

Infection Prevention & Control Report to Trust Board

Meeting Date – 1st September 2022

1. Executive Summary

COVID-19

The Infection Prevention & Control (IP&C) Team continue to be significantly involved with the management of any suspected or confirmed cases of COVID-19, the continued development of COVID-19 pathways, contact tracing and processes and outbreak management. The IP&C Team are also required to continue to support Independent Sector care homes in the event of any declared outbreaks, but this has not been possible from January 2022 due to the unprecedented numbers of Trust outbreaks and IP&C nursing capacity. As a result of the increased demands upon the Team and within the current IP&C resources, there are challenges in attending to other routine work.

Monkeypox

There are currently confirmed cases of Monkeypox across the United Kingdom, including Northern Ireland (NI). The Public Health Agency (PHA) is in regular contact with the UK Health Security Agency regarding the situation and a regional multidisciplinary Incident Management Team has been established here to ensure that we are fully prepared for any potential risk to the population of NI.

The Trust has also established a multidisciplinary management team to ensure the Trust is prepared to manage any suspected or confirmed cases. Significant work continues to reinforce existing and to develop further new clinical pathways.

Monkeypox is not a new virus and an effective vaccine is available.

Monkeypox does not spread easily between people, is usually a mild self-limiting illness and most people recover within a few weeks.

Person-to-person spread is uncommon, but may occur through:

- contact with clothing or linens (such as bedding or towels) used by an infected person;
- direct contact with Monkeypox skin lesions or scabs;
- coughing or sneezing of an individual with a Monkeypox rash.

The Trust is keeping the situation under review and will review and implement any updated evidence or guidance.

The last positive case in the Western Trust occurred on 27th July 2022.

Reduction Targets

The Department of Health for NI has not yet issued new reduction targets for healthcare-associated infections in 2022/23. These targets relate to *Clostridium difficile* (*C. difficile*) associated disease, Meticillin-Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) bacteraemia and gram-negative bacteraemia (GNB), specifically *Escherichia coli*, *Klebsiella species* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*.

The most recently available reduction targets relate to the year 2019/20. These are discussed in

subsequent relevant sections to provide a point of reference when examining performance in 2022/23.

Current *C. difficile* Performance

So far this year 32 cases of *C. difficile* have been reported. 19 of the cases are classified as healthcare-acquired or associated as they occurred more than 72 hours after admission to hospital (definition used by the PHA). However, this is not always an accurate predictor of being healthcare-associated. The remainder (13) are classified as community-acquired as the patients presented with symptoms within a 72-hour period after admission.

A reduction target of 56 cases was previously set for 2019/20. This year's performance would be off track for achieving that target.

Current MRSA Bacteraemia Performance

Since the beginning of April 2022 five MRSA bacteraemia cases have been reported. Three are categorised as community-associated as they occurred less than 48 hours after admission to hospital and two are categorised as healthcare-associated as they occurred more than 48 hours after admission to hospital (definition used by the PHA).

This performance would be off track for meeting the reduction target previously set for 2019/20, which was a maximum of five cases in the year.

Current GNB Performance

As of 22nd August 2022, 13 healthcare-associated GNB cases have been reported.

Compared with the previous reduction target set for 2019/20, a maximum of 49 cases, the Trust's current performance would be on track to achieve that target.

2. Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Outbreak Management

COVID-19 outbreaks continue to be declared in Trust wards, departments and facilities. Between June and late August 2022, a total of 58 outbreaks occurred. The IP&C Team, in conjunction with Occupational Health and/ or Contact Tracing, are supporting the management of these incidents as applicable. Incident meetings are taking place and all IP&C measures have been instigated. Recently affected areas include:

NB: Positive cases of COVID-19 identified after admission, which fit the criteria for a healthcare-associated infection, should trigger a case investigation. If two or more cases are linked in time and place, an outbreak investigation should be undertaken. Closure of an outbreak is deemed to be 14 days from the last positive case in acute settings and 10 days in community settings.

Ward/ Department/ Facility	Date of Commencement	Date of Closure	People Affected
Avalon House, Omagh	23/05/2022	07/06/2022	Residents & Staff
Lime Villa, Tyrone & Fermanagh Hospital (T&F)	06/06/2022	20/06/2022	Patient & Staff
Castledearg Day Centre, Castledearg	06/06/2022	15/06/2022	Service users & Staff
Rehab Unit, Omagh Hospital & Primary Care Complex (OHPCC)	07/06/2022	21/06/2022	Patient & Staff

Spruce House, Altnagelvin Hospital	16/06/2022	03/07/2022	Patient & Staff
Primary Care Liaison Service, South West Acute Hospital (SWAH)	17/06/2022	04/07/2022	Staff
Urgent Care & Treatment Centre/ Cardiac Assessment Unit, OHPCC	17/06/2022	25/06/2022	Staff
Ward 2, Waterside Hospital	20/06/2022	26/06/2022	Staff
Ward 40, Altnagelvin	20/06/2022	15/07/2022	Patients & Staff
Critical Care Outreach Service, Altnagelvin	20/06/2022	26/06/2022	Staff
Rathview House, Omagh	20/06/2022	27/06/2022	Staff
Lackaboy Unit 1, Enniskillen	20/06/2022	03/07/2022	Service users & Staff
Day Procedure Unit, OHPCC	20/06/2022	27/06/2022	Staff
Ward 42, Altnagelvin	21/06/2022	29/06/2022	Patient & Staff
Maybrook Day Centre, Derry	21/06/2022	03/07/2022	Service users & Staff
Ward 4, Waterside	21/06/2022	14/07/2022	Patients & Staff
Ward 32 ESU, Altnagelvin	22/06/2022	08/07/2022	Patient & Staff
Antenatal Clinic, Altnagelvin	22/06/2022	29/06/2022	Staff
Ward 3, SWAH	22/06/2022	12/07/2022	Patients & Staff
Ward 5, SWAH	22/06/2022	02/07/2022	Patient & Staff
Rehab Unit, OHPCC	23/06/2022	10/07/2022	Patient & Staff
CCU, SWAH	23/06/2022	28/06/2022	Patient & Staff
Elm Villa, T&F	24/06/2022	04/07/2022	Staff
Clare House, Omagh	27/06/2022	15/07/2022	Residents & Staff
Lackaboy 2, Enniskillen	27/06/2022	08/07/2022	Service users
Ward 22 ASM, Altnagelvin	28/06/2022	12/07/2022	Patients & Staff
Renal Unit, OHPCC	28/06/2022	05/07/2022	Patients & Staff
Glenside Adult Training Centre, Strabane	28/06/2022	14/07/2022	Service users
Ward 23 TOU, Altnagelvin	29/06/2022	18/07/2022	Patients & Staff
Ward 25 FOU, Altnagelvin	29/06/2022	08/07/2022	Patient & Staff
Glen Oaks Day Centre, Derry	29/06/2022	03/07/2022	Service user & Staff
Ward 42, Altnagelvin	30/06/2022	14/07/2022	Patients
Lime Villa, T&F	01/07/2022	15/07/2022	Patient & Staff
Ward 4 AURO, Altnagelvin	01/07/2022	15/07/2022	Patients & Staff
Asha Centre, T&F	04/07/2022	18/07/2022	Patients & Staff
DESU, Altnagelvin	04/07/2022	14/07/2022	Staff
Renal Unit, OHPCC	06/07/2022	19/07/2022	Patients & Staff
Hollylane, Gransha	08/07/2022	18/07/2022	Staff
Ward 2, SWAH	08/07/2022	22/07/2022	Patients & Staff
Ward 7, SWAH	08/07/2022	18/07/2022	Staff
Rectory Field Residential Home, Derry	13/07/2022	28/07/2022	Residents & Staff
Ward 9, SWAH	13/07/2022	01/08/2022	Patients & Staff
Ward 4 AURO, Altnagelvin	20/07/2022	04/08/2022	Patients & Staff
Scroggy Road Children's Home, Limavady	25/07/2022	02/08/2022	Resident & Staff
Ward 40, Altnagelvin	26/07/2022	02/08/2022	Patients
Ferone Drive Supported Living, Omagh	26/07/2022	08/08/2022	Residents & Staff

Renal Unit, OHPCC	27/07/2022	04/08/2022	Patients
Lackaboy Day Centre, Enniskillen	27/07/2022	04/08/2022	Staff
Rathview Mews, Omagh	29/07/2022	04/08/2022	Resident & Staff
Beltany House, Omagh	01/08/2022	04/08/2022	Residents
Ward 42, Altnagelvin	03/08/2022	15/08/2022	Patients
Ward 32 ESU, Altnagelvin	03/08/2022	12/08/2022	Patients
Kesh Day Centre, Kesh	04/08/2022	15/08/2022	Service users
Ward 41 AGM, Altnagelvin	10/08/2022	18/08/2022	Patients
Carrick Ward, Grangewood	10/08/2022	Ongoing	Patient & Staff
Ward 2, SWAH	10/08/2022	20/08/2022	Patient & Staff
Ward 32 ESU, Altnagelvin	15/08/2022	Ongoing	Patients
Four Oaks & Ferone Drive Supported Living, Omagh	18/08/2022	Ongoing	Staff

The key learning themes arising from outbreaks are shared for wider learning across the Trust via the Working Safely Together Group and governance arrangements. They are also incorporated into the ECHO Programme.

The IP&C Team are also required to continue to support Independent Sector care homes in the event of any declared outbreaks. A total of 48 outbreaks occurred during the period June to late August 2022, including:

Care Home	Date PHA Notified	Current Status of Outbreak
Owen Mor Care Centre, Derry	03/06/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Owen Mor Care Centre, Derry	06/06/2022	Ongoing: Awaiting terminal clean
Iona House Supported Living, Strabane	07/06/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Parkview House, Castlederg	08/06/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Parkview House, Castlederg	10/06/2022	Over
Daleview House, Derry	13/06/2022	Over
Millverne, Enniskillen	14/06/2022	Over
Fairview & Craigdene Residential Care Home, Derry	16/06/2022	Over
Slieve Na Mon, Omagh	17/06/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Springlawn, Omagh	18/06/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Silverdale, Castlederg	20/06/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Brooklands, Derry	20/06/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Millcroft, Enniskillen	21/06/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Knockmoyle Lodge Nursing Home, Omagh	22/06/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Harold McCauley House, Omagh	22/06/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Abbey House (Apex Housing), Derry	24/06/2022	Situation of interest – Over
The Tilery, Enniskillen	27/06/2022	Situation of interest – Over

St Julian's House (Apex Housing), Omagh	27/06/2022	Over
Railway Court, Omagh	27/06/2022	Over
Ballyoan House, Derry	27/06/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Barnlee, Lisnaskea	28/06/2022	Over
Woodbank House, Omagh	29/06/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Camphill Community Clanabogan, Omagh	30/06/2022	Over
Praxis, Lisnaskea	02/07/2022	Over
County, Enniskillen	04/07/2022	Over
Meadow View, Enniskillen	04/07/2022	Over
Rush Hall, Limavady	04/07/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Cornfield Care Centre, Limavady	04/07/2022	Over
Ardlough, Derry	05/07/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Rush Hall, Limavady	05/07/2022	Over
Oakleaves Care Centre, Derry	06/07/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Millcroft, Enniskillen	07/07/2022	Over
Cornfield Care Centre 1, Limavady	13/07/2022	Over
Culmore Manor Care Centre, Derry	14/07/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Edenvale Care Home, Limavady	16/07/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Hillcrest Care Facility, Omagh	19/07/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Mulhern Close Residential Home, Omagh	19/07/2022	Over
Mullagh House, Limavady	22/07/2022	Ongoing: Awaiting terminal clean
Brooklands, Derry	27/07/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Knockmoyle Lodge Nursing Home, Omagh	02/08/2022	Over
Granard, Omagh	02/08/2022	Over
Culmore Manor Care Centre, Derry	03/08/2022	Situation of interest – Over
Three Rivers Care Centre, Omagh	04/08/2022	Situation of interest
Millverne, Enniskillen	04/08/2022	Ongoing: Active
The Willows Supported Living, Kesh	05/08/2022	Ongoing: Active
Melmount Manor Care Centre, Strabane	19/08/2022	Situation of interest
Camphill Community Clanabogan, Omagh	22/08/2022	Ongoing: Active
Abbey House (Apex Housing), Derry	22/08/2022	Ongoing: Active

Support to these homes requires an on-site visit by a Senior IP&C Nurse. It involves assessing their current IP&C practices and giving recommendations on possible improvements. The IP&C Team are challenged to provide this due to other workload commitments, as well as the limited availability of Senior IP&C Nurses. Independent Sector visits are, therefore, being risk assessed and organised as capacity allows.

Respiratory Infections in Health and Care Settings, including COVID-19, Training

In June and July 2022 the IP&C Team delivered a series of training sessions on Respiratory Infections in Health and Care Settings (including COVID-19). This was in line with the PHA's NI Regional IP&C Manual update on IP&C Measures for SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) in Health and Care Settings. The training provided an update on changes to the safe management of patients

and their environment when suspected or confirmed of COVID-19 or any other respiratory illness. It was aimed at healthcare staff in patient facing roles involved with the care of patients who may present with respiratory illness, both in the community and in hospital settings.

The training was delivered virtually using Zoom. Initially 16 sessions were scheduled, but unfortunately, due to poor uptake, several had to be cancelled and only nine went ahead. A total of 141 staff attended.

3. Infection Prevention & Control Induction and Mandatory Training

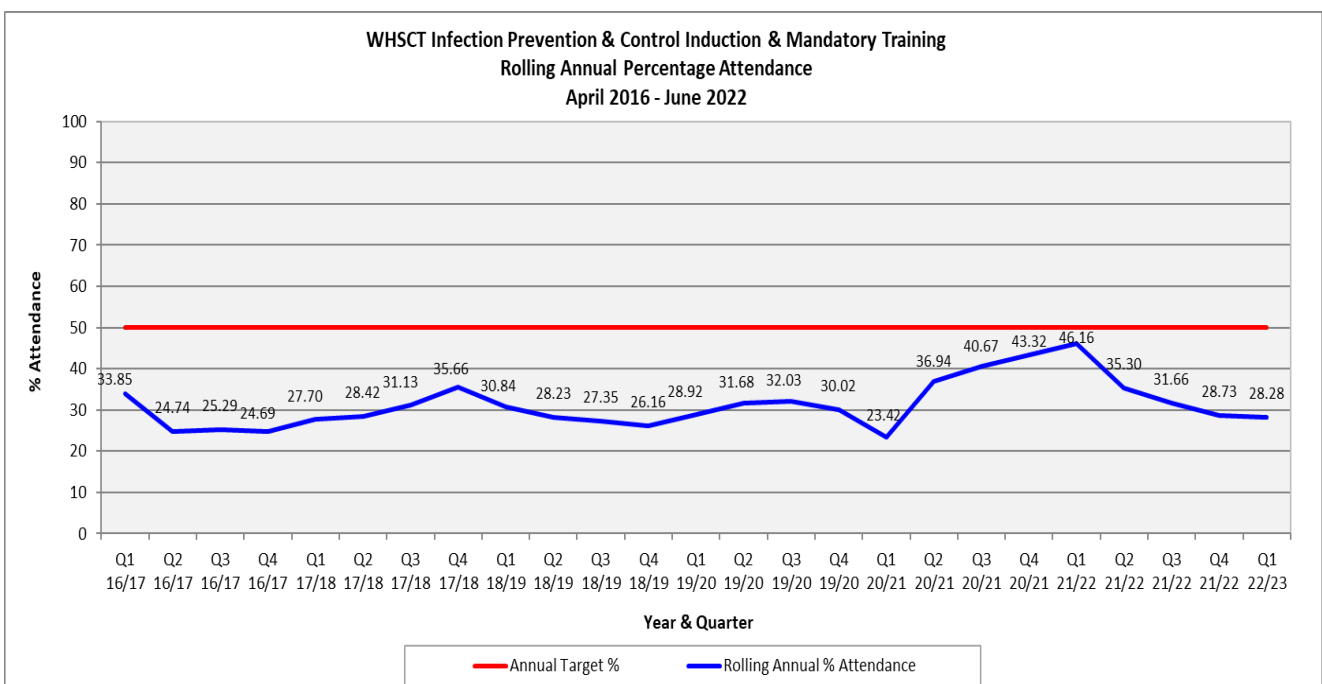
IP&C Induction and Mandatory Training is delivered online via an e-learning programme. This was developed regionally for use by all health and social care organisations in NI and was originally launched across the Trust in late June 2020.

The e-learning programme comprises two tiers – Tier 1 and Tier 2. Staff only need to complete one of the tiers. Clarification on which tier each staff member should complete is provided via a Tier Matrix. The e-learning includes a short assessment to test understanding and awareness, with a certificate available to be printed after successful completion. Access to the e-learning is through the HSC Learning website (www.hsclearning.com) which is available to all Western Trust staff. The website can be accessed from any internet-enabled Trust or personal device (PC/ laptop/ mobile phone/ tablet).

Training must be completed every two years.

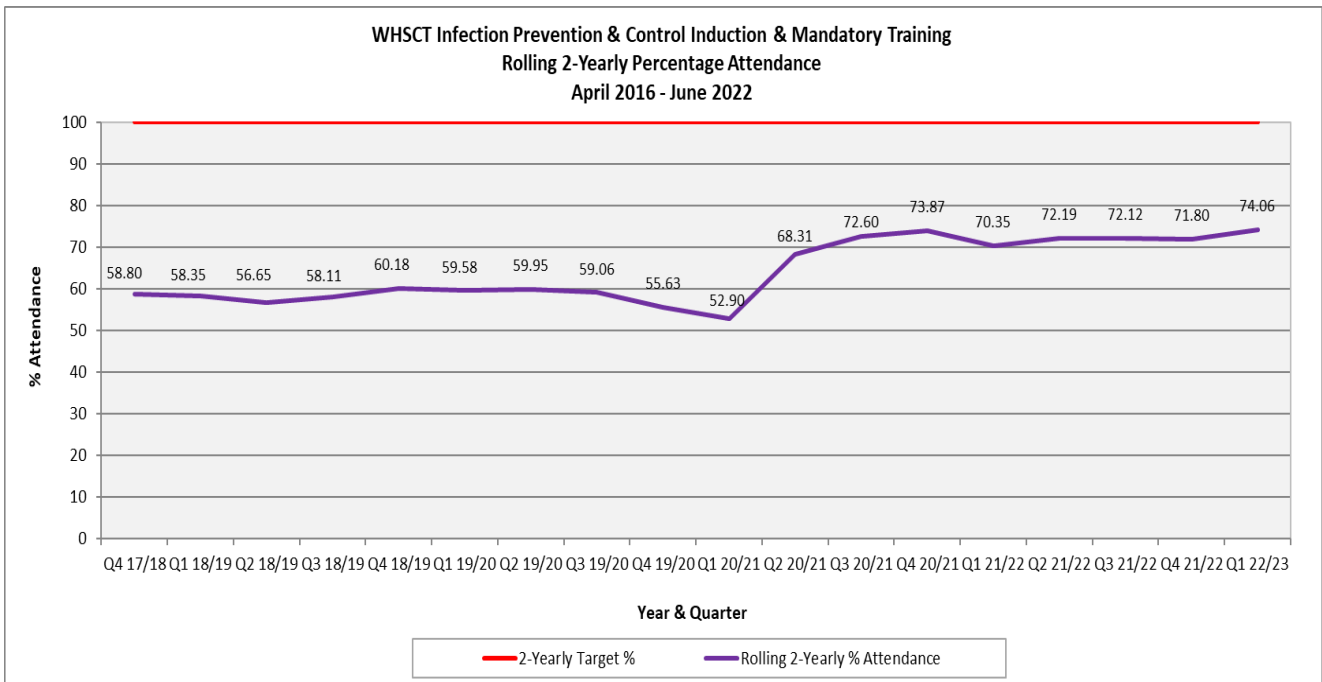
The content of the e-learning is currently being reviewed by the Regional IP&C Lead Nurses Forum. They are also looking at developing a shorter, more bespoke version for medical staff.

In the period April to June 2022, a total of 951 staff completed the training. The attendance target for each year is 50% of the total number of staff who require training (i.e. 6047 out of 12,094 applicable staff). For the 12 months ending June 2022, the percentage stands at 28.28%. That is 21.72% less than required.



As attendance at IP&C Training is required on a biennial basis, the attendance rate over a 24-month period has also been calculated. As of the end of June 2022, it is 74.06%. That is the

highest attendance rate since this figure began to be monitored in January 2018.



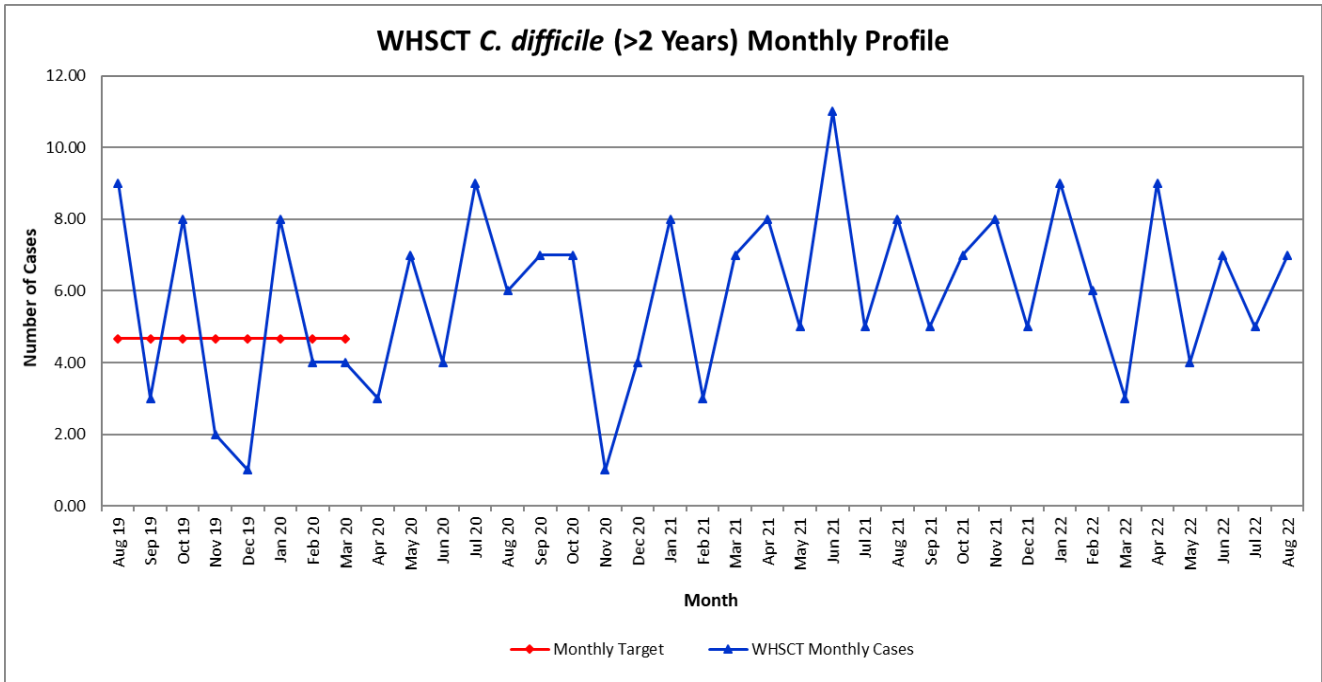
In September and October 2022, the IP&C Team plan to deliver a series of virtual training sessions via Zoom. These sessions will be aimed at staff who come under Tier 1B of the Tier Matrix (i.e. “healthcare staff with minimal or no patient/ client contact or healthcare staff with patient contact who require role specific training”), such as Support Services, HSDU, Estates, Transport, Social Workers, Chaplains, etc.

4. C. difficile Performance

The new 2022/23 reduction target for *C. difficile* (≥ 2 years) has not yet been issued.

Since the beginning of April 2022 32 cases have been reported, with 13 of those being categorised as community-associated.

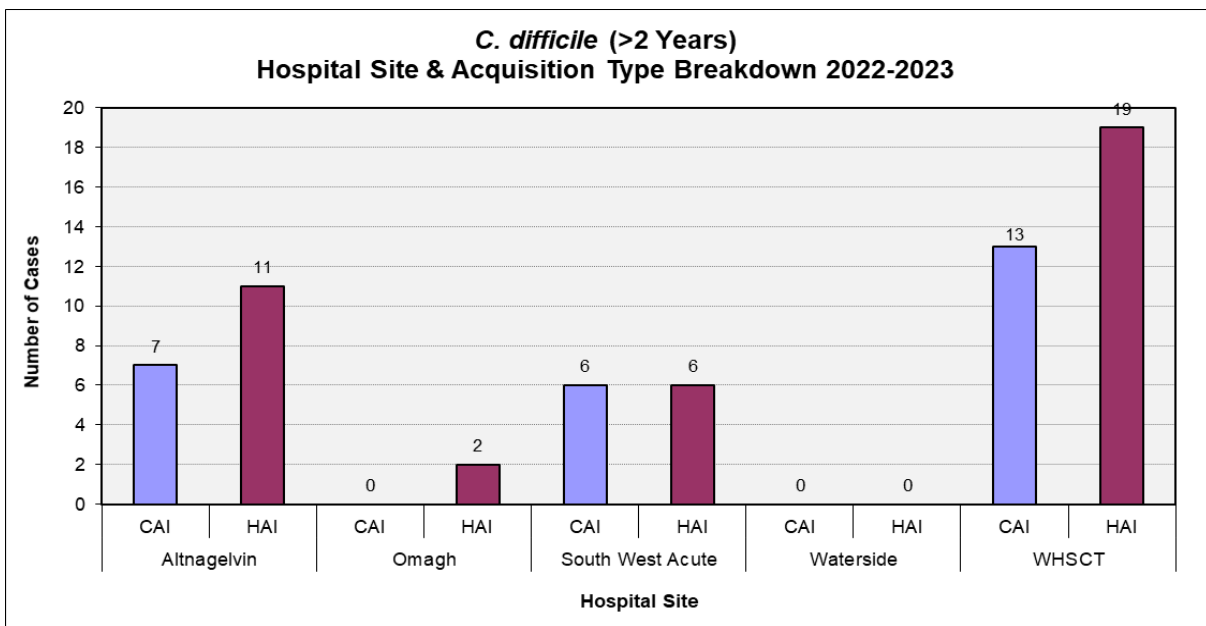
As a point of comparison, the reduction target previously set for 2019/20 was 56 cases. This year’s performance would be off track for achieving that target.



* The value for Aug 22 is subject to change as the report was compiled prior to the end of the month.

A breakdown of the cases by hospital site and acquisition type is given in the chart below.

Key:
 CAI Community-associated infection
 HAI Hospital-associated infection



Preventable/ Non-Preventable

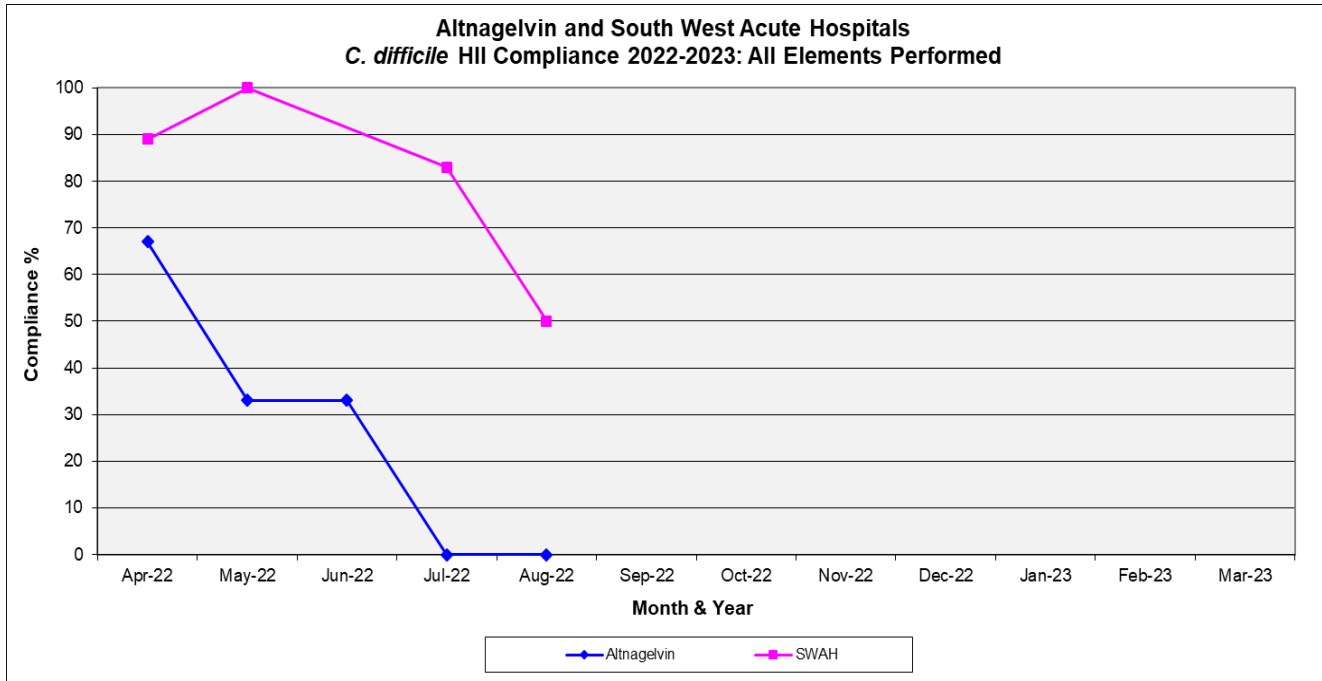
In respect of *C. difficile* cases occurring during 2022/23 a total of five post-infection reviews (PIRs) have been conducted. These found that none of the cases were preventable, four were non-preventable and one was difficult to determine.

PIRs are pending for a further 19 cases.

C. difficile Care Bundle and Care Pathway Audits

Evidence based care bundles are effective when all elements of care are performed consistently. Therefore, scores are represented as either Pass (100%) or Fail (anything less than 100%). Consistent compliance with the *C. difficile* care bundle remains a challenge and is currently poor across both acute sites. The findings indicate issues around antibiotic prescribing, environmental decontamination and isolation/ cohort nursing.

The graph below illustrates the overall compliance with all of the elements of the *C. difficile* high impact intervention (HII) care bundle for Altnagelvin and the SWAH.

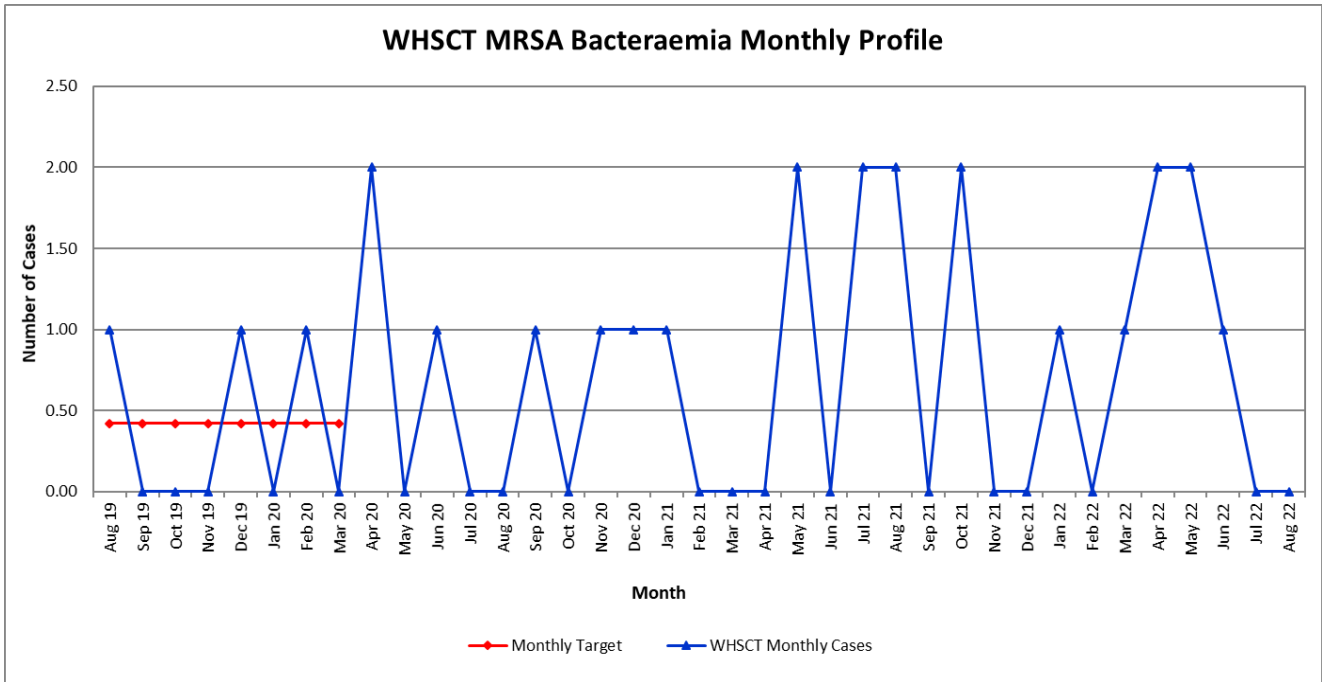


5. MRSA Bacteraemia Performance

The new MRSA bacteraemia reduction target for 2022/23 has not yet been issued.

Since the beginning of April 2022 five cases have been reported, with two of those being categorised as healthcare-associated.

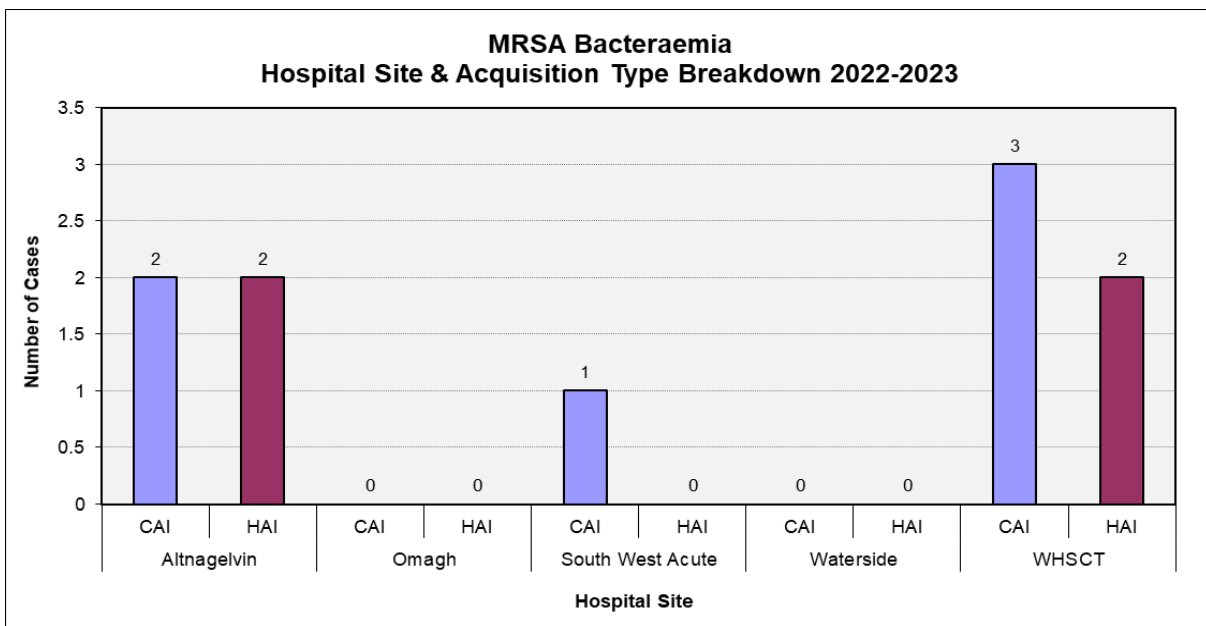
This performance would be off track for meeting the reduction target previously set for 2019/20, which was a maximum of five cases in the year.



* The value for Aug 22 is subject to change as the report was compiled prior to the end of the month.

A breakdown of the cases by hospital site and acquisition type is given in the chart below.

Key:
 CAI Community-associated infection
 HAI Hospital-associated infection



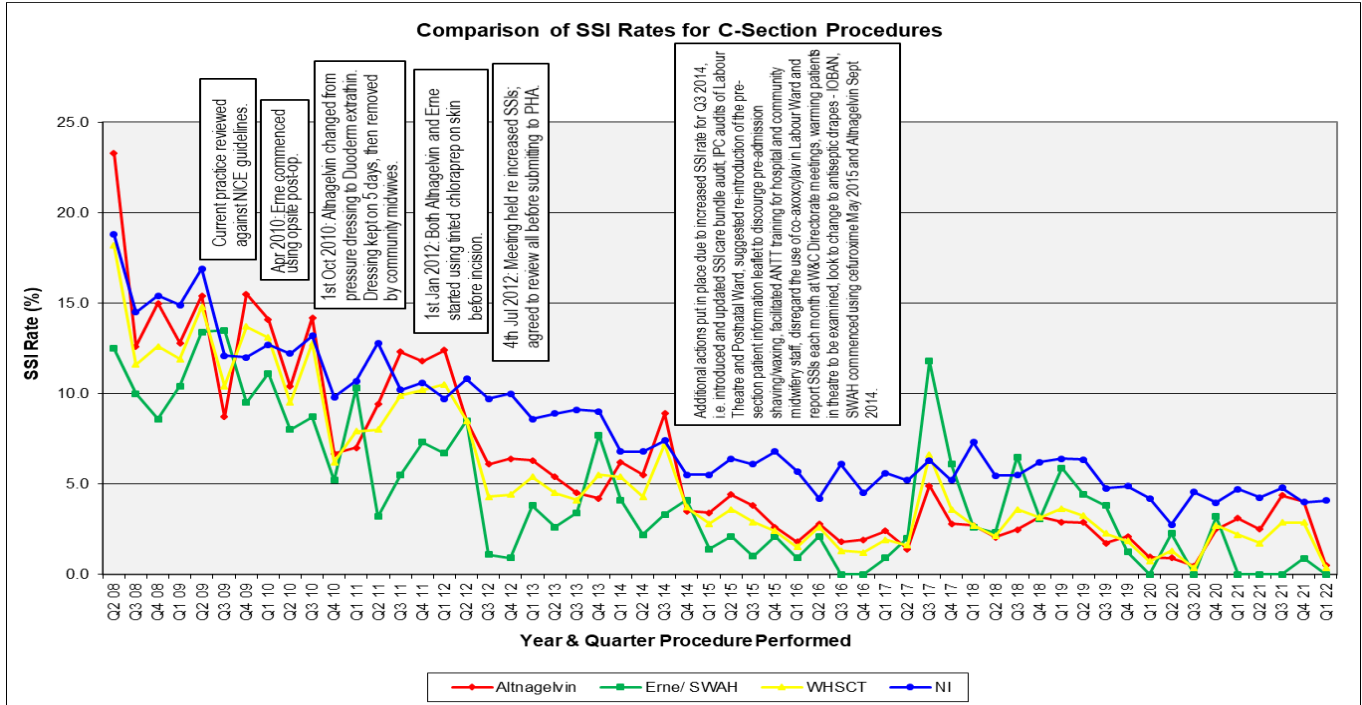
As of 22nd August 2022, the total number of days since the last Trust hospital-associated MRSA bacteraemia is:

Altnagelvin – 61 days	(Last recorded case was in Ward 22 ASM)
SWAH – 798 days	(Last recorded case was in Ward 8)
Tyrone County Hospital/ OHPCC – 2770 days	(Last recorded case was in the Rehab Unit)

6. Caesarean Section Surgical Site Infection (SSI) Surveillance

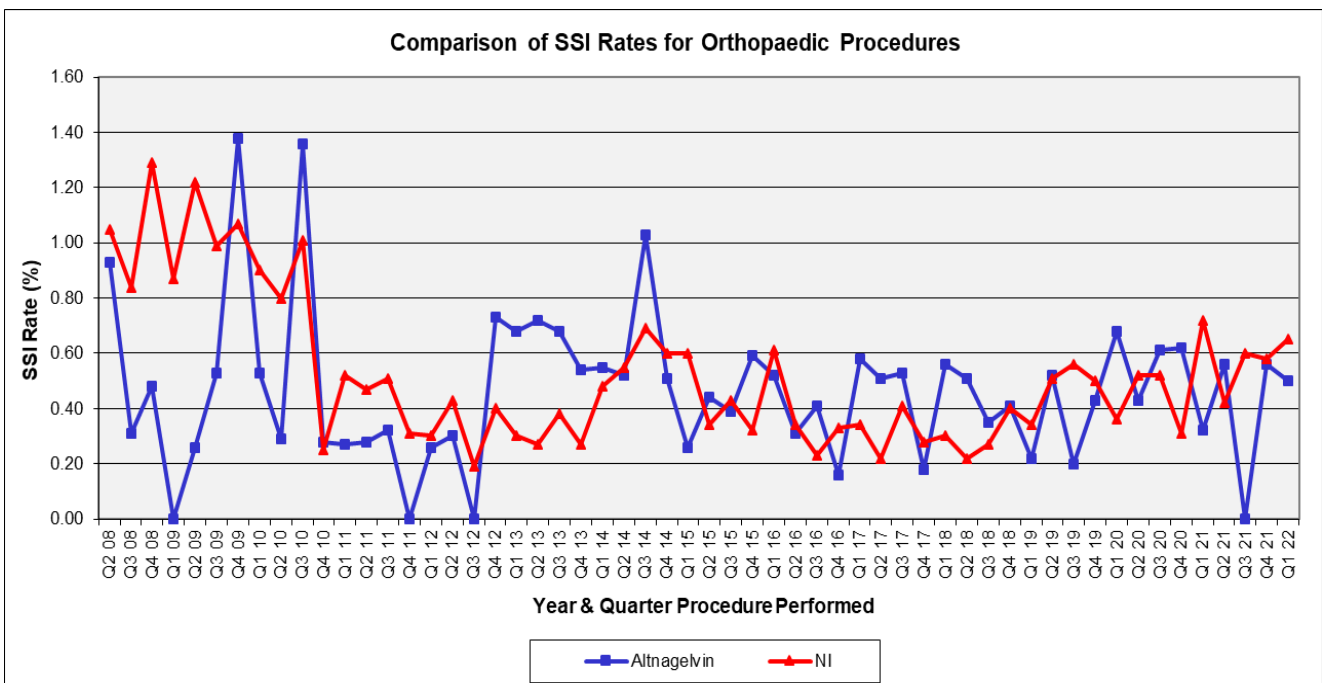
During quarter one of 2022 the Trust achieved 85.4% compliance with surveillance related documentation, compared to an 84% average compliance rate in NI as a whole.

The surveillance information below demonstrates an ongoing reduction in infection rates over time and a lower rate for the Trust than the rest of the region; 0.36% and 4.08% respectively.



7. Orthopaedic Surgical Site Infection Surveillance

The SSI rate remains less than 0.7% of all surgery and, in quarter one of 2022 specifically, it is 0.50%. Evidence based care bundles are in place for orthopaedic surgery.



8. Critical Care Device-Associated Infection Surveillance

Critical care device-associated infection surveillance commenced in June 2011. There have been no infections in the Trust for almost four years. The most recent infection recorded was a ventilator-associated pneumonia, which occurred in ICU, Altnagelvin, in October 2018.

Results, as of July 2022, are shown in the table below.

	Date of Last Recorded Case in Hospital		Hospital Rolling Average Infection Rate Per 1000 Device Utilisation Days		NI Rolling Average Infection Rate Per 1000 Device Utilisation Days
	Altnagelvin	SWAH	Altnagelvin	SWAH	
Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia	11/10/2018	21/09/2016	0.00	0.00	0.56
Catheter-Associated Urinary Tract Infection	Zero to date	23/07/2011	0.00	0.00	0.11
Central Line Associated Blood Stream Infection	Zero to date	11/03/2012	0.00	0.00	0.83