



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive

Tús Áite do
Shábháilteacht 1 Othar
Patient Safety 1 First



ACUTE
MEDICINE

National Early Warning Score and associated Education Programme

ISBAR Communication Tool

<p style="text-align: center;">I Identify</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Identify: You, Doctor, Patient Is this Dr. _____? This is _____ (e.g Mary, I am team leader on 7A) I am calling about _____ (e.g Mr David Jones)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">S Situation</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Situation: Why are you calling? I am calling because _____ (e.g Total EWS of 6 or 3 in a single parameter) Resp Rate _____ Sats _____ O₂ Delivery _____ Temp _____ Heart Rate _____ BP _____ Urinary Output _____ LOC _____ (only use abnormal reading initially)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">B Background</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Background: What is relevant background? They are _____ years old Admitted for _____ Recent surgery or procedures _____ Relevant past medical/surgical history _____ They currently have _____ (e.g. IV fluids, Urinary Catheter, PCA)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">A Assessment</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Assessment: What do you think is the problem? I think _____ (e.g they are hypovolaemic) (you can skip this if they don't know what is wrong)</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">R Recommendation</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Recommendation: What do you want them to do? I would like you to _____ (e.g come and review him please) Is there anything you would like me to do before you get here?</p>

Appendix 6 ISBAR₃ Template (Inter-departmental Handover)



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ISBAR₃ Communication (clinical handover) Tool SAMPLE Inter-departmental Handover	
I Identify	<p style="text-align: center;">Identify: You Recipient of handover information Patient</p>
S Situation	<p style="text-align: center;">Situation: Location of patient as appropriate Brief summary of patient's current status Is there a problem?</p>
B Background	<p style="text-align: center;">Background: Concise summary of reason for interdepartmental handover Summary of treatment to date Baseline observations (current admission) Vital Signs: BP, Pulse, Resps, S_pO₂, (F_iO₂), Temp, AVPU. IMEWS (include previous IMEWS if appropriate) NEWS (include previous NEWS if appropriate)</p>
A Assessment	<p style="text-align: center;">Assessment: What is your clinical assessment of the patient at present?</p>
R₃ Recommendation Read-Back Risk	<p style="text-align: center;">Recommendation: Specify your recommendations Read-Back: Recipient(s) to confirm handover information and responsibility Risk: Include the safety pause to identify possible risks</p>

Adapted by GDG with permission from Dr S. Marshall, Monash University, Australia.

Appendix 7 ISBAR₃ Template (Shift Clinical Handover)



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ISBAR₃ Communication (clinical handover) Tool SAMPLE Shift Handover	
I Identify	Identify: Lead handover person Individuals/Team receiving handover Patient(s)
S Situation	Situation: Location of patient(s) Brief summary of current status Is there a problem?
B Background	Background: Concise summary of reason for admission Summary of treatment to date Baseline observations (current admission) Vital Signs: BP, Pulse, Resps, S _p O ₂ , (F _i O ₂), Temp, AVPU. IMEWS (include previous IMEWS if appropriate) NEWS (include previous NEWS if appropriate)
A Assessment	Assessment: What is your clinical assessment of the patient at present?
R₃ Recommendation Read-Back Risk	Recommendation: Specify your recommendations Read-Back: Recipients to confirm handover information Risk: Include the safety pause to identify possible risks

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