

Evidence gap identifier	INEWS 5
Brief title	Clinical effectiveness of acute healthcare early warning systems for adults (afferent limb)
Report	<u>The Irish National Early Warning System (INEWS)</u>
Date identified	19/02/2018
Identified by	CICER
Supported by	Systematic review
Population	Adults
Intervention	Early warning systems (EWSs) (afferent limb, responsible for detecting/reporting clinical deterioration)
Comparator	Standard care, other EWS
Outcome(s)	Clinical deterioration and outcomes including mortality, cardiac arrest, length of stay, transfer/admission to the intensive care or high-dependency units ICU or HDU
Setting	Acute healthcare
Study design	Effectiveness studies, development and validation studies
Further information	Existing evidence was characterised by small sample sizes, and low event rates; wide variations in EWSs used, definition of outcomes, populations, and settings. Further research is needed to address these limitations, ideally through study designs of a more rigorous methodological quality, preferably randomised controlled trials.