

## **Appendix 1. RCA outcome severity categories**

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| A | Circumstances or events that have the capacity to become a hazard   |
| B | A hazard that did not reach the patient   |
| C | A hazard that reached the patient but did not cause harm  |
| D | Patient required increased monitoring or intervention to confirm that it resulted in no harm to the patient |
| E | Temporary harm to the patient and required intervention   |
| F | Temporary harm to the patient and required initial or prolonged hospitalization                             |
| G | Permanent patient harm  |
| H | Intervention required to sustain life   |
| I | Patient death   |

\*Categories based on National Coordinating Council for Medication Error Reporting and Prevention's Taxonomy of Medication Errors, available from <http://www.nccmerp.org/sites/default/files/taxonomy2001-07-31.pdf>

## **Appendix 2. Categories of New York State reportable events for which RCAs are required or may be performed**

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### **RCA required within 30-60 days:**

Wrong patient, wrong site surgical procedure  
Incorrect procedure or treatment - invasive  
Unintentionally retained foreign body  
Unexpected deaths (including delay in treatment, diagnoses or an omission of care)  
including neonate ~ 28 weeks AND ~ 1000 grams AND no life threatening anomalies)  
Cardiac and/or respiratory arrest requiring ACLS intervention (including delay in treatment,  
diagnosis or an omission of care)  
Loss of limb or organ (including delay in treatment, diagnosis or an omission of care)  
Impairment of limb, organ or body function (including delay in treatment, diagnosis,  
or an omission of care)  
Malfunction of equipment during a treatment or diagnosis, or a defective product resulting  
in death or serious injury  
Medication error occurred that resulted in permanent patient harm  
Medication error occurred that resulted in near-death event  
Medication error occurred that resulted in patient death

### **RCA may be performed within 30-60 days:**

Misadministration of radiation or radioactive material  
Crime resulting in death or serious injury  
Suicides and attempted suicides related to an inpatient hospitalization, with serious injury  
Elopement from hospital resulting in death or serious injury  
Strike by hospital staff  
External disaster outside the control of the hospital which affects facility operation  
Termination of any services vital to the continued safe operation of the hospital  
or to the health and safety of its patients and personnel  
Poisoning occurring within the hospital (water, air, food)  
Hospital fire or other internal disaster disrupting patient care or causing harm to patients or staff

Malfunction of equipment during treatment or diagnosis or a defective product which has a potential for adversely affecting patient or hospital personnel or results in a retained foreign body

Infant abduction

Infant discharged to wrong family

Rape of a patient