



# The Royal College of Emergency Medicine

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The Royal College of Emergency Medicine has raised a concern to NHS England and Improvement Patient Safety, following several reported incidents noting that organisations may not be using the latest version of The Manchester Triage System clinical risk management triage tool. Old versions of the system have outdated treatment/priority parameters for adult and paediatric sepsis that could affect patient outcome.

The Manchester Triage Group (MTG) have confirmed that they no longer support earlier editions and that 'a number of changes since 1996 are matters of clinical safety and that patients being triaged using many of the 1996 and 2006 algorithms will be at risk of mis-triage and may therefore have worse clinical outcomes'. As a result, the latest version of the system (Edition 3.7 at the time of writing this message) has updated treatment priorities especially in relation to the treatment of adult and paediatric sepsis.

It is therefore crucial that if your organisation uses the Manchester Triage System clinical risk management triage tool, please ensure that the most recent version is being used and where this is not the case, specific local mitigation for the risks is in place. NHS X and NHS Digital have written to the Chief Clinical Information Officers (CCIO) of your Trust to bring this to their attention and ask that a robust critical upgrade process is in existence to ensure the latest version of the Manchester Triage System is in use, and that subsequent editions of the system will be implemented in a timely manner. Whilst this letter relates specifically to the Manchester Triage System, the process of ensuring that the latest version of any clinical systems in use should equally apply to all similar systems.

We are writing to ask that you contact your Trust CCIO to seek assurance that the letter has been received and to remind your Trust that if the Manchester Triage System is being used, that it is important to ensure that the latest version is in place.

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