

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

April to June (Q2) 2021

An Official Statistics publication for Scotland

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About this release

This release by Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infection (ARHAI) 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 April to June (Q2) 2021

- There were 277 CDI cases, of which 73.3% (203) were healthcare infections. In the previous quarter there were 262 cases.
- There were 1,103 ECB cases, of which 48.2% (532) were healthcare infections. In the previous quarter there were 961 cases.
- There were 408 SAB cases, of which 63.7% (260) were healthcare infections. In the previous quarter there were 388 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 CDI cases in NHS Dumfries and Galloway was markedly higher than the average within Scotland in 2021 Q2. This needs to be looked at further as per the exception reporting process.
- The number of community SAB cases in NHS Dumfries and Galloway was markedly higher than the average within Scotland in 2021 Q2. This needs to be looked at further as per the exception reporting process.

The table shows NHS boards' rates for each healthcare and community infection in 2021 Q2. NHS Dumfries and Galloway had a markedly higher than average rate of community associated CDI and community associated SAB.

Table: Quarterly rates for healthcare infections per 100,000 total occupied bed days and community infections per 100,000 population, 1 April to 30 June 2021.

NHS Board	Healthcare CDI	Healthcare ECB	Healthcare SAB	Community CDI	Community ECB	Community SAB
Ayrshire and Arran	20.6	48.9	17.6	7.6	55.6	8.7
Borders	6.8	64.2	20.3	3.5	34.8	10.4
Dumfries and Galloway	14.9	37.3	24.9	24.3 +	67.6	29.8 +
Fife	10.0	37.6	6.3	4.3	32.2	8.6
Forth Valley	10.3	46.9	16.1	2.6	31.5	6.6
Golden Jubilee	0.0	8.1	40.5	-	-	-
Grampian	9.6	36.8	19.3	2.1	41.8	13.0
Greater Glasgow and Clyde	16.6	37.8	21.7	5.8	42.3	6.8
Highland	24.6	30.7	15.4	7.5	40.0	11.3
Lanarkshire	17.7	33.2	19.2	4.2	46.7	12.1
Lothian	12.9	34.4	15.5	5.7	33.4	11.9
Orkney	0.0	68.1	0.0	17.9	71.6	0.0
Shetland	98.8	98.8	0.0	0.0	52.6	17.5
Tayside	9.5	40.8	22.8	3.9	43.3	16.4
Western Isles	0.0	16.6	16.6	0.0	121.1	0.0
Scotland	14.6	38.2	18.7	5.4	41.9	10.9

Key

+ Markedly higher than average infection rate

Background

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

Contact

Laura Imrie

Clinical Lead, ARHAI Scotland

0141 300 1922

nss.hpssshaip@nhs.scot

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 January 2022.