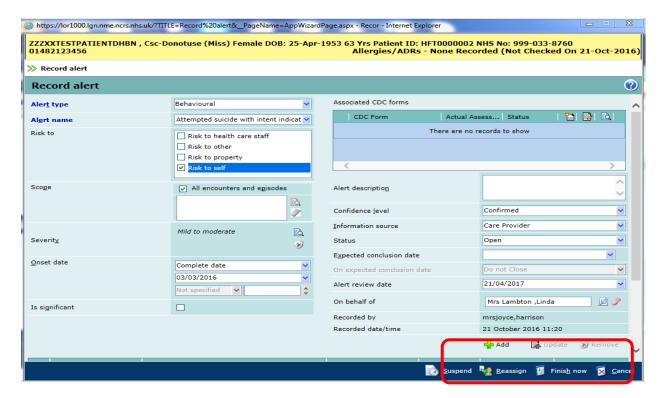
- 1. Search for the correct patient in the Patients Application tab
- 2. Select the Health Issues EPR tab
- 3. Select the Alerts faux tab and select Record alert from the task pane



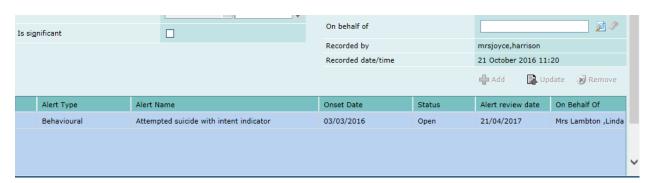
- 4. Select the appropriate alert from the drop down list
- 5. Depending on the Alert type chosen, the Alert name field will change to dislay the appropriate choices
- 6. Select the appropriate Alert name from the drop down list
- 7. Complete details of the alert as required



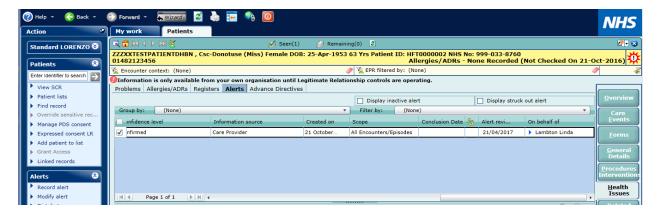
If you are recording an alert on behalf of a Clinician, click on the 'On behalf of' SFS and search for the relevant Care Provider



9. Click Add to move the information to the bottom grid



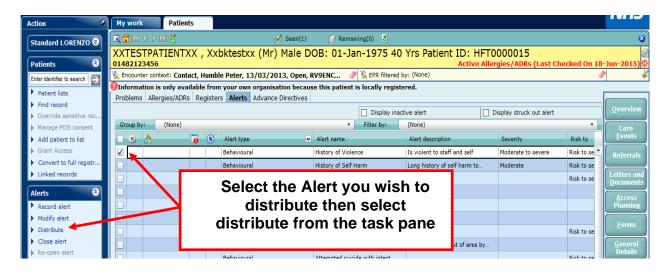
- 10. Click Finish now
- 11. Scroll along on the screen and the On behalf of Clinician's name will display

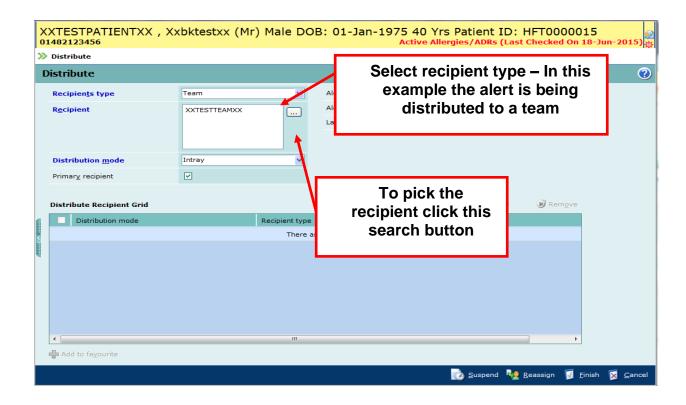


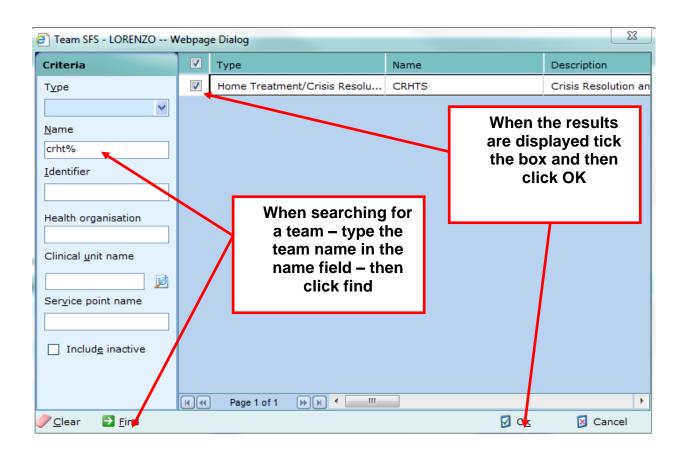
#### **Distributing the Alert to Teams**

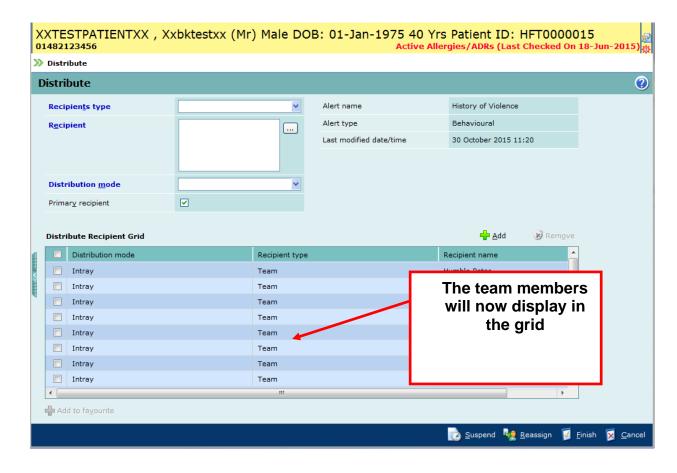
Once an alert has been recorded on a patient record it is good practice to then inform members of a team or certain individuals.

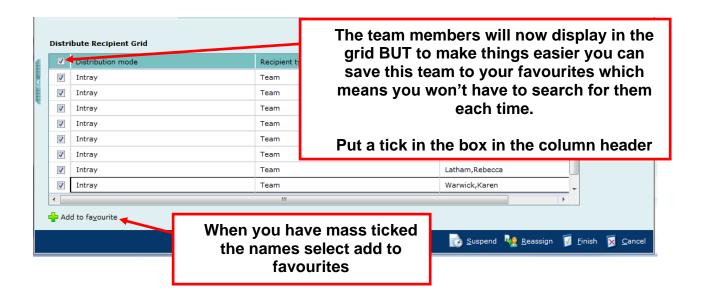
This can be done by distributing the alert to team / staff in-trays.

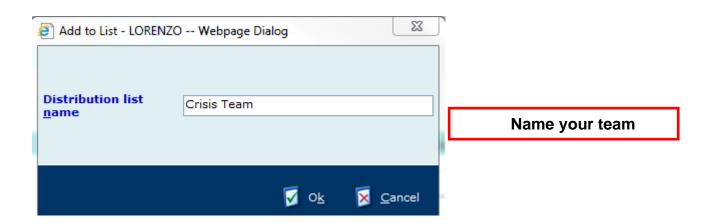


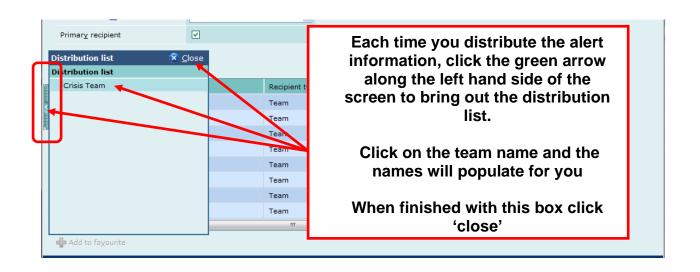




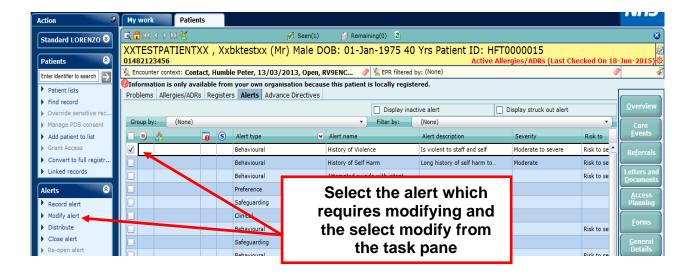


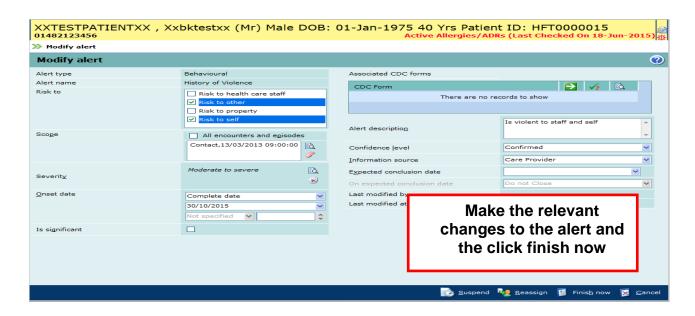


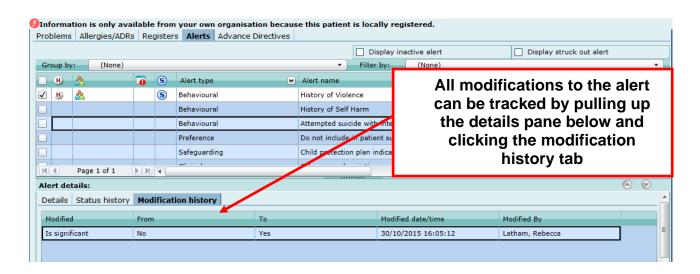




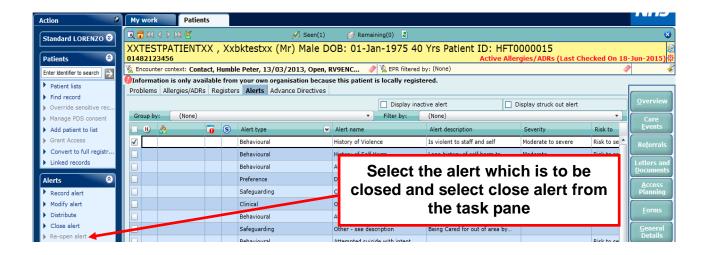
### **Modifying an Alert**

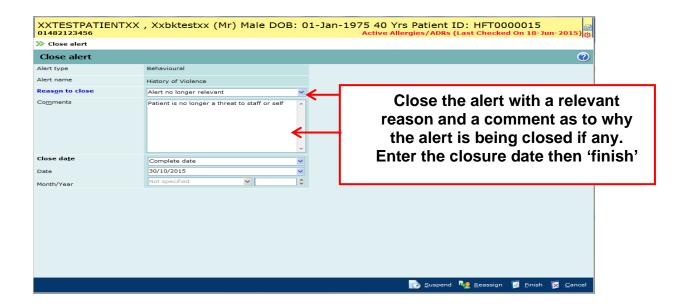






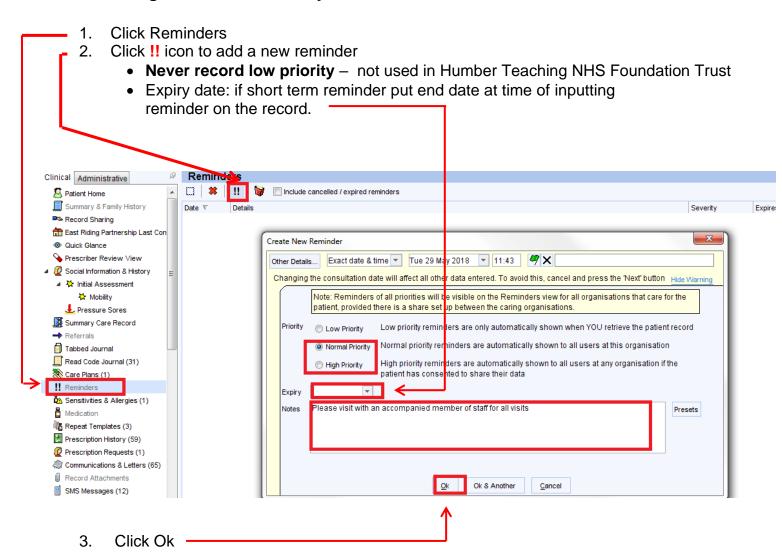
#### Closing the alert





### SYSTMONE – Alerts on a SystmOne record will be placed in the Reminders

#### Recording a reminder alert in SystmOne

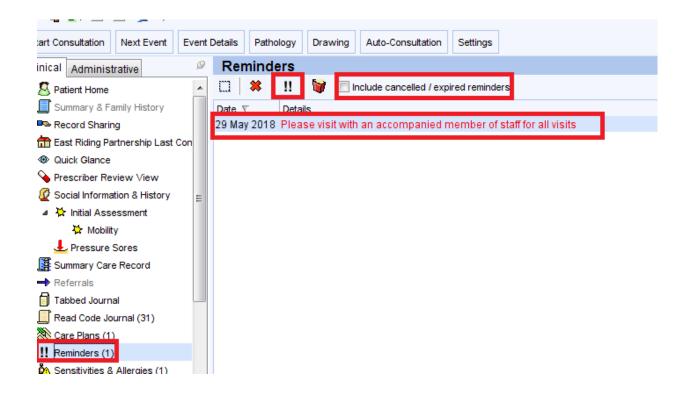


#### Viewing the Reminders

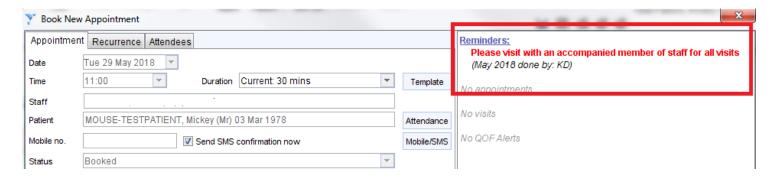


Viewing and managing reminders from the Reminders section

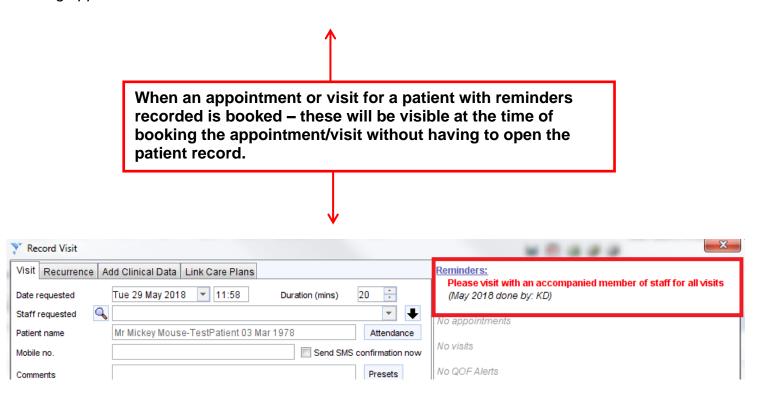
- 1. Click on Reminders on the clinical tree
- 2. Right click on reminder to cancel if no longer relevant
- 3. Click !! icon to add further reminders
- 4. Tick the box to include cancelled/expired reminders to see full reminder history recorded in the record.



### Booking an appointment/visit for a Patient who has a reminder recorded in the record



#### Booking appointment screen



Booking visit screen

#### 14. REFERENCES/EVIDENCE/GLOSSARY/DEFINITIONS

NICE Guideline CG 10 Management of Violence & Aggression 2015,

https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng10/

Data Protection Act 2018, <a href="https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents/enacted">https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2018/12/contents/enacted</a> General Data Protection Regulation, <a href="https://gdpr-info.eu/">https://gdpr-info.eu/</a>

Data Protection Good Practice Note - The use of violent warning markers, Information Commissioner's Office (2006)

http://www.ico.gov.uk/what\_we\_cover/data\_protection/guidance/good\_practice\_notes.aspx

Mental Health Capacity Act 2005, <a href="http://www.scie.org.uk/publications/mca/principles.asp">http://www.scie.org.uk/publications/mca/principles.asp</a>
Directions to NHS bodies on security management measures, Department of Health (2004)
<a href="http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/SecurityManagement/2286.aspx">http://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/SecurityManagement/2286.aspx</a>

The Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) <a href="http://www.hse.gov.uk/legislation/hswa.htm">http://www.hse.gov.uk/legislation/hswa.htm</a>
The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999) ISBN0110856252 <a href="http://www.opsi.gov.uk/Sl/si1999/19993242.htm">http://www.opsi.gov.uk/Sl/si1999/19993242.htm</a>

#### 15. RELEVANT TRUST POLICIES/PROCEDURES/PROTOCOLS/GUIDELINES

Information Security and Risk Policy
Inpatient Identification Policy and Procedure
Management of Violence and Aggressive Behaviour Policy
Clinical Management of Drug and Alcohol Users Policy
Risk Management Policy
Patient Objection to the Creation or Use of their Health Record
Safeguarding Adult Policy
Safeguarding Children Policy
Information Governance Policy
MAPPA Protocol

#### **APPENDIX 1 - PATIENT ALERT REGISTRATION FORM**

Patient Name:				
Date of Birth:		NHS Number:		
Home Address and P	Address and Postcode: Telephone No:			
Name and Title of Ma	nager Approving the Alert			
Signature of Manager	Approving the Alert			
Date:				
Alert Type – Tick aler	t type on back of this form			
The clinician requesting decision on this basis An alert must always be based	_			
Special Precautions:				
Start Date of Alert:	End Date of Alert: (if date known or short term alert)	Review Date of Alert: (Must have a review date if no end date)		

Please ensure that this alert is regularly reviewed through appropriate forums i.e. Care Coordination Group, Community Team meeting or built into natural assessments. Copies for:

- Patient
- Medical File (and place a note in the relevant alert box on the inside cover of the medical record)

The patient must be provided with an explanation when an Alert is created.

\* Copy to be logged with the Risk and Relapse Plan on Patient Administration Systems

## Tick alert type to be applied to record

Alert Type	Alert Name			
		Preference	Patient objects for record been	
Behavioural	ASBO or Injunction in Effect		used for non-direct care purposes	
			Patient objects to record been shared with other organisations	
	Attempted Suicide with intent indicator		providing care	
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		Does NOT consent to share	
	History of Damage to Property		Information	
	History of Self Harm		Other – see description	
	History of Theft		At risk of FGM (Female Genital	
	History of Theft	FGM	Mutilation) Child with parent history of FGM	
	History of Verbal Abuse	1 0141	Confirmed FGM	
	History of Violence	Infection	C.difficile positive (or carrier	
	History of Violence by Significant other	illection	CPE1 (Carbanphamase producing	
	Inappropriate Multiple Attendee		entero bacteria ceae	
	Other - See Description		Norovirus positive	
	Previously Absconded from Care Setting		CPE1 positive case	
	Previously known Drug User/Seeker		CPE2 contact of a positive case	
	Previously Known to Carry Weapon		Coronavirus/Covid 19	
	Risk of Fire Starting		Extended-spectrum beta-lactamase	
	Part 3 MHA Detention		Glycopeptide Resistant Enterococci	
	Referred under MARAC		Isolate patient	
			MRSA Positive	
Clinical	Vulnerable in Case of Civic Emergency		Shielding from Covid 19	
Cillical	A&E Attention - check notes		Other – see description	
	Patient Requires Irradiated Blood		Positive for blood-borne virus	
	Pet Hazard		Risk of Creutzfeld-Jakob disease (CJD)	
	Patient Relative is a Service User		TB	
	Bleeding Discharge		Vancomycin-resistant Enterococci	
	Blood Transfusion Hazard	MAPPA	MAPPA Category 1 and Risk Level 1	
	Frequent Attender	IVIAFFA	MAPPA Category 1 and Risk Level 2	
	High Dose Antipsychotic Treatment  Patient at Risk of Sudden or Unexpected		MAPPA Category 1 and Risk Level 3	
	Death under age 18 as assessed by clinician		IVIAFFA Category I and RISK Level 5	
End of Life	Do not Attempt CPR		MAPPA Category 2 and Risk Level 1	
	Advanced Directive in Effect	1 1	MAPPA Category 2 and Risk Level 2	
	Hospice Patient	<b>-</b>	MAPPA Category 2 and Risk Level 3	
	Not for Resuscitation - see comment		MAPPA Category 3 and Risk Level 1	
	Other		MAPPA Category 3 and Risk Level 2	
	Palliative Care Patient		MAPPA Category 3 and Risk Level 3	
Impairment	Communication Difficulties	Research Patient	Patient Requires Irradiated Blood	
panmone	Housebound		Research Patient	
	Housebound		Risk of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease	
	Learning Disability		(CJD)	
	Mobility Difficulties	Communication	Cannot Receive Posted Letters	
			Accessible information	
	Other - See Description		Requirement	
	Visual Impairment			
Safeguarding	No safeguarding issues identified		Suspected victim of sexual abuse	

Child on a CPP				spected victim of child ploitation
LAC				spected victim of sexual grooming
Child domestic abuse				leged victim of sexual assault
			Su	spected non accidental injury to
Child at risk or victim o	f sexual exploitation			ild
Confirmed victim of FG	М	Suspected victim of child abuse		<u>'</u>
Child at risk /victim of t	rafficking			spected victim of domestic abuse
Adult at risk of harm		Suspected victim of physical		spected victim of physical abuse
Adult detained in Hosp	ital under MHA	Suspected victim of bullying		
Adult (DOLS) under DO	L Act		All	leged been suspected of abuse
Frequent Attender of A	.&E dept			nild protection is present on CPIS ease review
Delay in seeking med	ical advice			Self neglect
Child is cause for safe	guarding concern	Environmen	it	Access Difficulties to Patient
Adult safeguarding co	oncern			Other - See Description
Family is cause for o	concern			Pet Hazard
Carer behaviour is can concern	use for Safeguarding			Possible Drug User on Premises
Unborn child is cause concern	Unborn child is cause for safeguarding concern			Possible Drug User on Premises
At risk for deliberate	self harm			
At risk for physical ab	use			
At risk for other direc	ted violence			
Child at risk				
Vulnerable Adult				
At risk of financial abo	use			
At risk of discriminate	ory abuse			
At risk of institutional	abuse			
At risk of radicalisation	n			
Has a child subject of	СРР			
Family member of CP	P subject			
Domestic abuse victir	n in household			
At risk of domestic vio	olence			
At risk of sexual abus	e			
At risk of sexual explo				
At risk of FGM				
At risk of honour-base	ed violence			
At risk of forced marr	iage			
At risk of emotional a				
At risk of psychologic				
Suspected alcohol ab				
Family history of alco				
Suspected drug abuse				
Family history of drug				
ramily history of drug	s anuse			

Suspected victim of child neglect

## **APPENDIX 2 – REMOVAL OF AN ALERT**

Name of Patient:	NHS no:
Date of Birth:	Patient Identifier/Unit Number:
Address and Postcode:	
Date of Alert Review	
Reason for Alert Removal	
The Alert which commenced on	is now discontinued.
I confirm that I am authorised to discontine. The Patient has been notified of the chang amended appropriately.	ue an alert for this Service User. ge and their records manually and electronically
Signed:	
Print Name:	
Designation	
Base Address:	