

# Health Protection Highlight Report

June 2023

Update for:	Health and Wellbeing Board	Period Covered	April-June 2023
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Work area	Priority objectives	Progress this period	Planned activities for next period
Outbreak support	Manage outbreaks of communicable disease.	<p>Ongoing support provided to care homes, schools and other settings to manage COVID 19 and other non-covid infections such as scabies and norovirus</p> <p><b>Support to three care homes to manage outbreaks of invasive Group A Streptococcal infection/Group A Streptococcal Infection.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1 care home no longer in outbreak</li> <li>• <b>Outbreak control meetings chaired by UKHSA – review of epidemiology, microbiology and environment. Risk assessments conducted. Control measures including IPC recommended. Further investigations including swabbing and treatment.</b></li> <li>• <b>Training sessions delivered to support care homes. Topics are - Hand Hygiene and Moments of Care, Mask Wearing and PPE, Decontamination and Cleaning, Working in a team during an outbreak. Six sessions delivered so far.</b></li> <li>• <b>Support visits to care homes affected. Six visits March-May 2023.</b></li> <li>• <b>Announced and unannounced IPC visits to affected homes.</b></li> <li>• <b>High level of reactive outbreak management work currently for health protection team.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Change in GAS epidemiology means increased burden on the system and higher risk in high-risk settings. Discussion and future planning taken place at recent HP subgroup of Health and Wellbeing Board.</b></p>	<p>Continue to work with UK Health Security Agency to monitor risks and respond to outbreaks</p> <p><b>Continue to deliver training sessions to support homes with GAS/IGAS outbreaks. Additional dates to be arranged</b></p> <p><b>Further support visits to be arranged</b></p>
Infection prevention & control in high- risk settings	Maintain and progress with an audit programme of high -risk settings GP Practices and Care Homes and Early Years settings	<b>Audit programme of high -risk settings to continue. No progress this quarter due to unprecedented volume of outbreak response activities</b>	<b>Dates and plans to be arranged as part of a wider look at Health Protection capacity.</b>

<p>Healthcare Acquired Infections (HCAI) &amp; Anti-microbial resistance (AMR)</p>	<p>Provide support to prevent and reduce risks associated with HCAI and AMR</p>	<p>Along with the audit programme the Health Protection Team deliver a Certificate of Excellence training programme. The programme is for Care Home, Care at Home Staff and GP Practices and is delivered to reduce infections in our high-risk care environments, and includes the following  Care Home staff - gastrointestinal illness (including outbreak management)  GP practices - Back to Basics IPC including IPC audit  Care Home staff - Oral Hygiene and respiratory illness including aspiration pneumonia  GP Practices - HCAIs, AMR, Respiratory Illness/Vaccines, Sepsis  Future training:</p> <p><b>Monthly facilitation of the HCAI Review meetings with the ICS, reviewing clostridium difficile cases or bacteraemia's in line with National Guidance. Identifying avoidable and unavoidable cases and providing feedback to prescribers</b></p> <p><b>Certificate of Excellence Training for Adult Social Care delivered.</b></p>	<p>Implementation of catheter care pack for Nursing staff to support reduction in CAUTI and related issues – following the Certificate of Excellence Session for Care Homes</p> <p><b>Continuation of the HCAI review meetings</b></p>
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