NEVER EVENTS IN HEALTHCARE

Never events are patient safety incidents that result in serious patient harm or death and are preventable using organizational checks and balances. These events highlight the need for system-level prevention, not blame, and serve as a call to action for safer healthcare (Healthcare Excellence).

Never events do not imply blame; **"never" is a call-to-action,** not a demand or an attempt to shame mistakes (Never Events for Hospital Care in Canada, 2015).

HOW MANY NEVER EVENTS APPLY TO HEALTH PEI?

There are **15** never events for hospital-related care. These are outlined in HPEI's *Patient Safety and Environmental Incident Reporting and Management* policy.

WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES OF NEVER EVENTS?

- Harm from **improperly sterilized instruments or equipment** by the healthcare facility**.**
- **Any Stage 3 or 4 pressure injury** acquired after admission.
- **Surgery performed** on the wrong body part or wrong patient.
- Patient in a secure facility or highest level of observation leaves without the knowledge of staff.
- **Wrong tissue, biological implant, or blood product** given to a patient.
- Patient death or serious harm due to an **accidental burn**.

Further information on never events can be found: Never Events for Hospital Care or Appendix B of the Patient Safety and Environmental Incident Reporting and Management Policy

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