

Pencadlys Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Bae Abertawe

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Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg ac yn y Saesneg. We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.



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Cyf/Ref: Healthcare Associated Infections

Dear Colleagues,

Infection Prevention and Control remains a key priority for system/service wide improvement within SBUHB. You will be aware that current infection rates remain poor across a number of our tier 1 target reporting areas, namely *C. difficile*, *E. coli*, *Staph. aureus* and *Klebsiella*. This has resulted in targeted intervention status being imposed on the health board by Welsh Government.

The executive team have named us, Dr Anjula Mehta and Hazel Powell, as the executive leads for IPC and we will be working closely with the IPC team and Service Groups over the coming months to ensure we implement and deliver a robust improvement and innovation plan to meet TI objectives and deliver the 2024/25 Health Board HCAI Improvement Plan. The health board IPC governance structure has been revised to ensure the right level of scrutiny, assurance and reporting at each level. Please see the separate powerpoint slide attached in the main email body for the diagram.

With this in mind, we write to outline the revised meeting format for Healthcare Associated Infections and to emphasise the expectation of appropriate representation from each service group for all areas listed;



1. **Gold CDI Outbreak meeting.** This meeting is now stood down and all open actions have been aligned to the appropriate sub groups listed below.
2. **Executive HCAI Scrutiny Group.** Chaired by Dr Anjula Mehta and Hazel Powell. This meeting will replace the individual weekly IPC scrutiny meetings with all service groups. Focus will be on each of the Service Group's priorities and to provide the executive leads with an opportunity to drill down into the detail of specific actions in relation to service group hot spots. Service Group Medical and Nursing Directors are required to represent and present their updates/plans.
3. **Leadership Touchpoint (weekly).** This relates to the Corporate IPC senior management team only. No representation is needed from Service Groups. This meeting will be used to discuss current data and improvement trajectories to ensure we target the right areas for supportive scrutiny.
4. **Antimicrobial Stewardship Improvement Group.** Focus will remain on antimicrobial prescribing guidelines in the context of volume and choice to promote change and innovation relating to antimicrobial resistance programmes. This will be a combined Health Board wide meeting with appropriate representation needed from each service group. Attendees will need to be able to discuss AMS in the context of the specific challenges within their own Service Groups and present updates on programmes of change to support the Health Board AMS priorities.
5. **Decontamination Subgroup.** This is a pre-existing Health Board wide meeting which focusses on the decontamination policies and processes of all medical devices and equipment, with the aim to seek and provide assurance of compliance. Appropriate representation is needed from individuals that are responsible for IPC decontamination processes within each service group. Representatives will need to be able to discuss decontamination compliance and outline risks/challenges within services associated with their service group.

We would like to take this opportunity to stress the importance of your commitment to the health board HCAI agenda and ask all triumvirate directors to prioritise the fortnightly Executive HCAI Scrutiny group within your diaries. Please can service group triumvirates agree appropriate representation for all other listed meetings/groups. You will be contacted directly over the coming weeks to confirm names of representatives/leads for each area.



We look forward to working collaboratively with you all to ensure we tackle the existing challenges and champion excellence within the IPC work stream.

Many thanks for your continued support and engagement with this agenda.

Hazel Powell

Acting Director of Nursing & Patient
Experience

Cyfarwyddwr Nyrsio a Profiad Dros Dro



Dr Anjula Mehta

Acting Executive Medical Director
SBUHB

Cyfarwyddwr Meddygol
Gweithredol Dros Dro

