

Final Topline - 26.9.2003
The Management and Control of Hospital
Acquired Infection
Part 1 – Chief Executives

- 154 postal questionnaires returned from 176 Acute NHS Trusts
- Fieldwork carried out between 7 July and 9 September
- Where figures do not add up to 100%, this is due to computer rounding or multiple responses
- Base: All, unless otherwise stated
- Where base is less than 30, numbers (N) are used rather than percentages (%)
- Blank questions are not to be coded

This part of the questionnaire should be completed by the NHS Trust Chief Executive in collaboration with the Board Director who has the lead for Infection Control. There may also be a need to consult the Trust Claims Manager/Business Manager.

Part **1**

At times, this questionnaire includes filters to ensure that you only answer questions of relevance to you. Please take care to read all instructions carefully.

Trust Board's Role in Infection Control

Q1. Does your organisation have clearly defined lines of accountability for infection control leading to the Board?

Please tick one box only

	%
Yes	99
No	0
Blank	1

Q2a. Are you, or a nominated Trust Board executive representative with lead responsibility for the management and control of infection, a member of the Trust's Infection Control Committee?

Please tick one box only

	%
Yes	90
No	10
Blank	1

Q2b. If a Trust Board Member represents on the Committee other than yourself, please state their full title below:-

Base: All where Trust Board Member other than the Chief Executive represents on the Committee (127)

	%
Director of Nursing/Chief Nurse	56
Medical Director/Associate Director	25
Director of Clinical Services/Operations	17
Other director	6
Infection Control Team	1
Other	3

Q3. In the last 3 years, approximately what proportion of the Trust's Infection Control Committee Meetings have you or the designated Trust Board Member attended?
Please tick one box only

	%
More than 75%	49
50 to 74%	24
25% to 49%	13
Less than 25%	8
None	4
Blank	2

Q4a. Does the Trust have an agreed and documented plan setting out priorities for action to improve the management and control of infection?
Please tick one box only

	%
Yes	86
No	12
Blank	1

Q4b. If 'yes', who is responsible for approving this Action Plan?

Base: All with an Action Plan to improve the management and control of infection (133)

	%
Infection Control Team	27
Clinical Services/Governance/Risk Committee	24
Trust Board	18
Director of Nursing/Chief Nurse	17
Chief Executive	12
Medical Director/Associate Director	9
Other Director	2
Other	6
Blank	6

Q5. Has the Trust produced an annual report on progress in the management and control of infection?

Please tick one box only

	%
Yes	92
No	7
Blank	1

Q6a. Is the management and control of infection one of the Trust's key corporate objectives?

Please tick one box only

	%
Yes	78
No	19
Blank	3

Q6b. If no, please provide brief details in support of your answer:

Q7a. Does the Chief Executive / Board member with responsibility for the management and control of infection approve the Trust's infection control programme?

Please tick one box only

	%
Yes	87
No	12
Blank	1

Q7b. If 'no', then who approves it?

Base: All where Chief Executive or Board member does not approve the Trust's infection programme (19)

	N
Trust Board	9
Infection Control Team	6
Clinical Services/Governance/Risk committee	5
Other director	1
Medical Director/Associate Director	0
Director of Nursing/Chief nurse	0
Other	2
Blank	

Q8. Does the Chief Executive/Board member with responsibility for the management and control of infection receive regular activity reports/ information produced by the Infection Control Team on the following?

Please tick one box for each

	Yes (%)
a. Minutes of the Infection Control Committee meetings	99
b. Amount (£) spent on hospital acquired infection	17
c. Details of outbreaks within the Trust	99
d. Data on rates of hospital acquired infection	88
e. Annual report of the Infection Control Team	97

Q9a. Has your Trust set performance targets related to infection control?

Please tick one box only

	%
Yes	47
No	51
Blank	1

Q9b. If 'yes', please give brief details:

Changes to the Management and Control of Infection

Q10. Has your Trust required any changes to be made to the infection control arrangements since March 2000?

Please tick one box only

	%
Yes	82
No	16
Blank	1

IF 'NO' TO Q10, GO TO Q13a

Q11. If yes, which, if any, of the following were the main influences for these changes?

(please rank your top 3 influences, i.e. 1 being the most important):

Base: All requiring changes to be made to the infection control arrangements (127)

	Rank 1 st (%)	Rank 2 nd (%)	Rank 3 rd (%)
a. Controls Assurance Standards for Infection Control (HS 2000/02)	47	32	9
b. National Audit Office report on the management and control of HAI in acute NHS Trusts	9	17	18
c. Commission for Health Improvement inspection	5	7	17
d. National Standards of Cleanliness	2	5	11
e. Clinical Negligence Scheme for Trusts	11	31	14
f. Publication of national MRSA bacteraemia rate	8	6	10
g. Other, please state:	16	4	6

Q12. Please state the three main changes to the infection control arrangements that you required the Trust to make (continued overleaf):-

1.

2.

3.

ALL TO ANSWER Q13a

Q13a. In light of the Chief Medical Officer's announcement on 9 June 2003 to 'step up the fight on hospital infections,' are you making any changes to the setting of performance targets for infection control as a result of this announcement?

Please tick one box only

	%
Yes	48
No	48
Blank	4

Q13b. Please give reasons for your response to Q13a

Q14. Have you approved any real-term changes (i.e. not including any inflationary increases) to the following resources allocated for infection control?

Please tick one box for each

	Yes (%)
a. Financial resources	45
b. Staffing resources	64

Q14c. If 'yes' to either of above, briefly describe the reason for the change.

Q15. How many times in each of the last 3 years have you authorised or been made aware of the closure of a ward due to an infection control problem?

Please write in numbers

Base: All supplying data – (a) 81; (b) 93; (c) 97

	Mean Number
a. 2000-01	3.6
b. 2001-02	5.0
c. 2002-03	9.4

Q15d. Please describe briefly

Q16. In the event of a major outbreak of infection in any part of the Trust (i.e. where the seriousness of the disease/number of cases are likely to disrupt clinical services), who usually takes managerial responsibility for the actions necessary to control and manage the situation?

Please tick one box only

	%
The Infection Control Doctor	50
The Chief Executive/nominee for Infection Control from the Board	38
The Operations Manager	12
The Clinical Director(s) of the unit(s) affected	6
Other, please job title	8

Q17. Has the Trust Management Board experienced any difficulties in reconciling the management of hospital acquired infection with the fulfilment of the following Government targets for Trusts?

Please tick one box for each

	Yes (%)
a. Waiting times for inpatient treatment	45
b. Trolley waits in Accident & Emergency departments	34
c. Other (please specify)	10

Q18a. Is it possible for the Trust to separately identify negligence claims against the Trust/individual clinicians due to hospital acquired infection, or not?

Please tick one box only

	%
Yes	68
No	31
Blank	1

IF 'NO' TO Q18a, GO TO Q19

Q18b. Has your Trust settled any such claims in the last three years?

Please tick one box only

Base: All where Trust can separately identify negligence claims (105)

	%
Yes	15
No	82
Blank	3

If 'yes', please supply details below:-

For no. of claims please write in numbers using leading zeros – eg '8' should be written: =

For value of payments write in number

Base: all supplying details (9)

Year	Mean no. of claims	Estimated Average Value of Payments Made
2000-01 - ^{c.}	1.1	^{f.} TOO FEW RESPONSES TO INCLUDE
2001-02 - ^{d.}	0.8	^{g.} TOO FEW RESPONSES TO INCLUDE
2002-03 - ^{e.}	1.1	^{h.} TOO FEW RESPONSES TO INCLUDE

Contracts with Primary Care Trust(s):

ALL TO ANSWER Q19

Q19. Please give details on your service level agreements with Primary Care Trusts as follows:-

Please write in numbers using leading zeros – eg ‘8’ should be written:

Base: All supplying details - (a) 141; (b) 140

a. Mean Number of service level agreements with Trusts: 16.3

b. Mean Number of service level agreements that specify expectations in relation to the provision of Infection Control Services within the Trust: 1.2

Q20. Please state the number of service level agreements with Primary Care Trusts that include the following requirements:

Please write in numbers using leading zeros – eg ‘8’ should be written:

Base: All supplying details (141)

a. Mean number: Undertake any surveillance of hospital acquired infection: 0.9

b. Mean number: Supply infection rates to the Primary Care Trust
(may be in specific, targeted areas): 0.3

c. Mean number: Ensure there is an agreed annual programme of education and training on infection control for all Trust staff working in/on patient care/equipment: 1.0

Q20d If there are any other specifications within your service level agreements, please provide brief details

Q21a. Has the introduction of Strategic Health Authorities affected the management and control of hospital acquired infection in your Trust?

Please tick one box only

	%
Yes	14
No	85

Blank	1
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Q21b. Please give brief details of your answer to Q21a:

Q22. What recommendations, if any, would you like to see included in this follow-up report that you believe would assist your Trust in the management and control of hospital acquired infection? (Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary).

Thank you for completing this questionnaire. Please ensure that you have included a diagram of accountability (as indicated at Q1), a copy of the Action Plan for the management and control of infection (Q4); and the 2002/03 report on progress (Q5).

Name of the person completing this questionnaire if you are not the Chief Executive of the Trust

Please print _____

Title _____

Contact telephone number _____

Email address _____