

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

October to December (Q4) 2019

An Official Statistics publication for Scotland

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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 quarter October to December (Q4) 2019

- There were 294 CDI cases, of which 77.9% (229) were healthcare infections. In the previous quarter there were 279 cases.
- There were 1,194 ECB cases, of which 52.4% (626) were healthcare infections. In the previous quarter there were 1,214 cases.
- There were 365 SAB cases, of which 63.8% (233) were healthcare infections. In the previous quarter there were 366 SAB cases.
- Of 4,112 caesarean section procedures, 0.9% (35) resulted in SSIs, compared to 1.2% (51) in the previous quarter.
- Of 2,145 hip arthroplasty procedures, 0.8% (17) resulted in SSIs, compared to 0.8% (17) in the previous quarter.

NHS Boards requiring further analysis

- The number of healthcare ECB cases in NHS Fife was markedly higher than average. This needs to be looked at further.
- The number of community ECB cases in NHS Forth Valley was markedly higher than average. This needs to be looked at further.
- The number of healthcare SAB cases in NHS Tayside was markedly higher than average. This needs to be looked at further.

Table 1: NHS boards' position (above or below average) for each healthcare infection

	CDI		ECB		SAB		SSI	
	Healthcare Associated	Community Associated	Healthcare Associated	Community Associated	Healthcare Associated	Community Associated	Caesarean Section	Hip Arthroplasty
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 July 2020.



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