

**Joint Investigations between Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust  
and the Police**

**When Should a Joint Investigation Occur?**

When there has been a patient safety incident involving the unexpected death of, or serious untoward harm experienced by a patient in the Trust:

1. Under Police escort
2. Under arrest
3. When reported to the Police

Or

4. Who the Trust has been informed has been in Police custody in the previous 24 hours.

**Process**

1. Follow the Adverse Events Reporting Policy<sup>1</sup>.
2. Apply the Serious Incident Requiring Investigation Policy<sup>2</sup>, as the incident can be designated a Serious Incident.
3. Investigate in line with the Memorandum of Understanding<sup>3</sup>, by setting-up an Incident Coordination Group within five days of the event.
4. Use the Guidelines for the NHS<sup>4</sup> in support of the Memorandum<sup>3</sup>.

**References**

1. Adverse Events Reporting Policy, 2015  
Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust
2. Serious Incident Requiring Investigation Policy, 2015  
Salisbury NHS Foundation Trust
3. The Memorandum of Understanding. Investigating patient safety incidents involving unexpected death or serious untoward harm: a protocol for liaison and effective communications between the NHS, Association of Chief Police Officers and Health and Safety Executive, 2006  
Department of Health
4. Guidelines for the NHS. In Support of the Memorandum of Understanding. Investigating patient safety incidents involving unexpected death or serious untoward harm: a protocol for liaison and effective communications between the NHS, Association of Chief Police Officers and Health and Safety Executive, 2006  
Department of Health