

# Scottish Urinary Tract Infection Network Newsletter

DECEMBER 2020

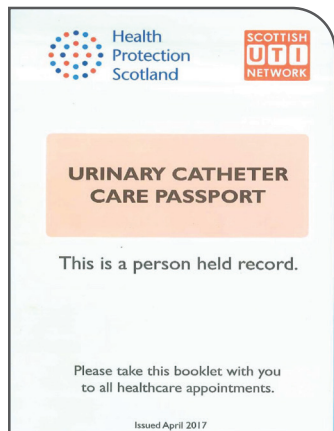


## SUTIN News

The Scottish UTI Network was set up in 2015, for the purpose of coordinating work across all settings to reduce UTI in Scotland. Today the reduction of UTI remains important across all settings with many improvement projects conducted within acute settings. However, going forward the SUTIN related activity within care homes and community settings will be incorporated within the Community Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infection (CARHAI) Health Protection Programme (see following article).

**This December 2020 newsletter is therefore the last that will be published by SUTIN.**

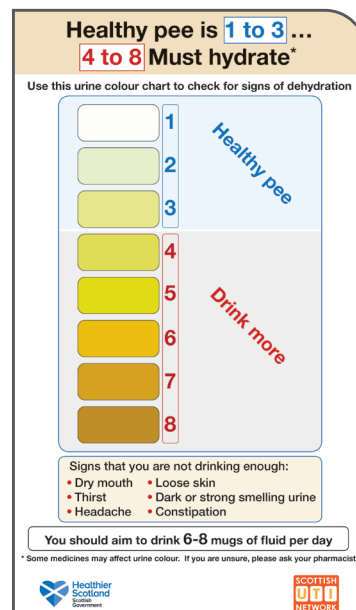
Reviewing the work of SUTIN much has been achieved since its inception due to collaboration and partnership working. Some highlights are listed below;



Development of the National Catheter Passport, with the following evaluation study

The Adult hydration campaign; stressing

the importance of hydration in reducing UTI and helping to prevent the development of E.coli bacteraemia. An evaluation of the campaign was carried out and results published in Nursing Older People. Reference - McNeish J, Mullings A (2020) Urinary tract infection prevention: evaluating Scotland's national hydration campaign. Nursing Older People. doi: 10.7748/nop.2020/e1243 h



## Kids campaign Think2drinkH2O

All the resources are available from the SUTIN [webpage](#)

Prior to the change that COVID-19 brought to all our lives, the SUTIN team worked with colleagues from Marketing Communications to publicise the Think2drinkH2O campaign in 2019. Partner organisations involved in development of the campaign were; the Care Inspectorate, Quarriers, NHS Health Scotland, NHS 24, the Scottish Antimicrobial Prescribing Group and the Scottish Government. Think2DrinkH2O highlighted the benefits of hydration for children and young people. This joint piece of work was awarded the NSS award for Collaboration.



In addition to printed material, the social media element of the campaign reached over 100,000 people via a variety of channels. The campaign has been the best performing social media campaign in NSS history.

An original [animated video](#), containing 'top tips' for encouraging children to stay hydrated, was produced. The social media campaign using the hashtag

#Think2DrinkH2O directed people to the [campaign webpage](#).

**The SUTIN team (past and present) thank all the board members for their tremendous contribution to all the work that has been undertaken to aid the reduction of UTI. The promotion of UTI reduction will continue under CARHAI with many board members also involved going forward. Especial thanks goes to our Senior Nurse Epidemiologist Jane McNeish who skilfully oversaw the delivery of the network, without Jane we would not have achieved the success we have. Thanks also to those who have taken on the added responsibility of chairing the SUTIN board; first Lesley Shepherd followed until recently by Jacqueline Thompson.**

# Community Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infection (CARHAI) Health Protection Programme

The CARHAI health protection programme was launched in 2019 by Health Protection Scotland (HPS) with the aim of delivering a co-ordinated approach across community health and care sectors to prevent infections; containing antimicrobial resistance (AMR); strengthening infection prevention and control practice (IPC) and improving staff IPC knowledge and understanding.

Providing easy access to national evidence based IPC resources has never been more important than during this time of the COVID-19 global pandemic. CARHAI has therefore produced [care home and community care IPC addendums to support COVID-19 national guidance](#). In addition, a context specific Infection Prevention and Control Manual for care home (IPCM CH) settings is currently being co-produced with national and local stakeholders. It is hoped that the IPCM CH will be published in February 2021.

(The context specific IPCM CH were also a previously agreed action following a short life working group (SLWG) held prior to the pandemic. This group was tasked with examining the [Healthcare Associated Infections in Long Term Care facilities \(HALT\) Report 2017](#) and the recommendations that arose from the report. The SLWG, included colleagues with a wide range of knowledge and experience in the care sector and IPC, such as care home staff, manager's representatives from Scottish care, the Care Inspectorate, HPS, and IPC specialists who support care homes and health protection teams.

These setting specific IPC resources also underpin The Scottish Government Health and Social Care Delivery Plan (Scottish Government 2016) by supporting better outcomes for people using health and social care services and by preventing people from experiencing ill health as a result of infection and therefore enabling people to enjoy better health and wellbeing.

CARHAI continues to work closely with Care Inspectorate inspectors, who inspect adult care homes, to develop a tool supporting them to recognise good IPC practice within care homes and highlight possible areas for improvement. We have also recently contributed to the CI 'Building Better Care Homes' programme. Additionally, we work closely with National Education Scotland (NES) providing training for care home staff, and developing IPC training sessions for care home inspectors.

Following a number of requests NES have produced a helpful pocket sized guide for collecting a urine sample when it is necessary to test for a urinary tract infection. Ensuring this sample collected in a clean way means the sample is not contaminated with bacteria from the skin, which may lead to inappropriate prescribing of antibiotics. By working together in Partnership, by not using urine dipsticks in the over 65's to diagnose a urinary tract infection, following the guidance for the collection of a urine sample when a person is symptomatic and using antimicrobial stewardship we can improve outcomes for people in our care.

[https://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/media/4384544/msu\\_pocket\\_guide.pdf](https://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/media/4384544/msu_pocket_guide.pdf)



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Find out more at [www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/a-to-z-of-topics/scottish-urinary-tract-infection-network/](http://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/a-to-z-of-topics/scottish-urinary-tract-infection-network/)

Contact SUTIN [NSS.HPSinfectioncontrol@nhs.scot](mailto:NSS.HPSinfectioncontrol@nhs.scot)