



Dear Colleagues

National Medical Equipment Management System (NMEMs) – Actions for NHS Boards

Purpose

1. a) To update that a national NHS Scotland Medical Equipment Management System (NMEMs) will be operational from September 2025; and, outline the Actions required to be completed by NHS Boards by the end of June 2025.

b) Highlight that plans will be developed with the appropriate groups for the NMEMs to be used to enhance the visibility of imaging and radiotherapy equipment in Scotland, aligning with regulatory requirements such as those of the [Ionising Radiation Medical Exposure Regulations 2017](#).

Summary

2. The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the urgent need for a centralised national view of all medical equipment across Scotland. To address this the National Medical Equipment Management System (NMEMs) Project was established by the National Infrastructure Board with the key aim of providing a national view of locally held medical equipment within NHS Boards.

3. Led by NHS National Services Scotland (NSS) working with NHS Boards, the NMEMS Project is a critical initiative aimed at enhancing medical equipment visibility, improving strategic asset management, and strengthening national healthcare resilience across NHS Scotland.

4. With significant input and leadership from NHS Board Clinical Engineering and Scottish Technical Managers Group, work over the last two years has resulted in all territorial NHS Boards now using a local Medical Equipment Management System (MEM), work progressing in Boards to ensure an NHS Scotland approach to Data Harmonisation and the establishment of a Medical Equipment Management System's (MEMs) User Group to support Boards through the sharing of best practice in MEMS functionality.

DL(2025)08

25 April 2025

Addressees

For action
Chief Executives, NHS
Boards

For information
NHS Board Clinical
Engineering Leads
NHS Board Medical Physics
Leads
NHS Board Digital Leads
NHS Board Imaging and
Radiotherapy Leads
NHS Board Medical
Directors
NHS Board Nurse Directors
NHS Board AHP Directors
NHS Board Healthcare
Science Leads
Executive Directors
Responsible for Medical
Device Policy, NHS Boards
NHS Board, Chairs, Medical
Device Committees
NHS Board Directors of
Estates and Facilities
Incidents and Alerts Safety
Officers, NHS Boards and
Local Authorities
Scottish Technical Managers
Group
National Infrastructure Board
NMEMs Project Board
NHS Boards IRMER Leads
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Enquiries to:

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5. By September 2025, the NMEMS project will have delivered a standardised, centralised approach to medical equipment management, ultimately supporting operational efficiency, informed decision-making, and future healthcare preparedness.

6. Actions required by all territorial NHS Boards and NHS Golden Jubilee:

Data Harmonisation for “Category” of Equipment to be undertaken by end of June 2025

6.1 All NHS Boards are working to complete the required data harmonisation as set out by the NHS Board Clinical Engineering Data Harmonisation Group for “Category” of Equipment by the end of June 2025. To date, approximately 60% of Boards have completed this.

Work with NSS DaS Seer Team to provide API Access

6.2 As an initial step, three NHS Boards will be selected to pilot the API setup. The NMEMS Project Team are in the process of identifying which Boards will be included in a trial phase.

6.3 NHS Board Digital Teams are being contacted directly by the NSS Solution Delivery Team (DaS Seer Team) to discuss their requirements for the development and configuration of API access between the Board’s local Medical Equipment Management System (MEMS) and NMEMS.

Imaging and Radiotherapy Equipment

6.4 Colleagues responsible for Asset management should work towards capturing locally the 18 core data fields outlined in Paragraph 9 for this equipment, in preparation for adding this to the NMEMS when plans and processes to do this have been agreed by the appropriate groups.

Background

7. The national NHS Scotland Medical Equipment Management System (NMEMS) has been developed by the National Medical Equipment Management Project, led by NSS working with NHS Boards, to enhance national preparedness for future healthcare planning by delivering the following key benefits:

- **Enhanced visibility and transparency** – provide the reporting framework to provide greater oversight of NHS Scotland’s readiness for future pandemics and emergencies.
- **Improved incident response** – enable rapid assessments of equipment faults, safety alerts, recalls, and supply chain disruptions to enable swift and consistent national responses.
- **Collaborative knowledge sharing** – provide a unified platform across NHS health boards to facilitate standardised knowledge sharing and training, enhancing consistency in best practices.
- **Standardised data practices** – provide a consistent approach to data management, processes, and compliance will support adherence to guidance and regulatory requirements.

- **Stronger strategic planning** – enable improved data-driven decision-making at both national and local levels will enhance benchmarking, procurement planning, SAFR reporting, and other national reporting initiatives.

Scope of NMEMs

8. This project aims to standardise medical equipment management across 15 NHS Boards (14 territorial Boards and NHS Golden Jubilee), ensuring consistent data classification and management. This will enable the delivery of a national reporting solution, providing consolidated insights, enhancing decision-making, and supporting strategic planning at both local and national levels.

The key project areas include:

Standardisation of Medical Equipment Categories: Harmonised equipment classification across all NHS Boards to enable consistent national reporting.

Development of a National Reporting Platform: The build of a centralised system that consolidates medical equipment data across all 15 NHS Boards, providing real-time visibility and improved decision-making.

Target Operating Model (Business as Usual): Establishing a framework for ongoing data management, quality assurance, and performance monitoring, ensuring long-term sustainability and efficiency.

Core Medical Equipment Data Set for NMEMs

9. The table below provides the core medical device data set for the national Medical Equipment Management System (NMEMs)

#	Core Asset Data Fields	
1	Category	10 Location (within site, ward, clinic etc)
2	GMDN Term	11 Ownership Type
3	GMDN Code	12 Purchase Date
4	Brand	13 Purchase Cost
5	Model	14 Installation Date
6	Serial Number	15 End of Support Date
7	Unique Asset Identifier	16 Equipment Status
8	Health Board	17 Support Level
9	Site / Hospital	18 Software Revision

National Reporting from NMEMs

10. Work is underway through the NMEMs Project on a National Reporting Workstream to develop a suite of the national Reports currently required to reduce the requirement for Boards to provide these. For example, the State of NHS Scotland Assets and Facilities Report (SAFR).

NMEMs Target Operating Model (TOM)

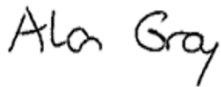
St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
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11. A Target Operating Model (TOM) is being developed by the NMEMS Project which will define the processes and responsibilities for data governance and management beyond September 2025. Further information will follow on this during 2025.

Further information

12. Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact NMEMs Project Team via email at: nss.nmem@nhs.scot

Yours sincerely



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John Burns
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