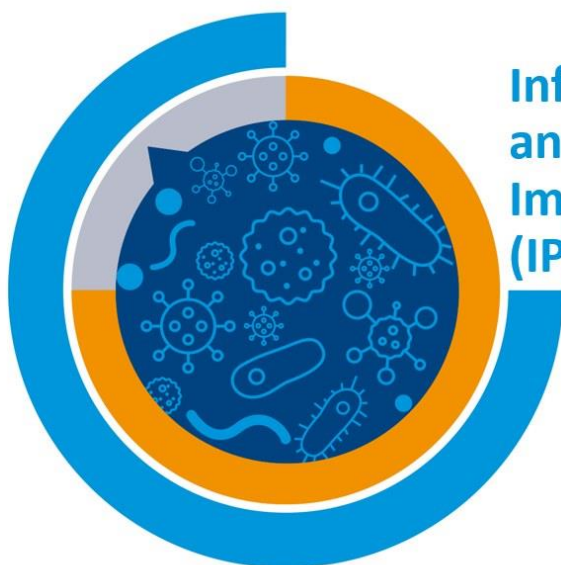




**Infection Prevention
and Control Quality
Improvement Network
(IPCQIN)**



IPCQIN Newsletter

October 2025

Our Vision:

As an Improvement Network, we influence and support our staff, patients and carers to continuously improve person-centred infection prevention and control practices, ensuring a safe and effective care experience

Welcome to our October 2025, 12th Issue Newsletter!

We're delighted to bring you the October 2025 edition of our newsletter!

This issue is packed with updates, achievements, and opportunities to get involved. Whether you're leading a workstream, supporting a sector group, or simply passionate about quality improvement, there's something here for everyone.

As we move into Winter, the teams continue to prioritise improvement work across all Sectors and contribute to the actions of the IPCQIN workplan.

In this newsletter:

- *Workstream and Sector updates*
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- *New Agenda Items*
 - *Spotlight - IPC Collaborative Conversations*
 - *IPCQIN Workstream Contacts*
 - *Next Steps*
-

Workstream Updates:



Patient Experience:

- We're excited to share that a patient has been identified for a SAB patient story, real voices, real impact!
- Staff questionnaires on Patient Information Leaflet QR codes are in the works, and IPC Toolbox Talks are getting a refresh.
- Next steps: Meet with our patient, launch a new data collection form, and review how we communicate.

Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs):

- Data collection and pilot testing of our non-inpatient audit tool are complete, thank you to everyone involved!
- Next up: Sharing the report, piloting the tool in outpatient settings, and spreading the word through newsletters and bulletins.

Sector Highlights:



North Sector: Outbreak escalation, hand hygiene, and PPE are top priorities. The outbreak hub is up and running, and learning is shared at every SAB meeting.

South Sector: The CAUTI group is making strides, with August cases below target. SABs are decreasing, and SCNs are gaining valuable quality improvement experience.

Clyde Sector: Peer audits, education, and weekly ward visits are driving improvements. PVC Care & Maintenance posters are rolling out, and toolbox talks are supporting staff.

Regional Services: SAB targets were met, and a patient education video is on the way.

New Agenda Items:



Cleaning Near Patient Equipment: Staff feedback has shaped a new action plan, thank you for your insights!

Patient Placement: Analysis of GI symptom isolation patterns is underway, and a new working group is forming. Interested in joining? Get in touch with Kara Black
kara.black2@nhs.scot

CAUTI SLWG: New monitoring tools and leads are in place, with a focus on surveillance, education, and shared learning.

Mental Health IPC Support Group: Uniform and dress code audits are ongoing, with action plans to support staff and uphold infection prevention standards.

Newsletter Spotlight - IPC Collaborative Conversations



Listening, Learning, Improving: Staff Voices Shape Safer Care

At the heart of our IPCQIN is a commitment to listening to staff and acting on their insights. This autumn, a series of IPC Collaborative Conversations was launched across NHSGGC, inviting staff from all sectors to share their experiences and ideas around cleaning near-patient equipment, a vital part of reducing healthcare-associated infections.

What We Heard

Staff spoke candidly about the daily realities of keeping equipment clean. Challenges ranged from high workloads and staff shortages to older equipment that's difficult to clean, and

uncertainty about which products to use. Many highlighted the importance of cleaning for patient safety, infection prevention, and helping patients return home sooner. There was a clear sense that cleaning is everyone's responsibility, but practical barriers sometimes get in the way.

Ideas for Change

The conversations sparked a wealth of practical suggestions:

- Expanding housekeeper roles and providing cleaning checklists.
- Making cleaning equipment and wipes more accessible.
- Using visual reminders and demonstrations to reinforce best practice.
- Simplifying guidance and ensuring information is easy to find, especially in busy environments.
- Exploring innovative cleaning methods, such as UV machines and HVAC cleaning for playrooms.

Staff also emphasised the need for clear, concise information and regular updates, with visual aids to support learning and consistency.

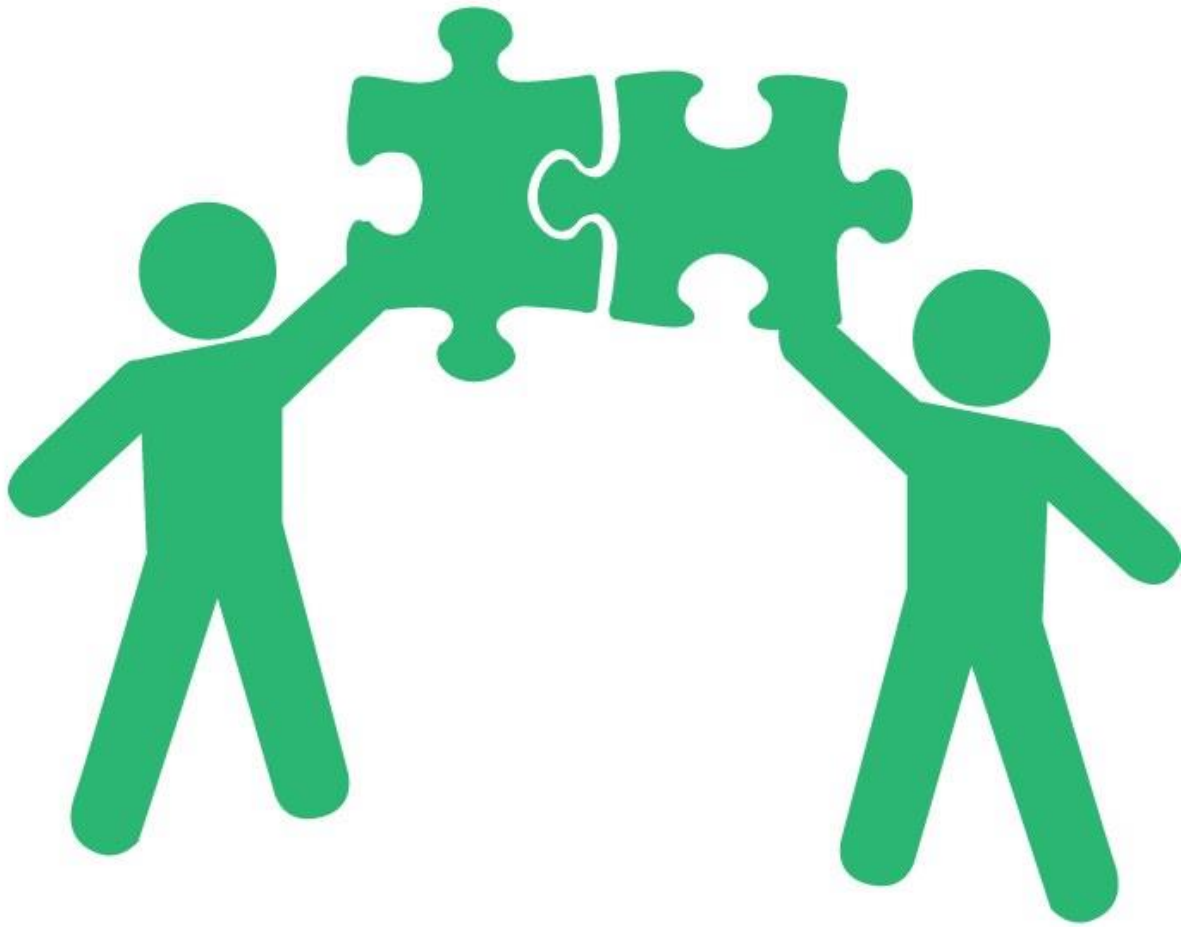
Turning Feedback into Action

We're already acting on these ideas. Quick wins like posters and checklists are being rolled out in clinical areas and playrooms. Work is underway to review and simplify cleaning guidance, making it easier for staff to access what they need, when they need it. We're also looking at equipment audits and piloting new cleaning technologies to tackle hard-to-clean items.

Thank you for sharing your experiences. Your feedback is driving real change.

Together, we're making infection prevention everyone's business.

IPCQIN Workstream Contacts:



If you would like to get involved in any of the workstreams for the IPCQIN, please get in touch with the following contacts:

North - Ashleigh Irons ashleigh.iron@nhs.scot

South - Sara Quinn Sara.Quinn@gqc.scot.nhs.uk

Clyde - Jamie Clark jamie.clark@nhs.scot

Regional - Lynsey Creighton lynsay.creighton@nhs.scot

Patient-Centred Care - Lynn Pritchard Lynn.Pritchard@gqc.scot.nhs.uk

SICPs - Lynn Pritchard Lynn.Pritchard@gqc.scot.nhs.uk

IPCQIN Next Steps



- The next IPCQIN meeting is scheduled for the 18th December 2025.
- The work plan is evolving to reflect our ambitions for 2025/26. Your input is vital, let's make sure our objectives and actions truly support our teams and patients.
- We're shining a spotlight on different workstreams at each meeting. If you'd like your team's work featured, let us know!
- Two new workstreams have joined the agenda: Patient Placement and Cleaning Near Patient Equipment.
- Flash reports from Children's Services and Maternity Services are now part of our regular updates.

- We're continuing to promote Vascular Access Device education and Quality Improvement Training, check out the new e-learning modules and training videos.

For any queries/suggestions or if you would like to become a member of any of the work-stream groups mentioned above, please contact Kara Black, Infection Prevention and Control Business Manager on Kara.Black@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

