

***Clostridioides difficile* infection, *Escherichia coli* bacteraemia, *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia and Surgical Site Infection in Scotland**

January to March (Q1) 2020

An Official Statistics publication for Scotland

Publication date: 7 July 2020

About this release

This release by Health Protection Scotland provides data for common healthcare infections in Scotland. These are an important cause of severe illness, death, and higher treatment costs. The published data can be used to improve care of patients. *Clostridioides difficile* infection (CDI) can cause diarrhoeal illness, especially in vulnerable patients who have received antibiotics.

Escherichia coli bacteraemia (ECB) and *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia (SAB) are both life-threatening bloodstream infections. Surgical site infections (SSI) are bacterial infections of surgical operation sites which can have serious outcomes for patients.

Main Points

Total cases for January to March (Q1) 2020

- There were 247 CDI cases, of which 80.6% (199) were healthcare infections. In the previous quarter there were 294 cases.
- There were 1,052 ECB cases, of which 51.1% (538) were healthcare infections. In the previous quarter there were 1,194 cases.
- There were 390 SAB cases, of which 61.8% (241) were healthcare infections. In the previous quarter there were 365 SAB cases.
- Epidemiological data for SSI are not included for this quarter due to the pausing of surveillance to support the COVID-19 response.

NHS Boards requiring further analysis

- The number of community ECB cases in NHS Ayrshire & Arran was markedly higher than average. This needs to be looked at further.

NHS boards' position (above or below average) for each healthcare infection

	CDI		ECB		SAB	
	Healthcare Associated	Community Associated	Healthcare Associated	Community Associated	Healthcare Associated	Community Associated
AA	.	.	.	◆	.	.
BR
DG
FF
FV
GGC
GR
HG
LN
LO
NWTC
OR
SH
TY
WI

◆	Markedly higher than average infection rate
.	Average/below average infection rate

Background

The data used for this report is part of the mandatory surveillance in Scotland. HPS supports NHS boards to analyse their data. Local monitoring in hospital and community settings is required to reduce these infections.

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Further Information

Find out more in the [full report](#). The data from this publication is available to download [from our web page](#) along with a background information and metadata document. Please see [News and Updates section](#) of our website for more details.

For more information on types of infections included in this report, please see the [CDI](#), [ECB](#), [SAB](#) and [SSI](#) pages.

The next release of this publication will be October 2020.

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