

**SENTINEL EVENT:  
ROOT CAUSE ANALYSIS AND  
ACTION PLAN**



- **Hospital Nacional de Pediatría JP Garrahan, Buenos Aires, Argentina**
- 510 beds:
- 120 Intensive Care beds (NICU, PICU and Transplant Units)
- 290 Inpatient Care beds, 30 Emergency beds and 70 Day Hospital beds

Nora Dackiewicz Hospital de Pediatría Garrahan Argentina

**Sentinel Event**

An unexpected occurrence involving death or serious physical or psychological injury, or the risk thereof. Serious injury specifically includes loss of limb or function. The phrase "or the risk thereof" includes any process variation for which a recurrence would carry a significant chance of a serious adverse outcome. Such events are called "sentinel" because they signal the need for immediate investigation and response.

**OBJECTIVE:**

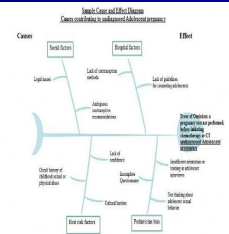
- The sentinel event identified was **undiagnosed adolescent pregnancy before the indication of potentially harmful treatments or diagnostic methods.**
- The purpose of this presentation is to show an action plan according to the root cause analysis of a novel sentinel event

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**Sentinel Event**

- **METHODS: Reported events**
- A) A 13 years old female patient was admitted to the hospital for a 2nd opinion about her diagnosis. She had been diagnosed with Hodgkin Lymphoma 1 year before. A thoracic and abdominal CT scan was indicated and an intrauterus mass was visualized. She had a 14 weeks fetus. Before the CT, she had been asked about, and she had denied having sexual relationships.
- B) A 13 years old female patient, with a femur osteosarcoma, was admitted to the hospital to receive her 3rd chemotherapy cycle. She had negative tests for pregnancy, before beginning chemotherapy, 3 months before. During the infusion she had an abdominal pain, so an abdominal ultrasonography was performed. A 15 weeks pregnancy was diagnosed.

**RESULTS**



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**CONCLUSION**

- **The team identified multiples causes and concluded that the event was an omission error. Despite the small number of this type of event the complication might be important.**
- **Action plan:** Regardless of any previous negative pregnancy test results, any time that a new potentially harmful procedure is indicated in a fertile female patient, a beta subunit HCG has to be performed.

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