



NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED

PUBLIC BOARD MEETING

29 May 2024

Item 13

THIS PAPER IS FOR DISCUSSION

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

Lead director Author	Dave Bywater, Director, Care Quality and Professional Development Sarah Freeman, Head of Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)
Action required	The Board is asked to discuss and note this report.
Key points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An update is provided on the IPC Programme of Work for 2023/2024 (Page 3). • The proposed audit scoring matrix was reviewed at the meeting of the Infection Control Committee. This change will allow the IPC team to devote more time to support staff and managers in stations where scores are in the amber or red category, This was approved at the Infection Control Committee on 20 March.(Page 2). • Transmission based precautions consultation review is continuing and we are now entering phase 3 – review of the draft recommendation (Page 3-4). • (Page 4). • Compliance with the Peripheral Venous Catheter (PVC) bundle remains above the target of 95% (Page 4).
Timing	This report is submitted bimonthly.
Associated Corporate Risk Identification	Risk ID 4636—Health and well-being of staff
Link to Corporate Ambitions	<p>We will</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • work collaboratively with citizens and our partners to create healthier and safer communities • innovate to continually improve our care and enhance the resilience and sustainability of our services
Link to NHS Scotland’s quality ambitions	The work and information cited in this report supports the Service in its contribution to safe and effective care.

Benefit to patients	Safe clinical practices, a clean environment and patient-care equipment, protect patients from the risk of HAI.
Equality and diversity	HAI policies are based on NHS Scotland HAI policy and guidance and apply to all staff and patient groups. ARHAI and Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) conduct equality-impact assessments on all HAI national guidance, policy and standards. The reported hand hygiene, SICPs and cleanliness audit results are a mandatory HAI requirement related to national policy and guidance.

Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI) Report

Infection Prevention and Control Programme of Work

The Scottish Ambulance Service's Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Programme of Work for 2023/2024 was developed on behalf of the Service's Infection Control Committee (ICC). The Infection Prevention and Control Programme exists to co-ordinate and monitor the work of the Infection Control Committee (ICC) and IPC team in preventing and controlling infection through effective communication, education, audit, surveillance, risk assessment, quality improvement and development of policies and procedures. The IPC Team's responsibility is to develop and facilitate implementation of the programme, infection prevention and control clearly does not rest solely within the domains of our Infection Control Committees and Teams. Everyone has infection prevention and control responsibilities.

The ICC was updated on the IPC programme of work 2023 - 2024 at the meeting of 20 March December 2024 and was advised some deliverables may be delayed beyond March 2024, as achieving them depends on national policy and education organisations completing their deliverables on time. The delays pose no risk to patients or staff.

There are thirty-three deliverables in the programme of work for 2023-2024. Twenty six deliverables have been achieved. Two of the deliverables are partially achieved. The five deliverables not achieved and will be transferred to the work programme for 2024-2025.

The IPC programme of work for 2024/2025 was presented for approval to Clinical Governance Committee on 13 May 2024. Prior to this it had been circulated for comment and approval to the ICC members and Senior Leadership Team. The IPC Annual Report for 2023/2024 was approved at this meeting as was the role and remit of the ICC

Review of Policies/Guidance

The IPC department endeavoured to contribute to and facilitate the delivery of safe, effective care by providing and updating robust policies, guidance and processes to prevent and control healthcare associated infection and communicable diseases. In line with the best value mandate programme of work changes required to 'Station, vehicle (including aircraft) and equipment cleaning schedule' policy was approved at the Infection Control Committee meeting 20 March 2024

All IPC polices and guidance can be found on @SAS and JRCALC. The IPC team will continue to liaise with national organisations regarding changes to the national IPC manual and will inform those organisations and the ICC when making necessary changes.

Programme of Audit

The National Cleaning Services Specification (NCSS) is mandatory, and IPC audits of stations and vehicles remain a priority as reflected in the Programme of Work 2023/2024 and will continue to the programme of 2024/2025. Monitoring the audits and adhering to the NCSS is a fundamental element and priority of the IPC work programme, and we continue with this and strive to maintain our target of 90%.

The IPC team are conducting a review of the comprehensive IPC audit programme of ambulance vehicles and stations (known as the RIVO audits), which are carried out every six months whether or not they score consistently over the year have a score of 90% compliance or above over the year. The proposed audit scoring matrix was approved at , the ICC on 20 March. Future audit programme be aligned with risk using a

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green, amber and red scoring system. This change will allow the IPC team to devote more time to support to staff and managers in stations where scores are in the amber or red category.

Transmission-Based Precautions Consultations

The Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infection (ARHAI) team have undertaken a literature review of transmission-based precautions (TBPs) within Chapter 2 of the national IPC manual.. They have carried phase 1 and phase 2 of the constitution demonstrate that the current definitions of “droplet” and “airborne” transmission are not supported in the literature and should be discontinued and replaced’.

Phase 2 consist consultation, including distribution of Part B of the Considered Judgement Forms, which outline the draft TBP recommendations and considerations, such as predicted benefits, harms and feasibility concerns. SAS IPC team provided comments on the forms and e returned by 11 March 2024. The next phase is to seek views/opinions on the draft recommended by meeting from IPC NHB boards. SAS will be represented ve at these meetings.

HAI and the Built Environment

The head of the IPC team and the infection control doctor continue to contribute to the project of ensuring that future aircraft design meets the IPC requirements based on airborne, droplet and contact routes of transmission and compliance with the National Infection Prevention and Control Manual.

ARHAI and NHS Assure have agreed to support SAS’s request for review of the current ambulance design for patients with high consequence infectious disease. Engineering specialists for NHS Assure will support this project. We have requested that progress is delayed until the newly appointed head of IPC takes up post. There have been no new builds or refurbishing of SAS premises since the last report.

Peripheral Venous Catheter Insertion Bundle

Compliance with the PVC bundle remains above the target of 95%, February 96.2%, March 96.9% and April 96.6%.

Conclusion

The main components of the IPC programme and other projects continue to support the Service in preventing and reducing the risk of infection and providing safe and effective care to our patients and staff.

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