

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Public Board Meeting

25 November 2020

Item 10

THIS PAPER IS FOR DISCUSSION

**PATIENT AND STAFF SAFETY –
HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATED INFECTION (HAI) UPDATE REPORT**

Lead Director Author	Frances Dodd, Director of Care Quality and Professional Development Sarah Freeman, Head of Infection Prevention and Control
Action required	The Board is asked to note/discuss this update report.
Key points	<p>The Annual Infection Prevention and Control Programme of Work 2020/21 has been formally approved by the Infection Control Committee (ICC), the Chief Executive and the Clinical Governance Group subject to minor changes which were completed. Its progress will be supported and monitored quarterly by the ICC. (Page 3)</p> <p>The Infection Prevention and Control Audit of ambulance stations and vehicles was restarted on 3rd August. Monitoring of Standard Infection Control Precaution is in progress and will be completed by end of November. Suspension of National Cleaning Service Specification was lifted on 1st October. (Page 3)</p> <p>Overall compliance with the recorded use of the PVC insertion care bundle is maintained, being consistently sustained above the quality indicator aim of 95%. (Page 3-4)</p> <p>The COVID-19 pandemic remobilisation plan has continued to contribute to IPC team activities in order to support services, staff and patients to remain safe. These activities include development or review of guidance, risk assessments and contributing to communication channels internally and externally and the review of guidance. (Page 4-5)</p>
Timing	This paper is presented to the Board bi-monthly in the Scottish Government's prescribed template.
Link to Corporate Objectives	2.1 - A patient safety work programme must include ongoing work to prevent and reduce the risk of HAI for patients, staff and the public.

Contribution to the 2020 vision for Health and Social Care	The work and information referred to in this report supports the Service in its contribution to the 2020 Vision for Health and Social Care in relation to Safe and Effective Care.
Benefit to Patients	Safe clinical practices, a clean environment and patient care equipment protect patients from the risk of Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI).
Equality and Diversity	Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI) policies apply to all staff and patient groups. These are based on NHS Scotland HAI policy and Guidance. Health Protection Scotland (HPS) and Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) conduct equality impact assessment on all HAI national guidance, policy and standards. The hand hygiene, Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs) and cleanliness audit results reported are a mandatory HAI requirement related to national policy and guidance.

Healthcare-Associated Infection Report

14th September – 31st October 2020

Annual Infection Prevention and Control Programme

The Annual Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Programme of Work for 2020/21 was formally approved by the Infection Control Committee (ICC), the Chief Executive and the Clinical Governance Group. The progress of the annual work programme will be supported and monitored quarterly by the ICC.

Since the last report, the IPC team has made progress with a number of deliverables in the programme. We have been working in partnership with our Quality Improvement Team to develop and implement a reporting template that will support regions/departments to take ownership and embed IPC at the local level. We are progressing with the redesign of the IPC website with our information technology colleagues to ensure accessibility of the site. Also, a review has been undertaken of the decontamination guidance on all powered respirators used in the Service. We are working with the Health and Safety Team and National IPC to ensure the guidance, where possible, is evidence-based and is aligned with the manufacturer's instructions.

Monitoring of Infection Prevention and Control

In March 2020, the IPC audit programme was temporarily suspended to allow the IPC team to concentrate their efforts on the COVID-19 pandemic. The main area of focus since the last report was restarting the IPC audit programme, and ensuring the safety of our staff. The IPC audit of ambulance stations and vehicles (known as RIVO audits) was started on 3rd August. We were able to lift the suspension of the National Cleaning Service Specification (NCSS) monitoring on 1st October.

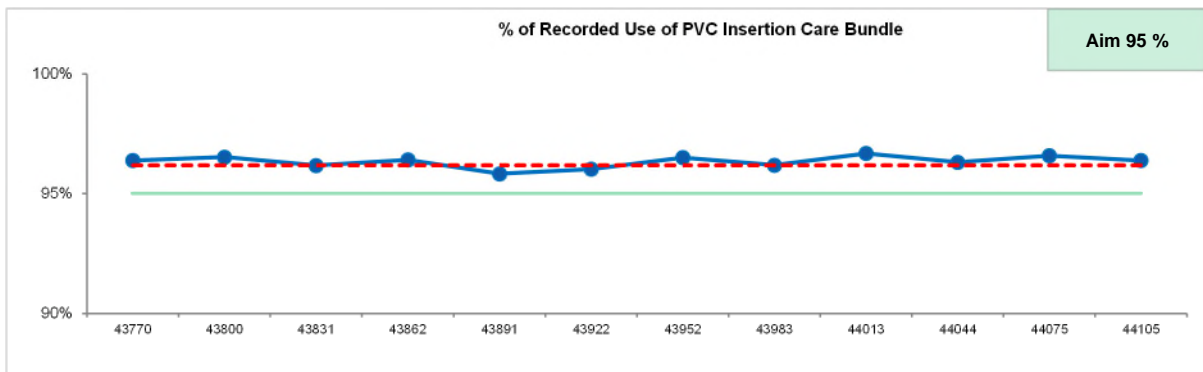
Monitoring of the Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs) was planned over a period of one month in October; however, due to the increased workload as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, this has been extended until the end of November. The monitoring of SICPs will take place at all emergency departments, including remote and rural areas. This has been approved by the local Public Health Protection teams. This monitoring is also an excellent opportunity to meet staff at the point of delivery of care, discuss IPC challenges and support staff to continue to deliver safe care.

Peripheral Venous Catheter (PVC) Insertion Bundle

Overall compliance in the recorded use of the PVC insertion care bundle is being consistently sustained above the quality indicator of 95%. Compliance for the months of August 2020 was 96.7%, September 96.3% and 96.5% October, respectively.

The table below shows the number of PVCs inserted over a year and the compliance with completion of the PVC bundle.

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COVID 19 Remobilisation

The COVID-19 pandemic remobilisation plan has continued to contribute to IPC team activities to support services, staff and patients to remain safe. These activities include development or review of guidance and/or risk assessments taking into account the new ways of working.

We are also working in partnership with the Personal Protective Equipment National Procurement Team to trial 'see through' face masks in the Service. The masks must still undergo approval and be certified for adherence to European and British standards. Meanwhile, national guidance continues to be updated by our colleagues at Public Health Scotland and Health Protection Scotland. We are regularly reviewing draft national guidance on varying aspects of IPC, contact tracing and public health measures to control COVID-19.

The IPC team continue to support the mobile testing units (MTUs) as new challenges have emerged. Also, working outside in Scottish weather conditions and wearing of PPE designed for indoor use has resulted in a review of practices. A MTU audit tool was agreed upon and is now being piloted to support operators and managers in carrying out IPC practices. We are offering development opportunities for MTU staff to be champions of infection prevention and control.

As we move into the second wave of the pandemic, there has been an increase in cases of COVID-19 among staff within the Service. The team has supported the regions/departments with contact tracing and the implementation of IPC measures. We were asked by the Service to lead an Incident Management Team in relation to a single staff case of COVID-19 which resulted in nineteen staff self-isolating over two NHS boards, and identify any lessons learned from the incident. As a result, an IPC team member attended, as an observer, a NHS board Problem Advisory Group.

In addition, we have developed guidance on cleaning the ambulance stations following a single confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 among staff and clusters of cases. We have also developed and trialled a checklist tool in the East region outlining IPC measures that should be in place in ambulance stations. We are in the process of developing an educational resource to support staff and managers on contact tracing.

The IPC team has maintained and contributed to communication channels internally and externally; for example, by contributing to incident support meetings, which are coordinated weekly by HPS, with infection control managers, as well as attending meetings of the

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National Infection Prevention and Control Ambulance Group (UK-wide). The Strategic COVID-19 cell went operational on 19th October and the IPC team submits bi-weekly reports to the cell.

Conclusion

This report demonstrates the complex challenges the IPC team has encountered as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and the remobilisation of the Service. The IPC Annual Programme of Work 2020/21 will be progressed so that the Service continues to comply with national Healthcare Associated Infection standards and the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual. The IPC team will continue to monitor compliance with IPC standards in our stations and vehicles, SICPs and NCSS audits.

Recommendations

The Board is asked to approve this report as an accurate account of the work undertaken by the IPC team during the reporting period.

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