Healthcare Associated Infection Reporting Template (HAIRT)

Recommendation:

The NHS Board is asked to note the latest 2 monthly report on HAI within NHSGGC

INTRODUCTION

The attached HAI report is the latest of the regular two monthly reports to NHS Board as required by the National HAI Task Force Action Plan. The report presents data on the performance of NHSGGC on a range of key HAI indicators at National and individual hospital site level.

This is a revised template as specified by the Scottish Government.

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Key Healthcare Associated Infection Headlines for February 2011

This is the third publication of the revised reporting template for submission to the NHS Board as required by the national HAI Action Plan.

Appendix 1 contains Statistical Process Control Charts (SPC) for nine of the Acute Hospitals within NHSGGC. These contain data on Hospital Acquired Meticillin Resistant *Staphylococcus Aureus* (MRSA) & *Clostridium difficile* infections at hospital level. An explanatory text on how to interpret SPCs is also included.

- In 2007 the Scottish Government Health Directorates issued an Local Delivery Plan (LDP) HEAT target in relation to *Staphylococcus aureus* Bacteraemias (SABs) which required NHSGGC to reduce SABs by at least 35% by April 2010. This target has been achieved. In 2010 this target was extended by an additional 15% reduction to be achieved by the end of March 2011. We are maintaining steady progress towards this target. Further & more challenging targets will be implemented from April 2011.

- The National Report published September 2010 (April-June 2010) shows the rate of *C. difficile* within NHSGGC as 0.38 per 1000 occupied bed days and clearly places the Board below the national mean (0.47 per 1000 OBDs in over 65s) and also below the 0.6 per 1000 OBD updated HEAT target for 2011.

- The Surgical Site Infection rates in monitored procedures, for the last available quarter of 2010, remain below the national average for all categories.

- Cleanliness Champions Programme - The Cleanliness Champions Programme is part of the Scottish Government’s Action Plan to combat Healthcare Associated Infection (HAI) within NHS Scotland. To date NHSGGC have supported 2136 members of staff who are now registered Cleanliness Champions.
Staphylococcus aureus (including MRSA)

*Staphylococcus aureus* is an organism which is responsible for a large number of healthcare associated infections, although it can also cause infections in people who have not had any recent contact with the healthcare system. The most common form of this is Meticillin Sensitive *Staphylococcus Aureus* (MSSA), but the more well known is MRSA (Meticillin Resistant *Staphylococcus Aureus*), which is a specific type of the organism which is resistant to certain antibiotics and is therefore more difficult to treat. More information on these organisms can be found at:

**Staphylococcus aureus**: [http://www.nhs24.com/content/default.asp?page=s5_4&articleID=346](http://www.nhs24.com/content/default.asp?page=s5_4&articleID=346)

**MRSA**: [http://www.nhs24.com/content/default.asp?page=s5_4&articleID=252](http://www.nhs24.com/content/default.asp?page=s5_4&articleID=252)

NHS Boards carry out surveillance of *Staphylococcus aureus* blood stream infections, known as bacteraemias. These are a serious form of infection and there is a national target to reduce them. The number of patients with MSSA and MRSA bacteraemias for the Board can be found at the end of section 1 and for each hospital in section 2. Information on the national surveillance programme for *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemias can be found at:


NHSGGC MRSA Screening Project

Last year the Scottish Government initiated a national plan to screen all elective patients for MRSA prior to or on admission and all emergency admissions to Vascular, Renal, Dermatology and Care of the Elderly. The aim of the project is to reduce the number of patients being admitted into hospital with colonised with MRSA to prevent further cross patient colonisation or infection. The deadline set for the implementation of targeted screening was the 31st January 2010.

The MRSA Screening Project Team developed a phased rollout across the board to ensure completion by the target date. The screening team have reported that all areas outlined in the project plan are now screening for MRSA prior to or on admission and the team are now carrying out local audit to measure compliance. The introduction of targeted screening will mean that GGC will process approximately 86,000 additional screens for MRSA per year.

Enhanced surveillance methodology in relation to MRSA/MSSA bacteraemias has been reviewed and amended and this programme has been re launched in July 2010. This will give NHSGGC vital information with regards to where and why these types of infections are occurring. In addition Pareto charts have been developed for directorates and this provides a visual representation as to where the potential ‘hot spots’ may be. All this information allows us to target appropriate interventions. Representative from each directorate review this information and plan strategies to prevent avoidable infections locally.

Please note that the data presented in the following report cards are for *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia infections only.
**Clostridium difficile**

*Clostridium difficile* is an organism which is responsible for a large number of healthcare associated infections, although it can also cause infections in people who have not had any recent contact with the healthcare system. More information can be found at:

http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/Clostridium-difficile/Pages/Introduction.aspx

NHS Boards carry out surveillance of *Clostridium difficile* infections (CDI), and there is a national target to reduce these. The number of patients with CDI for the Board can be found at the end of section 1 and for each hospital in section 2. Information on the national surveillance programme for *Clostridium difficile* infections can be found at:


The National Report published September 2010 (April-June 2010) shows the rate of *C. difficile* within NHSGGC as 0.38 per 1000 occupied bed days and clearly places the Board below the national mean (0.47 per 1000 OBDs in over 65s) and also below the 0.6 per 1000 OBD updated HEAT target for 2011.

Infection Control Teams in NHSGGC complete the Health Protection Scotland Trigger Tool if there are two or more linked HAI cases of CDI in any clinical area in a two week period. Part of this process includes the referral to the Antimicrobial Management Team who will review the use of antibiotics within the area.

**Hand Hygiene**

NHSGGC has demonstrated a steady rise in Hand Hygiene compliance during the national audit periods from a 62% baseline in February 2007 to achieve the 90% target in September 2008, and a current figure of 93%.

Compliance audits are carried out on a monthly basis in the majority of wards and departments in NHSGGC. This information is used at local level to tackle issues that may affect staff practice.

Results are fed back through Directorate based reporting mechanisms which allows management to view the progress of individual wards.

A validation exercise is currently underway in NHSGGC with the compliance scores of 26 wards being checked and compared to results from audits carried out by the Hand Hygiene Coordinator for National reporting.

Joint audits are being piloted with members of the public. This is a useful way of bringing a different perspective to our monitoring and involving the public in our programme of work.
Cleaning and the Healthcare Environment

Keeping the healthcare environment clean is essential to prevent the spread of infections. NHS Boards monitor the cleanliness of hospitals and there is a national target to maintain compliance with standards above 90%. The cleaning compliance score for the Board can be found at the end of section 1 and for each hospital in section 2. Information on national cleanliness compliance monitoring can be found at: http://www.hfs.scot.nhs.uk/online-services/publications/hai/

Healthcare environment standards are also independently inspected by the Healthcare Environment Inspectorate. More details can be found at: http://www.nhshealthquality.org/nhsqis/6710.140.1366.html

All areas within NHSGGC scored green (>90%) in the most recent report on the National Cleaning Specification.

HEI Announced Inspection Report - Victoria Infirmary

Requirements
NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde must:

- ensure that all staff are aware of and implement the mattress auditing policy. This will ensure the regular auditing of mattresses is consistently achieved.

- ensure that all domestic staff are consulting up-to-date policies and procedures relating to infection prevention and control.

- ensure that where the PVC bundle is in place, staff are adhering to the local policy and completing the accompanying documentation. This will ensure that the PVC bundle is implemented more consistently.

- ensure that patient equipment is cleaned in accordance with national guidance, to ensure a consistent approach.

Recommendations
We recommend that NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde:

- improves the understanding of roles and responsibilities in relation to environmental audit action plans and the support mechanisms in place to facilitate improvement. This will assist in improving staff awareness to support sustained improvement.

- ensures that following the completion of environmental audits, action plans evidence further monitoring of the control measure that has been implemented and recorded. This will assist in the monitoring of sustained improvements.

- ensures that there is a clear documented procedure in place instructing staff of the appropriate action to be taken when temperature recordings are outside control limits.

HEI Unannounced Inspection - Inverclyde Royal Hospital

An unannounced inspection was carried out in Inverclyde Royal Hospital on Tuesday 18th of January. Report and action plan is awaited.
Outbreaks
From September to mid January there have been 18 wards closed, across 10 different hospital sites, for suspected Norovirus. Data on the numbers of wards closed due to confirmed or suspected norovirus is available from HPS on a weekly basis. http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/haiic/ic/noroviruspointprev.aspx

Other HAI Related Activity
Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Surveillance
NHSGGC participates in the Surgical Site Infection (SSI) surveillance programme that is mandatory in all NHS boards in Scotland. All NHS boards are required to undertake surveillance for hip arthroplasty and caesarean section procedures as per the mandatory requirements of HDL (2006) 38 and CEL (11) 2009. Readmission surveillance is carried out using prospective readmission data on all 4 Orthopaedic procedure categories under inpatient surveillance up to 30 days post operatively. Post discharge surveillance until day 10 post operation is also carried out for all caesarean sections performed.

The aims of the National Surgical Site Infection programme are:
• To collect surveillance data on surgical site infections to allow estimation of the magnitude of surgical site infection risk in hospitalised patients throughout Scotland.
• To analyse and report surgical site infection (SSI) data and describe trends in SSI rates throughout Scotland

Last available quarter (July - September 2010)
SSI Rates for all five procedure categories are below the national average

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of procedure</th>
<th>Operations</th>
<th>Infections</th>
<th>NHSGGC SSI rate (%)</th>
<th>National dataset SSI rate (%)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Reduction of long bone fracture</td>
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<td>0.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Repair of neck of femur</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1.69</td>
<td>2.13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Quarterly rolling year Clostridium difficile Infection Cases per 1000 total occupied bed days for HEAT Target Measurement

Quarterly rolling year Staphylococcus aureus Bacteraemia Cases for HEAT Target Measurement

35% Reduction Target achieved by March 2010

Revised Target of 50% Reduction to be achieved by March 2011
Data for *Clostridium difficile* infection cases in ages 15 & over, Meticillin Sensitive Staphylococcus Aureus (MSSA) Bacteraemia cases & Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) Bacteraemia cases presented from January 2010 onwards. 2010 HEAT targets achieved. On course to meet 2011 revised targets. Hand Hygiene Compliance data presented from January 2010 onwards - monthly compliance across NHSGGC greater than 93%. Cleaning Compliance data available from September 2009 - monthly compliance across NHSGGC greater than 95%.

### MSSA Bacteraemia Cases

### MRSA Bacteraemia Cases

### Hand Hygiene Compliance

### Cleaning Compliance
Healthcare Associated Infection Reporting Template (HAIRT)

Section 2 – Healthcare Associated Infection Report Cards

The following section is a series of ‘Report Cards’ that provide information, for each acute hospital and key community hospitals in the Board, on the number of cases of *Staphylococcus aureus* blood stream infections (also broken down into MSSA and MRSA) and *Clostridium difficile* infections, as well as hand hygiene and cleaning compliance. In addition, there is a single report card which covers all community hospitals [which do not have individual cards], and a report which covers infections identified as having been contracted from outwith hospital. The information in the report cards is provisional local data, and may differ from the national surveillance reports carried out by Health Protection Scotland and Health Facilities Scotland. The national reports are official statistics which undergo rigorous validation, which means final national figures may differ from those reported here. However, these reports aim to provide more detailed and up to date information on HAI activities at local level than is possible to provide through the national statistics.

Understanding the Report Cards – Infection Case Numbers

*Clostridium difficile infections* (CDI) and *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia (SAB) cases are presented for each hospital, broken down by month. *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia (SAB) cases are further broken down into Meticillin Sensitive *Staphylococcus aureus* (MSSA) and Meticillin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA). Data are presented as both a graph and a table giving case numbers. More information on these organisms can be found on the NHS24 website:

- *Clostridium difficile*: [http://www.nhs24.com/content/default.asp?page=s5_4&articleID=2139&sectionID=1](http://www.nhs24.com/content/default.asp?page=s5_4&articleID=2139&sectionID=1)
- MRSA: [http://www.nhs24.com/content/default.asp?page=s5_4&articleID=252&sectionID=1](http://www.nhs24.com/content/default.asp?page=s5_4&articleID=252&sectionID=1)

For each hospital the total number of cases for each month are those which have been reported as positive from a laboratory report on samples taken more than 48 hours after admission. For the purposes of these reports, positive samples taken from patients within 48 hours of admission will be considered to be confirmation that the infection was contracted prior to hospital admission and will be shown in the “out of hospital” report card.

Understanding the Report Cards – Hand Hygiene Compliance

Good hand hygiene is crucial for infection prevention and control. More information can be found from the Health Protection Scotland’s national hand hygiene campaign website:


Hospitals carry out regular audits of how well their staff are complying with hand hygiene. The first page of each hospital report card presents the percentage of hand hygiene compliance for all staff in both graph and table form.

Understanding the Report Cards – Cleaning Compliance

Hospitals strive to keep the care environment as clean as possible. This is monitored through cleaning compliance audits. More information on how hospitals carry out these audits can be found on the Health Facilities Scotland website:


The first page of each hospital Report Card gives the hospitals cleaning compliance percentage in both graph and table form.

Understanding the Report Cards – ‘Out of Hospital Infections’

*Clostridium difficile infections* and *Staphylococcus aureus* (including MRSA) bacteraemia cases are all associated with being treated in hospitals. However, this is not the only place a patient may contract an infection. This total will also include infection from community sources such as GP surgeries and care homes and. The final Report Card report in this section covers ‘Out of Hospital Infections’ and reports on SAB and CDI cases reported to a Health Board which are not attributable to a hospital. Given the complex variety of sources for these infections it is not possible to break this data down in any more detail.
Glasgow Royal Infirmary / Princess Royal Maternity

Data for *Clostridium difficile* Infection cases in ages 15 & over, Meticillin Sensitive Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases & Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases presented from January 2010 onwards. 2010 HEAT targets achieved. On course to meet 2011 revised targets. Hand Hygiene Compliance data presented from January 2010 onwards - monthly compliance in GRI greater than 90%. Cleaning Compliance data from January 2010 - monthly compliance in GRI greater than 93%.
This report card includes data for Stobhill Hospital & Stobhill ACH. Data for \textit{Clostridium difficile} Infection cases in ages 15 & over, Meticillin Sensitive Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases & Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases presented from January 2010 onwards. 2010 HEAT targets achieved. On course to meet 2011 revised targets. Hand Hygiene Compliance data presented from January 2010 onwards- monthly compliance in Stobhill Hospitals greater than 95%. Cleaning Compliance data from January 2010 - monthly compliance in Stobhill Hospitals greater than 94%. 

\textbf{MSSA Bacteraemia Cases} 

\textbf{MRSA Bacteraemia Cases} 

\textbf{Hand Hygiene Compliance} 

\textbf{Cleaning Compliance}
Royal Alexandra Hospital

Data for *Clostridium difficile* Infection cases in ages 15 & over, Meticillin Sensitive Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases & Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases presented from January 2010 onwards. 2010 HEAT targets achieved. On course to meet 2011 revised targets. Hand Hygiene Compliance data presented from January 2010 onwards- monthly compliance in RAH greater than 89%. Cleaning Compliance data from January 2010 - monthly compliance in RAH greater than 95%.
Inverclyde Royal Hospital

Data for *Clostridium difficile* Infection cases in ages 15 & over, Meticillin Sensitive Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases & Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases presented from January 2010 onwards. 2010 HEAT targets achieved. On course to meet 2011 revised targets. Hand Hygiene Compliance data presented from January 2010 onwards- monthly compliance in IRH greater than 89%. Cleaning Compliance data from January 2010 - monthly compliance in IRH greater than 97%.

**Clostridium difficile** Infection Cases

**MSSA Bacteraemia Cases**

**MRSA Bacteraemia Cases**

**Hand Hygiene Compliance**

**Cleaning Compliance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jan-10</th>
<th>Feb-10</th>
<th>Mar-10</th>
<th>Apr-10</th>
<th>May-10</th>
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<th>Jul-10</th>
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<th>Oct-10</th>
<th>Nov-10</th>
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<td>89</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>94</td>
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<td>96</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jan-10</th>
<th>Feb-10</th>
<th>Mar-10</th>
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<th>Jul-10</th>
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<td>98.3</td>
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<td>97.8</td>
<td>98.4</td>
<td>99.5</td>
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<td>99.4</td>
<td>97.9</td>
<td>97.8</td>
<td>98.2</td>
<td>97.5</td>
</tr>
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</table>
This report card includes data for the Victoria Infirmary, Victoria ACH & the Mansionhouse Unit. Data for *Clostridium difficile* infection cases in ages 15 & over, Meticillin Sensitive Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases & Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases presented from January 2010 onwards. 2010 HEAT targets achieved. On course to meet 2011 revised targets. Hand Hygiene Compliance data presented from January 2010 onwards - monthly compliance in Victoria Hospitals greater than 87%. Cleaning Compliance data from January 2010 - monthly compliance in Victoria Hospitals greater than 96%.

### MSSA Bacteraemia Cases

![MSSA Bacteraemia Cases](chart)

### MRSA Bacteraemia Cases

![MRSA Bacteraemia Cases](chart)

### Hand Hygiene Compliance

![Hand Hygiene Compliance](chart)

### Cleaning Compliance

![Cleaning Compliance](chart)
Data for *Clostridium difficile* Infection cases in ages 15 & over, Meticillin Sensitive Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases & Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases presented from January 2010 onwards. 2010 HEAT targets achieved. On course to meet 2011 revised targets. Hand Hygiene Compliance data presented from January 2010 onwards - monthly compliance in SGH greater than 92%. Cleaning Compliance data from January 2010 - monthly compliance in SGH greater than 95%.

**MSSA Bacteraemia Cases**

**MRSA Bacteraemia Cases**

**Hand Hygiene Compliance**

**Cleaning Compliance**
Western Infirmary

Data for *Clostridium difficile* Infection cases in ages 15 & over, Meticillin Sensitive Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases & Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases presented from January 2010 onwards. 2010 HEAT targets achieved. On course to meet 2011 revised targets. Hand Hygiene Compliance data presented from January 2010 onwards - monthly compliance in WIG greater than 86%. Cleaning Compliance data from January 2010 - monthly compliance in WIG greater than 94%.

**Clostridium difficile** Infection Cases

**MSSA Bacteraemia Cases**

**MRSA Bacteraemia Cases**

**Hand Hygiene Compliance**

**Cleaning Compliance**
Gartnavel General Hospital

This report card includes data for Gartnavel General Hospital & the Beatson West of Scotland Cancer Centre. Data for Clostridium difficile Infection cases in ages 15 & over, Meticillin Sensitive Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases & Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases presented from January 2010 onwards. 2010 HEAT targets achieved. On course to meet 2011 revised targets. Hand Hygiene Compliance data presented from January 2010 onwards- monthly compliance across NHSGGC greater than 88%. Cleaning Compliance data from January 2010 - monthly compliance across NHSGGC greater than 94%.

MSSA Bacteraemia Cases

MRSA Bacteraemia Cases

Hand Hygiene Compliance

Cleaning Compliance
Data for *Clostridium difficile* infection cases in ages 15 & over, Meticillin Sensitive Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases & Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases presented from January 2010 onwards. 2010 HEAT targets achieved. On course to meet 2011 revised targets. Hand Hygiene Compliance data presented from January 2010 onwards - overall compliance in VOL greater than 95%. Monthly compliance for August 2010 was 100%. Cleaning Compliance data from January 2010 - monthly compliance in VOL greater than 95%.
Data for *Clostridium difficile* infection cases in ages 15 & over, therefore no cases for this site. Meticillin Sensitive Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases & Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases presented from January 2010 onwards. 2010 HEAT targets achieved. On course to meet 2011 revised targets. Hand Hygiene Compliance data presented from April 2010 onwards - monthly compliance in Yorkhill Hospital greater than 90%. Cleaning Compliance data from January 2010 - monthly compliance in Yorkhill Hospital greater than 95%.
Community Hospitals [Non Acute & Mental Health Hospitals]

This is an amalgamation of data from the following hospitals: Lightburn, Drumchapel, Gartnavel Royal, Parkhead, Ravenscraig, Blawarthill, Leverndale, Johnstone, Mearnskirk & Dykebar Hospitals. These hospitals are non acute hospitals & mental health hospitals and have very few cases to report. Data for Clostridium difficile Infection cases in ages 15 & over, Meticillin Sensitive Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases & Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases presented from January 2010 onwards. 2010 HEAT targets achieved. On course to meet 2011 revised targets.
Out of Hospital Infections

Data for Clostridium difficile infection cases in ages 15 & over: For ages between 15-64 years, 50.0% were Out of Hospital infections and for ages 65 & over, 43.1% were Out of Hospital infections. This equates to 44.7% of all CDI cases reported in NHSGGC January to December 2010 attributed as Out of Hospital infections.

Meticillin Sensitive Staphylococcus Aureus (MSSA) cases & Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) Bacteraemia cases presented from January 2010 onwards. Out of Hospital MSSA bacteraemias account for 50.8% of all cases from January to December 2010. Out of Hospital MRSA bacteraemias make up 38.8% of all cases for the same timeframe. This equates to 48.3% of all Staphylococcus Aureus Bacteraemia cases being Out of Hospital infections.

MSSA Bacteraemia Cases

MRSA Bacteraemia Cases
Surveillance data can be used to detect any change in the incidence of disease, which in turn facilitates the early identification of outbreaks of infection and leads to prompt initiation of preventive measures. It also allows local infection control teams to focus their interventions in areas where the greatest benefit to patients can be achieved.

Statistical Process Control Charts (SPCs) are the application of statistical theory to Quality Control. They show process data chronologically (per month in most cases). Some examples of where they have been used in healthcare include; queuing analysis of appointment access and delays and forecasting bed needs.

The most common use for SPCs in infection control practice is in relation to healthcare acquired MRSA and *Clostridium difficile* infections. Calculations are made based upon the ward/unit’s historical infection rate to produce 3 lines, the upper and lower control limits and the centre line (mean). The setting of the upper control limits allows the local teams to ‘trigger’ actions promptly in response to any increase in the number of patients identified.

This section includes Hospital level SPCs for acute sites in NHSGGC

The SPCs include data on
- Hospital Acquired MRSA cases (includes wound swabs, sputum & urine samples etc.)
- Hospital Acquired *Clostridium difficile* cases

Surveillance data can be used to detect any change in the incidence of disease, which in turn facilitates the early identification of outbreaks of infection and leads to prompt initiation of preventive measures. It also allows local infection control teams to focus their interventions in areas where the greatest benefit to patients can be achieved.

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This is an SPC showing only Natural Variation
*(Note on this chart all the results are within the control limits)*

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Units</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Results</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centre Line (CL) or mean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Most Recent Result</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Upper and Lower Control limits (UCL/LCL).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Although SPCs are a method of viewing what is going on at a local level the SPC can also be used to drive improvements in care. This is shown by reducing the mean (centre line) which indicates that fewer patients are acquiring infection in our wards and hospitals.

This chart demonstrates that infection control practice on a ward has improved. This in turn has resulted in fewer cases and the mean for this ward has been reduced to reflect this. Now that SPC’s are available across the whole of NHSGGC we will be actively targeting improvements in areas with historically high levels of infection and sustaining improvements in areas with low infection rates.

**Trigger Events/Charts that Breach the Upper Control Limits**

An SPC will only identify that a problem exists – it will not identify what is causing the problem. If a chart is seen to be above the upper control limit the ICT with the local clinical team will review the area to determine the likely cause and develop appropriate action plans.

All Hospital Level SPC Charts are currently within normal control limits.