Introduction

The purpose of this presentation is to sketch the baseline situation on adverse event monitoring in nursing in South Africa.

Brief overview

- Nursing categories
- Regulatory framework
- Clinical practice standards
- Monitoring structure/process
- Adverse events categories
- Contributing factors
- Way forward
Nursing Categories

- Professional Nurse (RN): 4 yrs
- Enrolled Nurse (EN): 2 yrs
- Enrolled Nurse Auxiliary (NA): Institution-based/tailor-made training
Regulatory Framework

Nursing Act

- Nursing Education
- Nursing practice – level of training
- Scope of Practice
- Acts and Omissions
- Formalized disciplinary process SANC
Clinical Nursing Practice Standards

- **Adequate Knowledge:** level of training
- **Adequate skills:** level of training
- **Evidence of scientifically-based nursing:** service level context
- **Timely, comprehensive and complete recording of all interventions**
- **Multi-professional/disciplinary teamwork**
Clinical Nursing Practice Standards

- Health promotion: education, advocacy & counselling
- Establishment and maintenance of therapeutic environment
- Professional conduct
Monitoring structure

- Health Care Organization
- South African Nursing Council
- Indemnity insurers: claims
Monitoring Process

- Formalized process
- Negative incident reporting
- Incident analysis/investigation
- Alleged misconduct
- Action
Adverse event categories

- Incorrect administration of medicine
- Malpractice during operations (theatre nurses)
- Practice incompetence (midwives)
- Patient falls
- Patient injuries (burns)
- Technology-related
- Nosocomial infections
- Mistaken identity
- Misinterpretation: signs and symptoms
Contributing Factors

- Inadequate staffing levels
- Utilization beyond legal/authorized scope of practice
- Inadequate competence (knowledge, skills & values): no mandatory CPD system
- Health care-based organizational factors
Conclusion & Recommendation

- No uniform national system: adverse event reporting/monitoring
- Corporate governance principles applied by each organization
- A formalized national system, in accordance with international best practice principles, welcomed
“The prudent see danger and take refuge but the foolish keep going and suffer for it”.