



PRESS RELEASE

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WALES MAY LEAD UK ON DUTY OF CANDOUR IN HEALTHCARE

Action against Medical Accidents (AvMA) - the charity for patient safety and justice – has written to Welsh Health Minister, Edwina Hart, calling for a duty of candour to be introduced as part of the new Healthcare Standards for Wales currently being consulted upon. AvMA is calling on everyone who wants to see a Duty of Candour in Wales to respond to the consultation which can be found at

<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/healthsocialcare/healthcarestandards/?lang=en>

For a copy of AvMA's response to the consultation click

http://www.avma.org.uk/data/files/feb_2010_healthcare_standards_for_wales.pdf

This would make it a requirement for any healthcare organisation in Wales to take steps to ensure patients or, where appropriate, their next of kin are fully informed about patient safety incidents which have caused or may result in harm to the patient. English Health Minister, Ann Keen, is already considering a similar proposal to introduce a duty of candour in the regulations for the Care Quality Commission.

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