Appendix 2: Conceptual research framework

‘The factors that affect the promoting of a safer environment for patients with learning disabilities’

A. Organisational Context
   - Structure, strategy and culture
   - Policies, procedures and guidelines
   - Management and leadership
   - Funding made available for implementing strategies

B. Staff: Individuals and teams
   - Specific roles and responsibilities for LD within hospital
   - Authority and responsibilities of staff
   - Staff knowledge and attitudes
   - Staff training
   - Involvement of learning disability staff in the community
   - Leadership
   - Ward culture

C. People with learning disabilities and family/carers
   - Population profile: numbers, levels of disability, needs
   - Patient profile
   - Patient and carer past experience
   - Patient and carer expectations
   - Local culture
   - Support available for people with learning disabilities and carers

Promoting a safe environment for people with learning disabilities in hospitals
   - Patients with learning disabilities identified and tracked
   - Families and other carers involved as partners in care
   - Views and interests of patients with learning disabilities included in planning, development and delivery of services
   - Effective systems in place to develop effective, ‘reasonably adjusted’ services
   - Adverse outcomes prevented (medication errors, preventable deterioration, misdiagnosis

Outcomes
   - Reduction in adverse outcomes
   - Reduction in seriousness of complaints
   - Increase in numbers of patients with learning disabilities identified
   - User satisfaction (patients with learning disabilities and carers)
   - Reduces rates of re-admission
   - Increased staff confidence and satisfaction
   - Improved cross-boundary working

NB this conceptual framework covers all issues related to patient safety for people with intellectual disabilities, not just the implementation of reasonable adjustments.