

ITEM: 14

MEETING: Trust Board 16 April 2008

TITLE: Infection Control update

SUMMARY: This report contains a summary of recent performance against the key infection control indicators. Performance against the two national targets for reducing MRSA bacteraemia and *Clostridium difficile* infections is attached. MRSA bacteraemia are above trajectory, and the two recent cases in March 2008 have resulted in the rolling 12 month totals remaining slightly higher than in previous months.

Clostridium difficile has remained below trajectory for cases in patients over 65 years. Confirmation of the agreed target reduction in cases for the next three years is still awaited, as it will be based on the 2007/8 out-turn.

Progress against hand hygiene compliance is included for information. Hand hygiene compliance improved in March to 91% overall across the trust. By the end of March, over 99% of trust staff had attended the refresher hand hygiene training, which has been a significant achievement.

ACTION: For information

REPORT FROM: Deborah Wheeler, Director of Nursing & Clinical Development / Acting Director of Infection Prevention and Control

Financial Validation Lead: Director of Finance	N/a
Compliance with statute, directions, policy, guidance Lead: All directors	Saving Lives national MRSA target reduction Health Act 2006 Hygiene Code
Compliance with Healthcare Commission Core/Developmental Standards Lead: Director of Nursing & Clinical Development	Reference: C4a
Compliance with Auditors' Local Evaluation standards (ALE) Lead: Director of Finance	Reference:
Compliance with requirements of FT application and monitoring regime Lead: Director of Strategy & Performance	Reference: integrated business plan; risk rating for quality

1. Infection control performance

Attached is the summary report data on MRSA bacteraemia and *Clostridium difficile* infections, as at the end of March 2008 (Appendix A). There have been two MRSA bacteraemia for March 2008: one patient on Eddington Ward (medical), who has been in hospital since 21.2.08 and was confirmed on 24.3.08; the second patient was diagnosed on admission, and Haringey PCT have been alerted.

This takes the 2007/8 total to 21, against a full year maximum target of 12. The MRSA bacteraemia three month rolling total therefore remains above trajectory, while the twelve month rolling total has reduced following the small increase in February. All trusts are now required to report MRSA bacteraemia numbers weekly to NHS London. Overall, London has exceeded the target for MRSA bacteraemia; individually, 7 of the 31 acute London trusts have missed the target.

Clostridium difficile infections remained just below trajectory at the end of March: 167 cases against a target maximum of 168 in patients over 65 years. These figures continue to be monitored weekly by the executive team. London as a whole has seen a 14% reduction in *Clostridium difficile* infections in the last year.

Confirmation of the target reduction in *Clostridium difficile* by 2010 is awaited; this will be clarified over the next two months, based on the actual out-turn for 2007/8. The cases monitored will be different from those in the last year; the target will now include all patients over the age of 2 years, but will exclude, for acute hospitals, GP samples processed in the laboratories, and patients diagnosed within the first 48 hours of admission to hospital. These cases will be classified as community acquired. Initial forecasting of the Whittington's expected out-turn suggested that there would be a total of 127 attributable cases for 2007/8 (using the new classifications), with a outline target of 102 cases by 2010. The interim annual trajectory for this is also yet to be agreed.

2. Hand hygiene

The visible leadership programme continues to focus on infection control, and was cited as evidence of good practice on both the Healthcare Commission and Department of Health recent visits. Hand hygiene audits have continued to be done monthly; the March data has shown an improvement on the February audit. March hand hygiene compliance was 91%, the highest level since the audits began (Appendix B).

Since 8 January, the visible leadership team have been providing training sessions in hand hygiene every day. These have been made compulsory for all staff across the hospital. Feedback from staff attending the sessions has been very positive. Additional sessions have been provided during March, with the final sessions run for night staff on 28, 30 and 31 March. As a result, a total of 2178 (99.6%) of staff had attended the training, with over 100 additional students, bank and agency staff also trained. An analysis of the attendees on the database is currently being undertaken to identify any individual staff who have failed to attend, and then follow them up.

3. Environment and cleaning

Monthly ward environment and cleaning audits were again repeated on 17 March using the NHS national cleaning standards, however the analysed data was not

available at the time of writing. Although scores had increased between September and January, in February the position had deteriorated, with only 6 (36%) of the 16 areas audited scoring over 80%.

4. 2008/09 Infection control action plan

The plan for the coming year is now being drafted, to ensure that all the key priorities are included. This will be discussed and agreed at the next infection control committee, on 16 May.