

## REPORTING OF SERIOUS ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS

Health Canada implemented mandatory reporting of serious adverse drug reactions for all Canadian hospitals in December 2019. This is also referred to as **Vanessa's Law**.

## WHAT IS A SERIOUS ADVERSE DRUG REACTION?

A serious adverse drug reaction (ADR) is a noxious and unintended response to a drug that occurs at any dose and results in the following outcomes:

- Requires in-patient hospitalization or prolongation of existing hospitalization;
- Causes congenital malformation;
- Results in persistent or significant disability or incapacity;
- Is life threatening; or
- Results in death.

All levels of ADRs are to be reported in the **Provincial Safety Management System** (PSMS). Any serious ADRs are reviewed for completion and accuracy by Quality Patient Safety Consultants (QPSCs) and are sent to Health Canada automatically through PSMS.





If any staff person is aware of an ADR - please report it in PSMS.