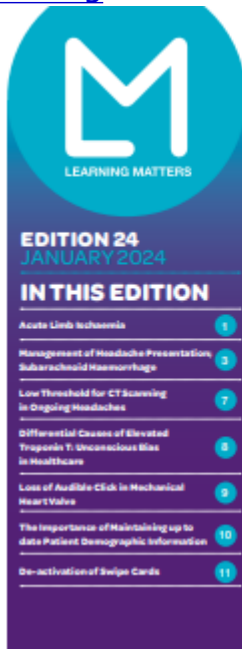


Wednesday, 18 September 2024

## Nursing



Welcome to edition 24 of the Learning Matters Newsletter. Health and Social Care in Northern Ireland endeavours to provide the highest quality service to those in its care. We recognise that we need to use a variety of ways to share learning therefore the purpose of this newsletter is to complement the existing methods by providing staff with short examples of incidents where learning has been identified.

HSC Health and Social Care



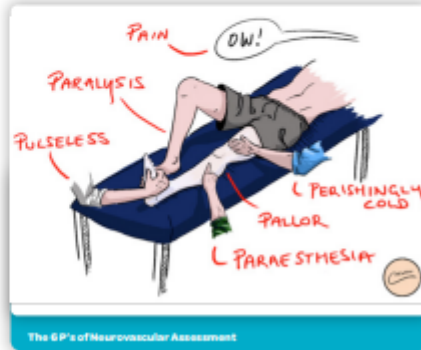
### Acute Limb Ischaemia

#### Summary of Serious Adverse Incident (SAI)

A patient attended the Emergency Department (ED) complaining of pins and needles at the top of their leg, with grey discoloration and toes cold to touch. The patient had a history of disc prolapse and previous sciatica like symptoms. On examination by the ED doctor, a diagnosis of sciatica was made and the patient was discharged with analgesia and request for the General Practitioner (GP) to refer for neurological review.

Five days later the patient returned to the ED with an obvious cold white limb. They were referred urgently to the vascular service and had surgery for clot removal, however two days later they experienced a heavy bleed and further surgery was required for above knee amputation.

The findings from the Serious Adverse Incident (SAI) review confirmed the initial examining doctor recorded a thorough examination, however the previous history of disc prolapse influenced the differential diagnosis of referred pain and the



The Public Health Agency and SPPG are committed to improving the quality of services in Northern Ireland.

**Learning Matters Newsletter** provides a new method of sharing learning relating to serious adverse incidents, complaints, reviews and patient experience across Northern Ireland.

If you have any comments or questions on the articles in the newsletter please get in contact by email at [learningmatters@hscni.net](mailto:learningmatters@hscni.net) or by telephone on 0300 555 0114.

## Details

Format

A4 PDF, 4 pages

Target group

Health Professionals

## Downloads

Attachment

Size

<a href="#">Learning from falls - September 2024</a>	3.7 MB
<a href="#">Learning from falls - September 2023</a>	3.5 MB
<a href="#">Learning Matters January 2024 - Edition 24</a>	1.14 MB
<a href="#">Learning From Stroke July 22.pdf</a>	1.68 MB
<a href="#">Learning from palliative care - September 2023</a>	2.32 MB
<a href="#">Learning from falls - Sept 2022</a>	4.23 MB
<a href="#">Learning Matters (Medication) - special edition, issue 23</a>	1.68 MB
<a href="#">Learning Matters June 22 - Edition 22 (Maternity).pdf</a>	522.56 KB
<a href="#">Learning Matters Edition 21.pdf</a>	945.76 KB
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## Tags

- [Home accident prevention](#)

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