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Dear Colleague

The new Controlled Drugs (Supervision of the Management and Use) Regulations came into force on 1st April 2013 and I have been appointed as the Controlled Drug Accountable Officer (CDAO) for the Hertfordshire and South Midlands Area Team (NHS England). I will be supported by the Pharmacy and Medicines Optimisation Team in the Central Eastern Commissioning Support Unit.

I will be working closely with the seven Clinical Commissioning Groups across Hertfordshire and the South Midlands to identify the most practical arrangements for maintaining the invaluable work that has already been done as well as the local knowledge and experience and on-going quality improvement in the monitoring of controlled drugs.

CCGs must ensure that they have systems in place for the safe and effective management and use of controlled drugs and must assist the CDAO in carrying out their functions as defined in the Regulations.

There will be two local intelligence networks across Hertfordshire and the South Midlands, one covering Nene, Corby and Milton Keynes CCGs and the other covering Bedfordshire, Luton, Herts Valleys and East & North Herts CCGs.

There has also been a new email address established for the reporting of all CD incidents and concerns as well as any other confidential information which needs to be sent by NHS.net mail. The most secure way to email information is to send it from one NHS.net address to another. Our address is England.HSMCDAO@nhs.net, or please telephone **01707 369 519**.

To arrange for an authorised witness for the destruction of expired Schedule 2 controlled drugs, please contact Patricia Holland on [01707 367 241](tel:01707367241) or email patricia.holland@centraleasterncsu.nhs.uk.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or contact Stacey Golding (Senior Pharmaceutical Adviser (Governance)) in the Central Eastern Commissioning Support Unit on stacey.golding@centraleasterncsu.nhs.uk or 01707 367 230).

Heather Moulder
Director of Nursing and Quality Hertfordshire and South Midlands
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