

NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

Public Board Meeting

**27 January 2021
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 focuses on the key delivery areas of the current AMR/HAI Delivery Plan. From September onwards work activity related to COVID-19 has increased substantially and has implications for the deliverables and timescales within the IPC work programme. (Page 3-4)</p> <p>IPC monitoring remains a priority for the Service. The IPC audit of ambulance stations and vehicles was started on 3rd August. the suspension of the National Cleaning Service Specification (NCSS) monitoring was lifted on 1st October. Monitoring of the Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs) was completed by end of December. (Page 4)</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 5)</p> <p>The work activity related to the COVID-19 pandemic has increased substantially during the third quarter. Appendix 1 outlines the additional IPC work activities as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. (Page 5-7)</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

September–December 2020

Annual Infection Prevention and Control Annual Programme of Work

The Annual Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Programme of Work for 2020/21 focuses on the key delivery areas of the current antimicrobial-resistant/healthcare-associated infection (HAI) delivery plan in the ambulance setting. This work programme was formally approved by the Chief Executive, the Clinical Governance Committee and the Infection Control Committee (ICC) in September 2020.

The Annual IPC Programme of work for 2019/2020 was suspended in February 2020 to allow the IPC team to focus on the COVID-19 pandemic. This suspension was lifted in June, when the team progressed with outstanding actions from the 2019 programme and activities in the 2020/2021 programme of work. At the time, the COVID-19 work activities contributed less to the IPC workload.

However, the IPC work from September onwards related to COVID-19 has increased substantially and continues at the time of writing. As a result, it is anticipated that the IPC team will not achieve all the deliverables within the IPC 2020/21 work programme. We have taken the unusual and reluctant step to record this as a risk to the IPC service in the IPC Risk Register. While the next few months and our workloads are unknown, as a team we endeavour to deliver a high quality and responsive service with the best IPC practices to keep our staff and patients safe. The work volumes due to the pandemic as well as the existing work plan will be risk assessed and appropriate mitigating actions taken, this will be monitored from a governance perspective through the Infection Control Committee.

It is important to highlight that we cannot assure the Service that the IPC Programme of Work will be delivered as in previous years due to the many unknowns resulting from the pandemic and the challenges we may encounter. IPC monitoring is a priority, and this will continue, as we have dedicated staff in the team to carry out this work. The National Cleaning Service Specification monitoring is mandatory and will be prioritised, as will the comprehensive IPC audit programme of ambulance vehicles and stations (known as the RIVO audits). We will endeavour to continue to engage with operational managers and staff to sustain and support further improvement in IPC compliance. This will provide assurance around the safety of patient care practices and the cleanliness of the patient care environment and equipment.

Listed below are the deliverables that have not been achieved within the target timescale of December 2020. A report will be presented to the ICC in January outlining the revised timescales.

- Delivery 1 – Antimicrobial Prescribing and Resistance: Actions 1.1–1.3. This will entail a delay in the reporting of prescribing data and completing the NHS Education for Scotland e-learning training on antimicrobial resistance.

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- Delivery Area 2 – Cleaning, Decontamination and the Built Environment: Action 2.3 To support regional management teams to undertake IPC audits (vehicles and stations) and Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs).
- Delivery Area 3 – Infection Prevention and Control Policy, Guidance and Practice: Action 3.6 To roll out a new audit programme where regions are responsible for assessing their own compliance with SICPs.
- Delivery Area 6 – Quality Improvement: Action 6.3 Explore information technology solutions for the collection of infection control practice audit data and mandatory education and consider a change that will result in improvement.

Infection Prevention and Control Monitoring

As emphasised, IPC monitoring is a priority, and this will continue as we have dedicated staff to carry out this work. The IPC team has focused on the remobilisation of all the IPC audit programmes 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 December. We would have completed all the mainland Scotland sites, Orkney and the Shetland Islands, with only the Western Isles remaining outstanding. This will be completed as soon as it is safe to do so and the national advice to remain local is lifted.

Additional IPC Work Activities out with the IPC Programme of Work 2020/21

As highlighted earlier in the report, the work activity related to the COVID-19 pandemic has increased substantially during the third quarter, which has had an impact on the IPC work programme. These activities are listed in Appendix 1 of this report, and details are provided on a selection of activities in this section of the report.

The IPC team has supported the regions/departments with contact tracing and the implementation of IPC measures. We were asked by the Service to lead Incident Management Team (IMT) meetings in relation to staff cases of COVID-19 within the service regions and departments. An IPC team member attended IMT meetings with NHS Fife, NHS Borders and NHS Grampian. 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 supported the Education and Professional Development Department to ensure that IPC control measures were implemented immediately for the return of students to higher education institutions. The IPC team has also developed and trialled a checklist tool in the East region outlining IPC measures that should be in place in ambulance stations and used in the event of a COVID-19 outbreak and cluster of cases.

We are 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.

The IPC team continues to support the mobile testing units (MTUs) as new challenges emerge. Working outside in Scottish weather conditions and wearing PPE designed for

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indoor use has resulted in a review of practices. In addition, an MTU audit tool has been agreed and is now being piloted to support operators and managers.

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 October was 96.6 %, November 96.5% and December 96.3 %.

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

Data from 01/01/2020 to 31/12/2020

Number of PVCs inserted	37, 023
Number of PVCs bundle completion	35,679
Percentage of Bundle completion	96.4%

Conclusion

This report demonstrates the complex and unknown challenges IPC has encountered as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, which therefore could not be planned for in the IPC Annual Programme of Work 2020/21. The Service continues to comply with national HAI standards and the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual. The IPC team will continue to monitor the NCSS and compliance with IPC standards in our stations and vehicles.

Recommendations

The Board is asked to discuss and note this report.

Appendix 1

Additional IPC Work streams since last report

Topic/ Subject	Deliverables	Status
Powered respirators (Requested at ICC committee meeting on 8/9/2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To review all types of powered respirators used by SAS To review the guidance for decontamination and align all guidance where possible Ensure there is a process via procurement that powered respirators are not purchased without prior approval with IPC and H&S 	<p>We have developed decontamination guidance for two types of powered respirators. To be completed by January 21</p> <p>Completed</p>
Procurement of PPE and IPC Products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure liaise with H&S staff and procurement staff regarding the purchase of new products Ensure products comply with national standards and meet the needs of the users. Progressing the trial on 'clear masks' with National procurement team. 	<p>Additional topics – SAS bags, radio holders, nitrile gloves, disinfectant, aprons and decontamination wipes</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Delay in progressing due to CE marking</p>
Mobile tracing unit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produced education and train the trainer's resources Provide guidance on cleaning and decontamination of the MTU vehicles Produce guidance on the management of blood and body fluids Produce an audit tool for monitoring MTU Organise audit time table for MTU Updated guidance on IPC measures and adverse weather clothing Develop local IPC champions IPC Training session planned in January 2021 	<p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Partially complete</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>To be started</p> <p>To be completed by 5th Jan 2021</p>

Topic/ Subject	Deliverables	Status
COVID -19 (October onwards)	<p>Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incidence Management Team meetings held regarding clusters of COVID-19 cases and SBAR produced • Attendance at NHS Fife, NHS border and NHs Grampian IMT • Monitoring daily cases of COVID-19, staff in self-isolation to identify trends, cluster of cases and outbreak • Daily Senior Operation Managers teleconference meetings (Mon – Fri) <p>Policy and Guidance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of guidance on cleaning of stations following cases of COVID-19. The guidance was trialled in the East region • Development and trial of a checklist to support managers and staff in the control of covid-19 <p>Advisory</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call and email enquiries from staff and manager regarding 'test and protect', self-isolation of staff and cleaning/decontamination • Review of PPE and immersion suites for Scotstar and EMRS. • The evaluation of different types of air-craft and future proofing, for the transportation of patient with infections spread by droplet of airborne route • Review helicopter medical service transportation and IPC <p>Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bi-weekly reports to goldcovid-19 cell 	<p>Completed as required. The needs for IMT monitored daily by the IPC team and Gold/strategic team</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Ongoing daily</p> <p>Ongoing daily</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Ongoing daily</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Progressing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>