

Tuesday 26 September 2023

## **Empirical Antimicrobial Guidance - Adults in the Acute Sector (excluding AMH and RACH)**

The way to access empirical antimicrobial guidance for adults in the acute sector is changing. The posters which have been available in wards and departments **should now be removed**; instead, you can [access the empirical guidance via this link](#). The Antimicrobial Companion app is also available for download to mobile devices. Further information [on access to the app is available on the intranet](#) or you can follow the instructions attached to the email used to send out this brief.

Treatment recommendations for ***Clostridioides difficile*** (previously known as *Clostridium difficile*) infection (CDI) in hospital for adults are changing. These changes are based on national guidance published by the Scottish Antimicrobial Prescribing Group. Recommendations for second-line treatment, life-threatening CDI, and recurrent CDI have also been updated. Clinical staff should ensure they are up to date with these changes: [Clostridioides Difficile Infection \(CDI\) \(antimicrobialcompanion.scot\)](#)

**SAS Outpatient Patient Needs Assessment (PNA)** The Scottish Ambulance Service (SAS) has in place an Inter Hospital Outpatient PNA which is used to process requests for Inter Hospital Outpatient appointments. These requests are booked by or on behalf of a health care professional for the patient.

To ensure SAS is providing a service for patients with a mobility or clinical condition that requires the support of either specially adapted equipment or a trained Ambulance Crew, they have refined and expanded the Patient Needs Assessment. SAS will also now ask a series of refined questions to help determine needs and ensure they can offer the right support to patients. This is for wards, discharge lounges and bed flow coordinators, or any department who requests ambulance transport.

**Physical activity survey** The Sports Committee, along with the We Care team and interested colleagues, are currently exploring levels of physical activity engagement within NHS Grampian's workforce. As part of this, we are asking you to complete a short, anonymous, survey looking at barriers to fitness, and the type of activities you are interested in. The results will help inform and guide not only the sports committee but many other projects. [You can complete the survey by clicking this link](#), or by scanning the QR code below if you are reading a printed copy of the brief:



**Living Donation education event** This event, taking place next Tuesday (3 October) at 5.30pm in the Suttie Centre, is open to anyone interested in learning more about living kidney donation. Renal consultants, transplant nurses, and both donors and recipients will be there to share their knowledge. You must register to attend by this Friday (29 September) by emailing [gram.livedonation@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.livedonation@nhs.scot)

**Introduction to Good Clinical Practice (GCP) course** This will take place next Tuesday (3 October), 9.30am - 4pm, at the Suttie Centre. Please email [gram.randdtraining@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.randdtraining@nhs.scot) for further information or to book your space.

**ECCI retirement** ECCI is due to retire as of Monday 16 October. ECCI has been replaced with Dragon which is currently in the final phase of roll out. Any remaining areas still using ECCI must ensure all draft letters are signed and completed by close of play on **Friday 13 October**.

**Donning & doffing refreshers** The Infection Prevention & Control team offer regular refreshers on the correct way to don and doff PPE. Upcoming dates as follows, all sessions start at 11am and are delivered on Teams:

- Tuesday 11 October
- Wednesday 8 November
- Tuesday 12 December

Simply email [gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.ipc-donn-doff-training@nhs.scot) to book your place.

**ICON Week** ICON is a programme adopted by health and social care organisations in the UK to provide information about infant crying, including how to cope, support parents/carers, and reduce stress. NHS Tayside have piloted and rolled out the use of ICON resources; the rest of Scotland will follow soon. The ICON website is a valuable resource for supporting families facing the often-challenging experience of new parenthood. When babies cry it can be stressful and overwhelming. Help is out there.

- I** - Infant crying is normal.
- C** - Comforting methods can help.
- O** - It's ok to walk away.
- N** - Never ever shake a baby.

The third annual ICON week (running until 29 September 2023) is here to raise awareness of infant crying and how to cope, to support parents/carers, and prevent serious injury, illness and even death of young babies because of Abusive Head Trauma that happens when someone shakes a baby. This year's ICON Week is focussing on sharing ideas and best practices. Many webinars are taking place throughout the week and are open to everyone. For more information and joining instructions, please view the programme on the website [ICON Week 2023 - ICON Cope](#)

**Pause for thought** Kindness is shown in many ways. What kindness has been shown to you, and how have you shown kindness to others?

**Tune of the day** There's been a chill in the air for at least a week now, but it became official on Saturday – we're in Autumn (or Fall, if you prefer). I'm here for the chunky knits, but you can keep the pumpkin spice lattes. Instead, I offer [Donna Summer and Autumn Changes](#) (EP)

If you want to request a tune, follow up on items included in this brief, or suggest an item for sharing, drop us an email via [gram.communications@nhs.scot](mailto:gram.communications@nhs.scot)