

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



IPCQIN Festive Newsletter December 2025 🎄 🧑🏻

Welcome to our Festive 2025, 13th Issue Newsletter! 🧑🏻 ❄️

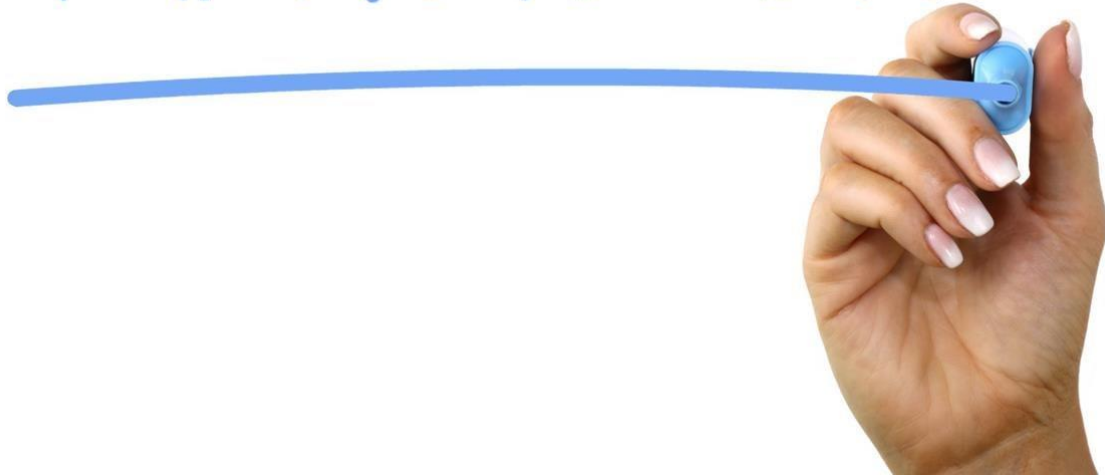
As we approach the festive season, we would like to thank all staff for your dedication to providing safe, person-centred care. This special edition highlights practical improvements, new resources, and ways to get involved, helping us keep patients and colleagues safe over Winter.

In this newsletter:

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- *Workstream and Sector updates*
 - *Spotlights - Vascular Access Device (VAD) Education and Competency framework, Posiflush System Implementation.*
 - *IPCQIN Workstream Contacts*
 - *Next Steps for 2026*
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Workstream Updates:

IMPROVEMENT



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 scheduled for filming in January,
- Posters will be reissued in January to promote information, via Social Media and the Core Brief.

Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs):

- The Audit reports will be circulated in January after validation.
- The outpatient audit tool has been streamlined by adapting the existing tool rather than creating a new one. The pilot for this has been planned for early 2026.
- Discussions are underway regarding a Hand Hygiene Short Life Working Group to explore innovative technologies and link with the previous work done for Collaborative Conversations.

Cleaning Near Patient Equipment:

- A short life working group will be established in the New Year, further updates will be provided in the next Newsletter.

Mental Health IPC Support Group:

- Uniform audit and hand hygiene QI project still on work plan; data gathering ongoing.
- HI readiness audit tool review scheduled for early 2026.

CAUTI Group:

- Board-wide group established to standardise catheter care across Acute and Community settings.
- Focus areas: transition of care, education consistency, and data collection. Catheter passport identified as key tool.

Sector Highlights:



North Sector: SAB rates stable but ECBs rising; live reviews of care plans underway. Phase two of PVC audit tool progressing.

South Sector: SAB and E. coli rates improving; PVC audit feedback positive, full review scheduled for January.

Clyde Sector: SAB cases slightly decreased, focus on PVC-related infections and quality improvement at ED front door

Regional Services: Work ongoing regarding line usage in renal and oncology, video resource on vascular access care in development.

Newsletter Spotlight - Vascular Access Device (VAD) Education and Competency Framework



Vascular Access Device (VAD) Education & Champions

The NHSGGC VAD Education and Competency Framework launched in 2024, introducing VAD Champions and standardising training for Acute Services and Primary Care. All practitioners caring for VADs should complete the core module, plus any relevant specialist modules. Demonstration videos are available for key procedures.

Find out more: [Care and Maintenance of Vascular Access Devices \(VADs\)](#)

Contact: ggc.practicedevelopment.enquiries@nhs.scot

Newsletter Spotlight - Posiflush System Implementation



What's changing?

We are moving away from the traditional method of using saline ampoules, needles, and syringes for flushing IV devices. Posiflush syringes are **sterile, pre-filled, and classified as a medical device**, offering significant benefits:

- **Improved Safety:** Reduces sharps risk and supports ANTT (Aseptic Non-Touch Technique).
- **Efficiency:** Saves preparation time for clinical staff.
- **Sustainability:** Less plastic waste compared to ampoules and syringes.
- **Cost-Effective:** Recent pricing changes make Posiflush a viable option for board-wide use.

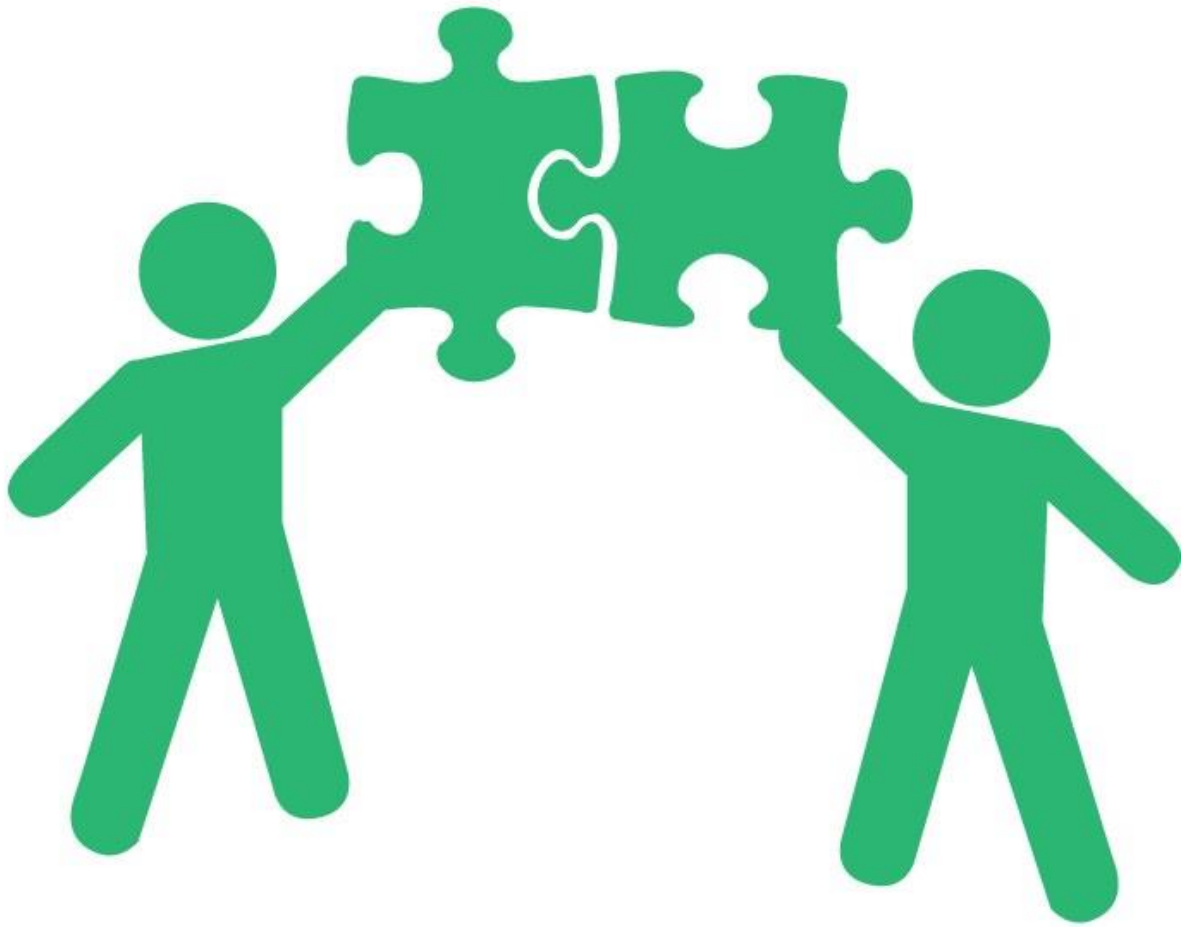
Governance:

The proposal has been endorsed by the **Chief Nurses Group** and the **ADTC Safer Use of Medicines Group**, with IPCQIN providing final sign-off.

Next Steps:

Implementation will now progress across all relevant areas. Further guidance and training materials will follow shortly.

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@ggc.scot.nhs.uk

Clyde - Jamie Clark jamie.clark@nhs.scot

Regional - Lynsay Creighton lynsay.creighton@nhs.scot

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

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

Looking Ahead to 2026



- The next IPCQIN meeting will be arranged for February 2026.
- We're shining a spotlight on different workstreams at each meeting. If you'd like your team's work featured, let us know!
- **Renewed Terms of Reference (ToR):** The IPCQIN ToR and membership are being revised to encourage wider participation and ensure all sectors are represented.
- **Communications Plan:** A refreshed communications plan will be launched, with regular updates and opportunities for feedback.
- **Workplan Refresh:** The IPCQIN Workplan is under review, with new priorities and actions to be agreed for 2026. All members are invited to contribute ideas and feedback.

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

Wishing everyone a safe, healthy, and happy festive season from the Infection Prevention and Control Quality Improvement

Network! 🦌 📺 🎀 ✨



Thank you for your continued commitment to infection prevention and control.