

Stop Checking the Box. Start Rebuilding the Foundation.

You know what PA-PSRS requires. But are your systems built to keep up or just to catch up? Use this checklist to evaluate if your infrastructure is truly supporting smarter, scalable safety reporting.



Is your taxonomy mapped to all 11 major PA-PSRS event categories and accessible at the point of reporting?

Categories include Medication Errors, Falls, Equipment Issues, and Complications

Action:

- If staff need to guess or scroll through static lists, you're likely seeing misclassifications or "Other" overuse.
- Look for solutions where state-aligned taxonomy is embedded in the reporting interface, making it easier to select the right category intuitively.



Are subcategories and Harm Scores (A-I) built into your reporting logic and not just your audit process?

PA-PSRS uses these to define severity and understand preventability.

Action:

- Spot check recent events: Are frontline reporters consistently selecting accurate subcategories and harm levels?
- Systems should guide users through structured fields dynamically, not rely on backend cleanup by reviewers.



Are "Serious Events" and "Incidents" flagged and routed according to Act 13 definitions during reporting, not after?

This distinction is critical for PSA reporting accuracy and board level accountability.

Action:

- If classification happens after the event is submitted, that creates bottlenecks and risks.
- Prioritize workflows that automatically logic based on severity and outcome inputs, supporting Act 13 distinctions in real time.



Does your taxonomy support specialty-specific visibility (OB, psych, diagnostics, etc.)

Generic buckets limit insight especially in specialty areas.

Action:

- Look at your ability to segment by specialty domain. If you're retrofitting details into generic categories, data integrity suffers.
- Systems should offer built-in support for clinical nuance, allowing patterns to emerge without custom builds.



Are contributing factors captured using structured options and linked to event types?

PA-PSRS reviewers emphasize contributing factor analysis, not just what happened but why.

Action:

- If you're relying on narrative fields or post-event RCAs to identify drivers, you're missing learning opportunities.
- Choose tools where contributing factors are selectable, reporting, and mapped to trends right from the initial report.



Are required fields pre-configured to PA-PSRS expectations and completed consistently?

Fields such as Event Date, Discovery Date, Location, and Role are all required for proper submission.

Action:

- Run a report. How often are key PA-PSRS fields incomplete or defaulted?
- Seek solutions that validate required fields as part of the workflow, reducing rework and rejections.



Can your taxonomy structure support both current manual submission and future automation (e.g. HL7, XML)?

Electronic submissions aren't currently required, but readiness is a strategic advantage.

Action:

- Ask your vendor if your current data structure is ready to scale electronic submission with minimal reconfiguration.
- Look for a system designed with interoperability and standardized coding in mind, not just compliance workarounds.

Are you building for today's checklist or tomorrow's challenges?

Talk to our team today.