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Findings from the development of National standards for adult safeguarding

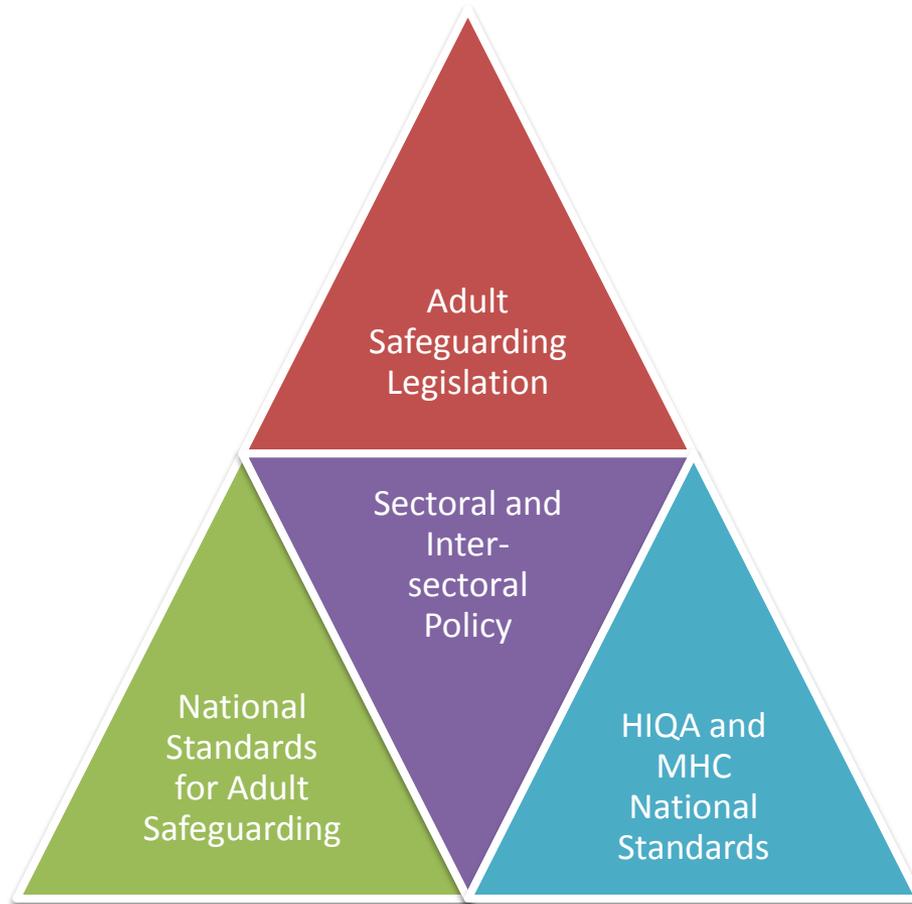
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Safer Better Care

Background

- Adult safeguarding in Ireland is currently undergoing substantial change
- Despite a number of existing standards and policies there continue to be shortfalls in health and social care services
- HIQA and the Mental Health Commission worked in partnership to develop the National standards for adult safeguarding

Standards in the overall adult safeguarding context



Scope of National standards for adult safeguarding

- The National standards for adult safeguarding apply to all health and social care services recognising that people interact and move between a wide range of services
- While not all such services are within HIQA's or the MHC's regulatory remit the expectation is that all services will work to achieve compliance with the standards and promote and protect the rights of adults at risk of harm

Standards Development Process

Dec 17 – May 18

Review of evidence
Process outline approved

May – July 18

Background document published
Seminar & Focus Groups

Oct – Dec 18

Final stages of standards development process

Mar 18

Advisory Group convened

Aug – Sept 18

Public Consultation



Review of international evidence

Review of definitions, legislation, policies/guidance and models of safeguarding in the following jurisdictions:

- Ireland
- Scotland
- Northern Ireland
- England
- Wales
- Canada
- Australia

Learning from Northern Ireland And Scotland

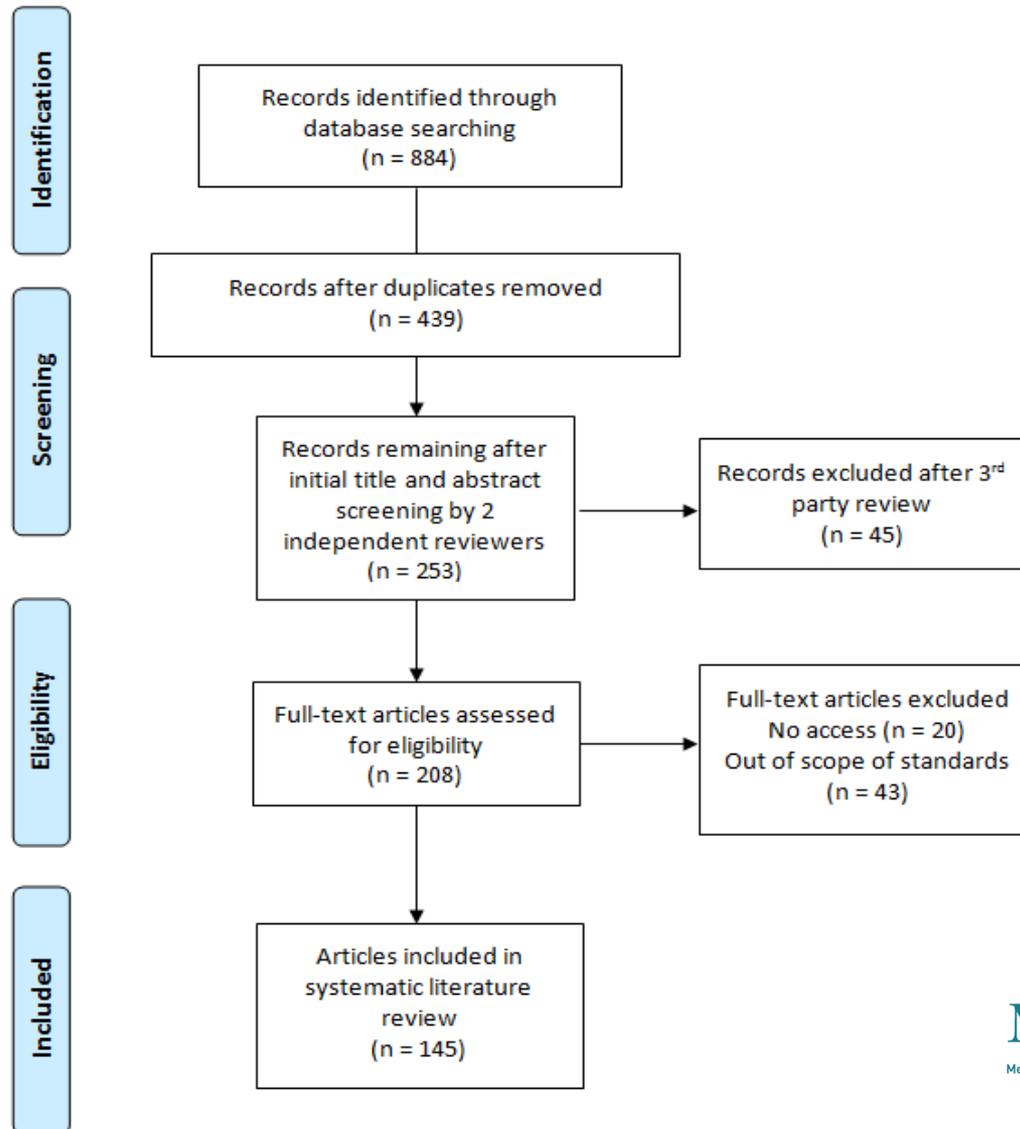
Northern Ireland

- Commitment to adult safeguarding through continuum of care policy
- Initial increase in referrals followed by a levelling off once understanding and process was embedded

Scotland

- Long standing legislation covering a wide range of people who may be at risk
- Recent report highlights that outcomes were improved by strong interagency working arrangements

Systematic Literature Review



Stakeholder Engagement



Key findings

- Importance of legislation and statutory guidance
- Recognition that a wider group may be at risk
- Focus on prevention and a human rights-based approach
- Staff training and understanding of the issue
- Clear referral pathway when needed
- Balancing risk with support
- Working together with the person
- Proportionate responses that respect will and preferences

Expected Impact

“The Standards will provide a framework for safeguarding which should promote the rights, health and well being of people using services operating according to the Standards. In the context of emerging national policy and legislation it is important that there will be an implementation and review strategy and the Standards are adapted as required to ensure there is consistency across all services with a responsibility towards adults who may be vulnerable, and to ensure the principles of adult safeguarding are consistent across all policies.”

