

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

# IPCQIN Newsletter - May 2026

### **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 the May 2026 IPCQIN Newsletter – Issue 15!**




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*The IPCQIN continues to meet every two months, with steady progress being made across all workstreams. Our most recent meeting took place on 9th April 2026, and teams remain focussed on delivering the actions within the IPCQIN Workplan to support ongoing improvement efforts.*

*Each newsletter continues to feature a **spotlight on a different workstream**, helping to share good practice and shine a light on the fantastic work happening across NHSGGC.*

### **In this issue**

- 
-  **Workstream & Sector Updates**
  -  **Spotlight: Hand Hygiene**

-  *Spotlight: North Outbreak Poster Hubs*
  -  *IPCQIN Workstream Contacts*
  -  *Next Steps*
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## Workstream Updates



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### *Patient Experience*

*Lynn, our IPC Nurse Consultant is continuing to review recent SAB cases to identify a suitable patient story to share, helping to bring the patient voice into improvement work.*

*Filming of new IPC Toolbox Talk videos with Medical Illustrations is scheduled for end of April.*

*We're also working with the Patient Experience and Public Involvement Team to develop a staff questionnaire aligned to 'What Matters to You' <sup>1</sup>to understand awareness and use of the patient information leaflet (PIL) and QR codes.*

### **Want to get involved?**

Contact **Lynn Pritchard**: [Lynn.Pritchard@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:Lynn.Pritchard@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)

### **Standard Infection Control Precautions (SICPs).**

*The SICPs workstream continues to focus on supporting meaningful quality improvement.*

*Going forward, SICPs Quality Improvement audits will be reviewed on a 6 monthly basis.*

*Educational resources to support staff undertaking SICPs audits remain in development.*

### **Get involved:**

Contact **Lynn Pritchard**: [Lynn.Pritchard@ggc.scot.nhs.uk](mailto:Lynn.Pritchard@ggc.scot.nhs.uk)

### **CAUTI Group**

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- *Work is ongoing to standardise the competency framework and catheter passport, alongside review and progression of urinary catheter guidance through a short-life working group.*

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.nhsggc.scot/hospitals-services/visiting-hospital/person-centred-health-and-care/what-matters-to-you-day/>

- *A central SharePoint site for all CAUTI resources is being developed to improve access to resources and shared learning.*
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 **More Information:**

Contact **Kat Stewart** (Katherine.Stewart7@nhs.scot) or **Donna Mitchell** (Donna.Mitchell10@nhs.scot).

*CAUTI Toolbox Talk - NHSGGC<sup>2</sup>*

 **Mental Health IPC Support Group**

*Work within Mental Health services continues to focus on uniform compliance and hand hygiene improvement.*

*Uniform audits and quality improvement activity are ongoing, with learning helping to shape future engagement and guidance. Updates on this work will be presented in the July newsletter.*

*A Uniform Policy poster is in development and will be shared across all wards for board-wide use.*

 **Get involved:**

Contact **Grant Scott** at Grant.Scott@nhs.scot.

 **Short Dwell Cannulas**

*A short-life working group has been established to explore digital recording of insertion and removal details for short-dwell PVCs in patients attending CT/MRI.*

*Work is underway to:*

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<sup>2</sup><https://www.nhsggc.scot/downloads/cauti-toolbox-talk/>

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- *Develop an imaging-wide SOP*
  - *Update the MDT care plan to include the PVC insertion bundle*
  - *Implement changes within CRIS*
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 **Get involved:**

Contact **Brittany Hill** [Brittany.Hill@nhs.scot](mailto:Brittany.Hill@nhs.scot)<sup>3</sup>

 **Cleaning Near Patient Equipment**

*A short-life working group will be set up in the coming months to take this work forward.*

*Further updates will be shared in the next Newsletter.*

 **Get involved:**

Contact **Brittany Hill** [Brittany.Hill@nhs.scot](mailto:Brittany.Hill@nhs.scot)<sup>4</sup>

 **Hand Hygiene**

*Hand hygiene performance across GGC remains strong, with compliance continuing to exceed **95%** overall.*

*Ongoing education remains important to address variation between clinical areas and to tackle challenges such as increased glove use.*

 **Get involved:**

Contact **Stefan Morton** [Stefan.Morton@nhs.scot](mailto:Stefan.Morton@nhs.scot)<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>3</sup><mailto:Brittany.Hill@nhs.scot>

<sup>4</sup><mailto:Brittany.Hill@nhs.scot>

# SECTOR UPDATES

## HPN Sector

- SAB group being re-established under new clinical leadership.
- VAD audit tool trials ongoing with variable engagement.
- Positive feedback from staff on the HIS readiness tool which was shared by North.
- Further 2 Chief Nurse walk rounds completed, and action plans are in progress for these areas.
- Hand hygiene audits have improved.



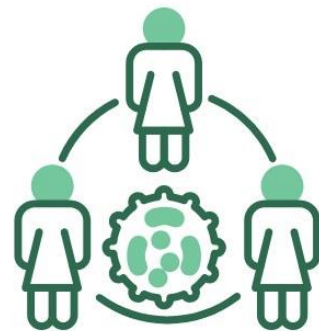
## Regional Sector

- On target for Q1 SABs with 7 across Jan and Feb.
- Focused work underway in relation to renal-related infections.
- Improved use of surveillance data and line-day analysis is supporting targeted improvement, alongside refreshed group membership and improved information sharing via SharePoint.



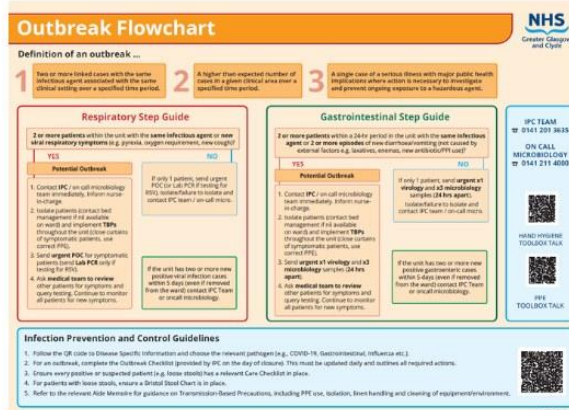
## Clyde Sector

- 5 device related SABs in February.
- Clyde SAB group re-established with plan for wards with SABs to attend and present findings for shared learning.
- Work continues to strengthen PVC care, hand hygiene and SICPs audit activity, with a focus on sustaining improvement through safety crosses, care planning and ongoing staff engagement.



# North Sector

- On target for SABs in February.
- Outbreak Poster Hubs – Phase 2 rollout commencing.
- Continued theme work focussed on Outbreak Escalation Process, cleaning of near patient equipment and terminal cleaning toolbox talks.
- Next steps include review of current VAD Device Champions in the North and action areas requiring further training needs.



**SCAN ME**

# South Sector

- Significant decrease in February SABs with 7.
- SAB-related improvement group broadened to a wider IPC focus.
- Improvement activity continues to focus on near-patient equipment cleaning, bed and mattress assurance, and strengthened education for staff, alongside close working with Estates and Facilities teams.
- Next steps include plans for enhanced education for SCNs and HCSWs.



## Spotlight: Hand Hygiene



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*World Hand Hygiene Day takes place on **5th May 2026**, with this years World Health Organisation message focussing on the critical role of effective hand hygiene in preventing avoidable harm.*

*The theme '**Action saves lives**' highlights the need to refresh and reinforce hand hygiene and wider IPC practices across all care settings.*

*As part of our work in the lead-up to World Hand Hygiene Day, Lynn, our IPC Nurse Consultant, recently visited a primary school to help promote good hand hygiene.*

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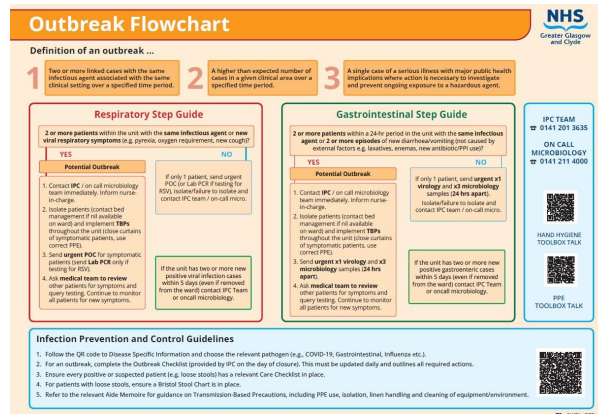
## Spotlight 2: North Outbreak Poster Hubs

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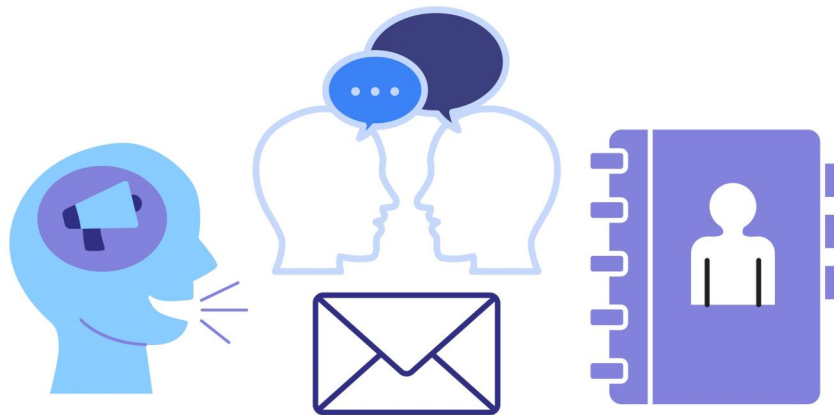
*The North Sector has successfully rolled out Phase 1 of the Outbreak Poster Hubs and is now moving into Phase 2 delivery.*

*Early feedback has been positive, with the hubs helping to improve visibility, awareness and consistency of outbreak management processes in priority areas.*

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## IPCQIN Workstream Contacts:



*We're always keen to hear your ideas and involve interested staff in our improvement work.*

*For any queries/suggestions, or if you would like to become a member of the IPCQIN please contact Brittany Hill, Business Manager -- Acute Deputy Nurse Director, at [Brittany.Hill@nhs.scot](mailto:Brittany.Hill@nhs.scot) (currently covering for Kara Black, Business Manager - Infection Control).*

*if you'd like to join any of the workstream groups mentioned in this newsletter, please contact those listed above or the IPCQIN sector leads below:*

 **North** - Erin Lees

 **South** - Sara Quinn

 **Clyde** - Jamie Clark

 **Regional** - Lynsay Creighton

 **W&C** - Mandy Meechan

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## **IPCQIN Next Steps for 2026**

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*We are always on the lookout for positive work or stories relating to Infection Prevention Control -- don't hesitate to get in touch.*

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

### **Ongoing focus on targeted Quality Improvement**

*We continue to prioritise targeted Quality Improvement activity, using data, audit findings and staff feedback to focus effort where it can make the greatest difference.*

### **Expansion of IPC Education and Communication Resources**

*IPC education and communication resources continue to expand, with the development of Toolbox Talk videos, patient education materials and refreshed guidance to support staff at the point of care. These resources aim to improve consistency, confidence and accessibility of IPC information across all services.*

### **Continued Delivery of the IPCQIN Workplan**

*Delivery of the IPCQIN Workplan remains on track, with actions progressing across workstreams aligned to agreed priorities. This work continues to support collaboration, shared learning and improvement across sectors and services.*

### **Upcoming Newsletter**

The **16th edition** of the IPCQIN Newsletter will be published in July. This edition will shine a spotlight on a selection of workstreams and key developments.

### **Next Meeting**

Our next IPCQIN meeting will take place on **11th June 2026**.

### **Spotlight Features**

We're highlighting different workstreams at each meeting. If you'd like your team's work showcased, please get in touch — we'd love to feature you!

### **Share Your Good News**

We're always keen to hear about positive work or uplifting stories related to Infection Prevention & Control. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you have something to share.

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