ARHAI Scotland

Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infection

NHS National Services Scotland

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

January to March 2023

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Contents

Introduction

Antimicrobial Resistance and Healthcare Associated Infection (ARHAI) Scotland provides a commentary on quarterly epidemiological data in Scotland for January to March (Q1) 2023 on the following:

- *Clostridioides difficile* infection
- *Escherichia coli* bacteraemia
- *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia
- Surgical Site Infection

Data are provided for the 14 NHS boards and one NHS Special Health Board.

Main Points

Clostridioides difficile infection (CDI) during January to March 2023

- The total number of CDI cases in patients reported to ARHAI was 269.
- 211 CDI cases were reported to ARHAI as healthcare associated. This corresponds to an incidence rate of 13.4 cases per 100,000 total occupied bed days (TOBDs).
- 58 CDI cases were reported as community associated. This corresponds to an incidence rate of 4.3 cases per 100,000 population.
- No NHS boards were above the 95% confidence interval upper limit for healthcare or community associated CDI in the funnel plot analysis.
- No NHS boards were above normal variation for healthcare or community associated CDI when analysing trends over the past three years.

Escherichia coli bacteraemia (ECB) during January to March 2023

- The total number of ECB cases in patients reported to ARHAI was 1,085.
- 585 ECB cases were reported to ARHAI as healthcare associated. This corresponds to an incidence rate of 37.3 cases per 100,000 TOBDs.
- 500 ECB cases were reported as community associated. This corresponds to an incidence rate of 37.0 cases per 100,000 population.
- NHS Forth Valley was above the 95% confidence interval upper limit for healthcare associated ECB in the funnel plot analysis.
- NHS Dumfries & Galloway and NHS Lanarkshire were above the 95% confidence interval upper limit for community associated ECB in the funnel plot analysis.
- No NHS boards were above normal variation for community or healthcare associated ECB when analysing trends over the past three years.

Staphylococcus aureus bacteraemia (SAB) during January to March 2023

- The total number of SAB cases in patients reported to ARHAI was 433.
- 300 SAB cases were reported to ARHAI as healthcare associated. This corresponds to an incidence rate of 19.1 cases per 100,000 TOBDs.
- 133 SAB cases were reported as community associated. This corresponds to an incidence rate of 9.8 cases per 100,000 population.
- NHS Tayside was above the 95% confidence interval upper limit for healthcare associated SAB in the funnel plot analysis.
- No NHS boards were above the 95% confidence interval upper limit for community associated SAB in the funnel plot analysis.
- No NHS boards were above normal variation for community or healthcare associated SAB when analysing trends over the past three years.

Surgical Site Infection (SSI) January to March 2023

Epidemiological data for SSI are not included for this quarter. Surveillance of SSI was paused in 2020 to support the COVID-19 response and has not yet resumed.

Results and Commentary

Clostridioides difficile Infection (CDI)

Total Cases for Quarter

- During Q1 2023, 269 *Clostridioides difficile* infection (CDI) cases in patients were reported to ARHAI. In the previous quarter there were 256 cases.
- All isolates tested (snapshot and clinical) were susceptible to metronidazole and vancomycin.

Healthcare associated infection cases by NHS board where specimen taken

- During Q1 2023, 211 CDI cases were reported to ARHAI as healthcare associated. This corresponds to an incidence rate of 13.4 cases per 100,000 total occupied bed days (TOBDs) (**Table 1**).
- Yearly trends (comparing year-ending March 2022 with year-ending March 2023) show that there was an increase in NHS Forth Valley (**Table 2**).
- No NHS boards were above the 95% confidence interval upper limit in the funnel plot analysis (**Figure 1**).
- No NHS boards were above normal variation when analysing trends over the past three years (see **supplementary data**).

Community associated infection cases by NHS board of residence

- During Q1 2023, 58 CDI cases were reported as community associated. This corresponds to an incidence rate of 4.3 cases per 100,000 population. (**Table 3**).
- Yearly trends (comparing year-ending March 2022 with year-ending March 2023) show that there were no increases or decreases in NHS boards or Scotland overall (**Table 4**).
- No NHS boards were above the 95% confidence interval upper limit in the funnel plot analysis (**Figure 2**).
- No NHS boards were above normal variation when analysing trends over the past three years (see **supplementary data**).

Table 1: CDI cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBDs) for healthcare associated infection cases: Q4 2022 (October to December 2022) compared to Q1 2023 (January to March 2023).[1,2,3]

NHS Board	Q4 Cases	Q4 Bed Days	Q4 Rate	Q1 Cases	Q1 Bed Days	Q1 Rate
AA	20	119,580	16.7	15	118,331	12.7
BR	1	32,790	3.0	2	32,121	6.2
DG	5	46,878	10.7	7	45,647	15.3
FF	8	91,962	8.7	12	89,482	13.4
FV	19	79,270	24.0	15	78,301	19.2
GJ	0	13,327	0.0	0	12,960	0.0
GR	4	132,046	3.0	14	134,646	10.4
GGC	63	443,639	14.2	52	447,480	11.6
HG	22	75,533	29.1	17	76,330	22.3
LN	30	149,515	20.1	25	153,017	16.3
LO	29	248,852	11.7	29	246,989	11.7
OR	1	3,151	31.7	1	3,304	30.3
SH	0	2,878	0.0	1	2,452	40.8
TY	10	123,441	8.1	21	121,920	17.2
WI	1	6,190	16.2	0	5,936	0.0
Scotland	**213**	**1,569,052**	**13.6**	**211**	**1,568,916**	**13.4**

1. An arrow denotes statistically significant change.
2. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & Total occupied bed days: Information Services Division ISD(S)1.
3. Figures include any updates received following the last publication (see Appendix 2).

Table 2: CDI cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBDs) for healthcare associated infection cases: year-ending March 2022 (YE Q1 22) compared to year-ending March 2023 (YE Q1 23).[1,2,3]

NHS Board	YE Q1 22 Cases	YE Q1 22 Bed Days	YE Q1 22 Rate	YE Q1 23 Cases	YE Q1 23 Bed Days	YE Q1 23 Rate
AA	94	435,232	21.6	80	468,245	17.1
BR	8	121,414	6.6	13	128,215	10.1
DG	22	169,643	13.0	30	183,748	16.3
FF	26	336,103	7.7	37	357,892	10.3
FV	31	287,240	10.8	55	310,872	↑ 17.7
GJ	0	49,129	0.0	2	51,352	3.9
GR	45	488,979	9.2	49	529,681	9.3
GGC	248	1,639,980	15.1	228	1,760,291	13.0
HG	62	277,003	22.4	60	300,704	20.0
LN	106	563,870	18.8	106	592,853	17.9
LO	137	959,835	14.3	116	984,013	11.8
OR	0	12,346	0.0	5	13,085	38.2
SH	5	9,110	54.9	2	10,521	19.0
TY	45	451,189	10.0	58	483,681	12.0
WI	3	24,295	12.3	2	24,883	8.0
Scotland	**832**	**5,825,368**	**14.3**	**843**	**6,200,036**	**13.6**

1. An arrow denotes statistically significant change.
2. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & Total occupied bed days: Information Services Division ISD(S)1.
3. Figures include any updates received following the last publication (see Appendix 2).

Table 3: CDI cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 population) for community associated infection cases: Q4 2022 (October to December 2022) compared to Q1 2023 (January to March 2023).[1,2,3,4]

NHS Board	Q4 Cases	Q4 Population	Q4 Rate	Q1 Cases	Q1 Population	Q1 Rate
AA	4	368,690	4.3	9	368,690	9.9
BR	1	116,020	3.4	1	116,020	3.5
DG	1	148,790	2.7	4	148,790	10.9
FF	2	374,730	2.1	3	374,730	3.2
FV	2	305,710	2.6	0	305,710	0.0
GR	5	586,530	3.4	3	586,530	2.1
GGC	6	1,185,040	2.0	8	1,185,040	2.7
HG	6	324,280	7.3	7	324,280	8.8
LN	5	664,030	3.0	5	664,030	3.1
LO	8	916,310	3.5	10	916,310	4.4
OR	0	22,540	0.0	0	22,540	0.0
SH	2	22,940	34.6	0	22,940	0.0
TY	1	417,650	0.9	8	417,650	7.8
WI	0	26,640	0.0	0	26,640	0.0
Scotland	**43**	**5,479,900**	**3.1**	**58**	**5,479,900**	**4.3**

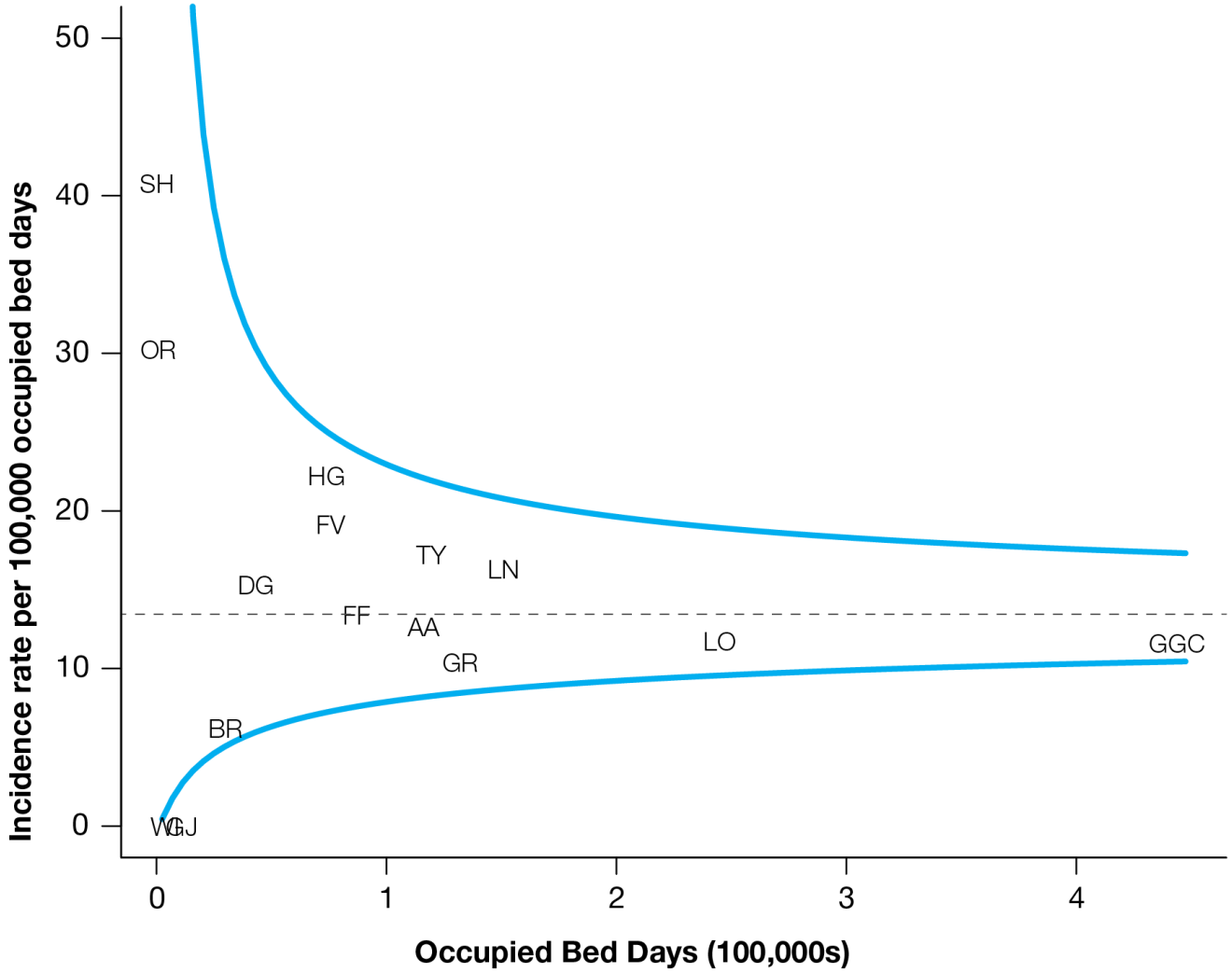
1. An arrow denotes statistically significant change.
2. Quarterly population rates are based on an annualised population.
3. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & National Records of Scotland (NRS) mid-year population estimates.
4. Figures include any updates received following the last publication (see Appendix 2).

Table 4: CDI cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 population) for community associated infection cases: year-ending March 2022 (YE Q1 22) compared to year-ending March 2023 (YE Q1 23).[1,2,3]

NHS Board	YE Q1 22 Cases	YE Q1 22 Population	YE Q1 22 Rate	YE Q1 23 Cases	YE Q1 23 Population	YE Q1 23 Rate
AA	24	368,690	6.5	29	368,690	7.9
BR	3	116,020	2.6	5	116,020	4.3
DG	17	148,790	11.4	13	148,790	8.7
FF	11	374,730	2.9	11	374,730	2.9
FV	2	305,710	0.7	2	305,710	0.7
GR	23	586,530	3.9	21	586,530	3.6
GGC	54	1,185,040	4.6	42	1,185,040	3.5
HG	20	324,280	6.2	29	324,280	8.9
LN	32	664,030	4.8	24	664,030	3.6
LO	66	916,310	7.2	52	916,310	5.7
OR	3	22,540	13.3	0	22,540	0.0
SH	0	22,940	0.0	2	22,940	8.7
TY	12	417,650	2.9	18	417,650	4.3
WI	4	26,640	15.0	1	26,640	3.8
Scotland	**271**	**5,479,900**	**4.9**	**249**	**5,479,900**	**4.5**

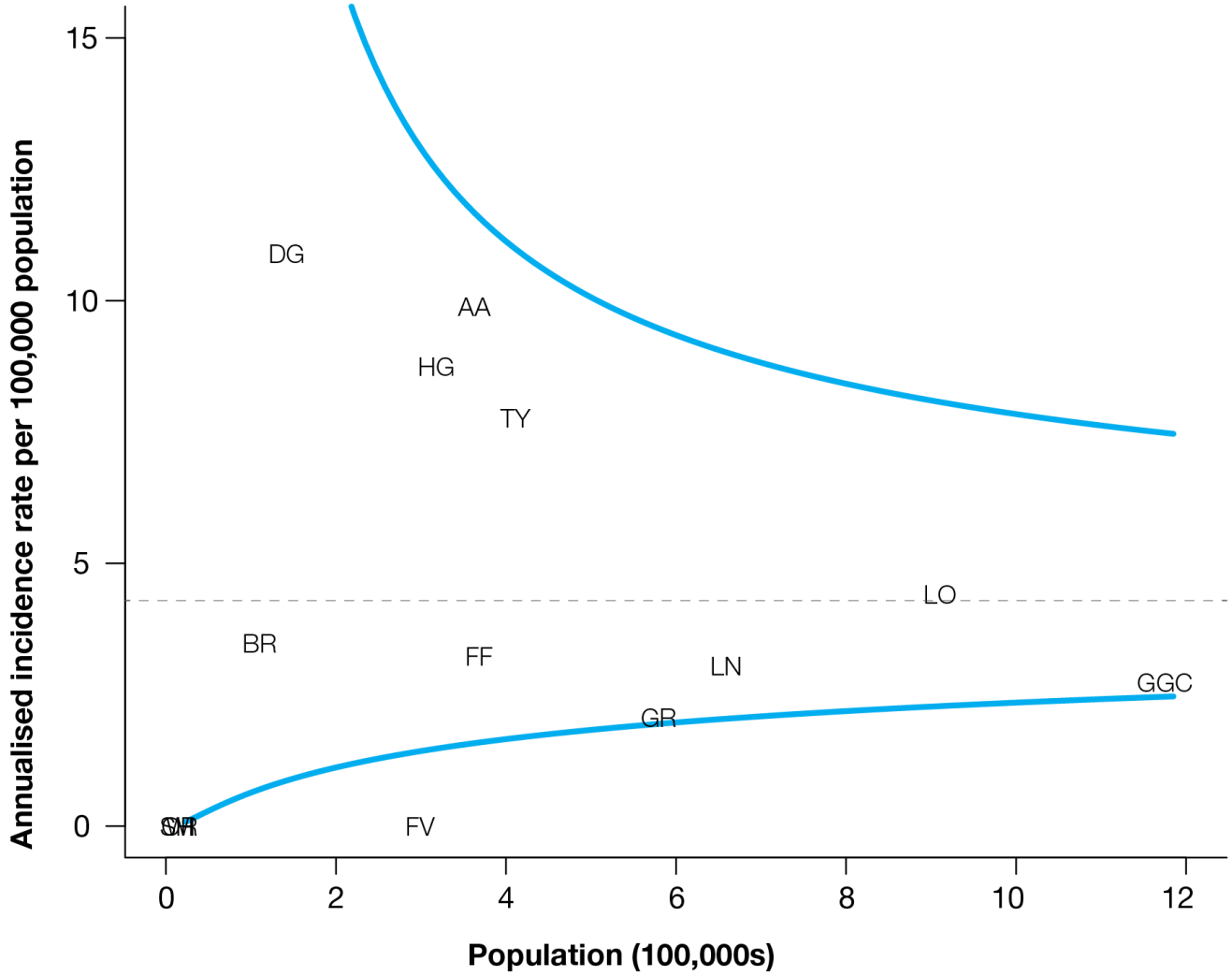
1. An arrow denotes statistically significant change.
2. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & National Records of Scotland (NRS) mid-year population estimates.
3. Figures include any updates received following the last publication (see Appendix 2).

Figure 1: Funnel plot of CDI incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBD) in healthcare associated infection cases for all NHS boards in Scotland in Q1 2023.[1,2]



1. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & Total occupied bed days: Information Services Division ISD(S)1.
2. NHS Golden Jubilee and NHS Western Isles overlap.

Figure 2: Funnel plot of CDI incidence rates (per 100,000 population) in community associated infection cases for all NHS boards in Scotland in Q1 2023.[1,2]



1. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & National Records of Scotland (NRS) mid-year population estimates.
2. NHS Orkney, NHS Shetland and NHS Western Isles overlap.

Escherichia coli bacteraemia (ECB)

Total Cases for Quarter

- During Q1 2023, 1,085 *Escherichia coli* bacteraemia (ECB) cases in patients were reported to ARHAI. In the previous quarter there were 1,044 cases.

Healthcare associated infection cases by NHS board where specimen taken

- During Q1 2023, 585 ECB cases were reported to ARHAI as healthcare associated. This corresponds to an incidence rate of 37.3 cases per 100,000 TOBDs (**Table 5**).
- Yearly trends (comparing year-ending March 2022 with year-ending March 2023) show that there was a decrease in NHS Ayrshire and Arran (**Table 6**).
- NHS Forth Valley was above the 95% confidence interval upper limit for ECB in the funnel plot analysis **(Figure 3**).
- No NHS boards were above normal variation when analysing trends over the past three years (see **supplementary data**).

Community associated infection cases by NHS board of residence

- During Q1 2023, 500 ECB cases were reported as community associated. This corresponds to an incidence rate of 37.0 cases per 100,000 population (**Table 7**).
- Yearly trends (comparing year-ending March 2022 with year-ending March 2023) show there was a decrease in NHS Western Isles (**Table 8**).
- NHS Dumfries & Galloway and NHS Lanarkshire were above the 95% confidence interval upper limit in the funnel plot analysis (**Figure 4**).
- No NHS boards were above normal variation when analysing trends over the past three years (see **supplementary data**).

Table 5: ECB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBD) for healthcare associated infection cases: Q4 2022 (October to December 2022) compared to Q1 2023 (January to March 2023).[1,2,3]

NHS Board	Q4 Cases	Q4 Bed Days	Q4 Rate	Q1 Cases	Q1 Bed Days	Q1 Rate
AA	35	119,580	29.3	31	118,331	26.2
BR	12	32,790	36.6	14	32,121	43.6
DG	20	46,878	42.7	12	45,647	26.3
FF	28	91,962	30.4	25	89,482	27.9
FV	40	79,270	50.5	47	78,301	60.0
GJ	2	13,327	15.0	5	12,960	38.6
GR	49	132,046	37.1	63	134,646	46.8
GGC	139	443,639	31.3	162	447,480	36.2
HG	14	75,533	18.5	18	76,330	23.6
LN	59	149,515	39.5	60	153,017	39.2
LO	70	248,852	28.1	87	246,989	35.2
OR	4	3,151	126.9	2	3,304	60.5
SH	3	2,878	104.2	1	2,452	40.8
TY	64	123,441	51.8	53	121,920	43.5
WI	2	6,190	32.3	5	5,936	84.2
Scotland	**541**	**1,569,052**	**34.5**	**585**	**1,568,916**	**37.3**

1. An arrow denotes statistically significant change.
2. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & Total occupied bed days: Information Services Division ISD(S)1.
3. Figures include any updates received following the last publication (see Appendix 2).

Table 6: ECB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBDs) for healthcare associated infection cases: year-ending March 2022 (YE Q1 22) compared to year-ending March 2023 (YE Q1 23).[1,2,3]

NHS Board	YE Q1 22 Cases	YE Q1 22 Bed days	YE Q1 22 Rate	YE Q1 23 Cases	YE Q1 23 Bed days	YE Q1 23 Rate
AA	207	435,232	47.6	153	468,245	↓ 32.7
BR	51	121,414	42.0	46	128,215	35.9
DG	62	169,643	36.5	71	183,748	38.6
FF	137	336,103	40.8	121	357,892	33.8
FV	154	287,240	53.6	175	310,872	56.3
GJ	3	49,129	6.1	11	51,352	21.4
GR	171	488,979	35.0	203	529,681	38.3
GGC	535	1,639,980	32.6	593	1,760,291	33.7
HG	74	277,003	26.7	60	300,704	20.0
LN	202	563,870	35.8	242	592,853	40.8
LO	281	959,835	29.3	275	984,013	27.9
OR	5	12,346	40.5	9	13,085	68.8
SH	8	9,110	87.8	11	10,521	104.6
TY	198	451,189	43.9	225	483,681	46.5
WI	9	24,295	37.0	19	24,883	76.4
Scotland	**2,097**	**5,825,368**	**36.0**	**2,214**	**6,200,036**	**35.7**

1. An arrow denotes statistically significant change.
2. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & Total occupied bed days: Information Services Division ISD(S)1.
3. Figures include any updates received following the last publication (see Appendix 2).

Table 7: ECB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 population) for community associated infection cases: Q4 2022 (October to December 2022) compared to Q1 2023 (January to March 2023).[1,2,3,4]

NHS Board	Q4 Cases	Q4 Population	Q4 Rate	Q1 Cases	Q1 Population	Q1 Rate
AA	51	368,690	54.9	46	368,690	50.6
BR	9	116,020	30.8	16	116,020	55.9
DG	23	148,790	61.3	24	148,790	65.4
FF	38	374,730	40.2	29	374,730	31.4
FV	31	305,710	40.2	19	305,710	25.2
GR	41	586,530	27.7	40	586,530	27.7
GGC	104	1,185,040	34.8	109	1,185,040	37.3
HG	33	324,280	40.4	24	324,280	30.0
LN	73	664,030	43.6	82	664,030	50.1
LO	57	916,310	24.7	71	916,310	31.4
OR	4	22,540	70.4	5	22,540	90.0
SH	3	22,940	51.9	1	22,940	17.7
TY	35	417,650	33.2	34	417,650	33.0
WI	1	26,640	14.9	0	26,640	0.0
Scotland	**503**	**5,479,900**	**36.4**	**500**	**5,479,900**	**37.0**

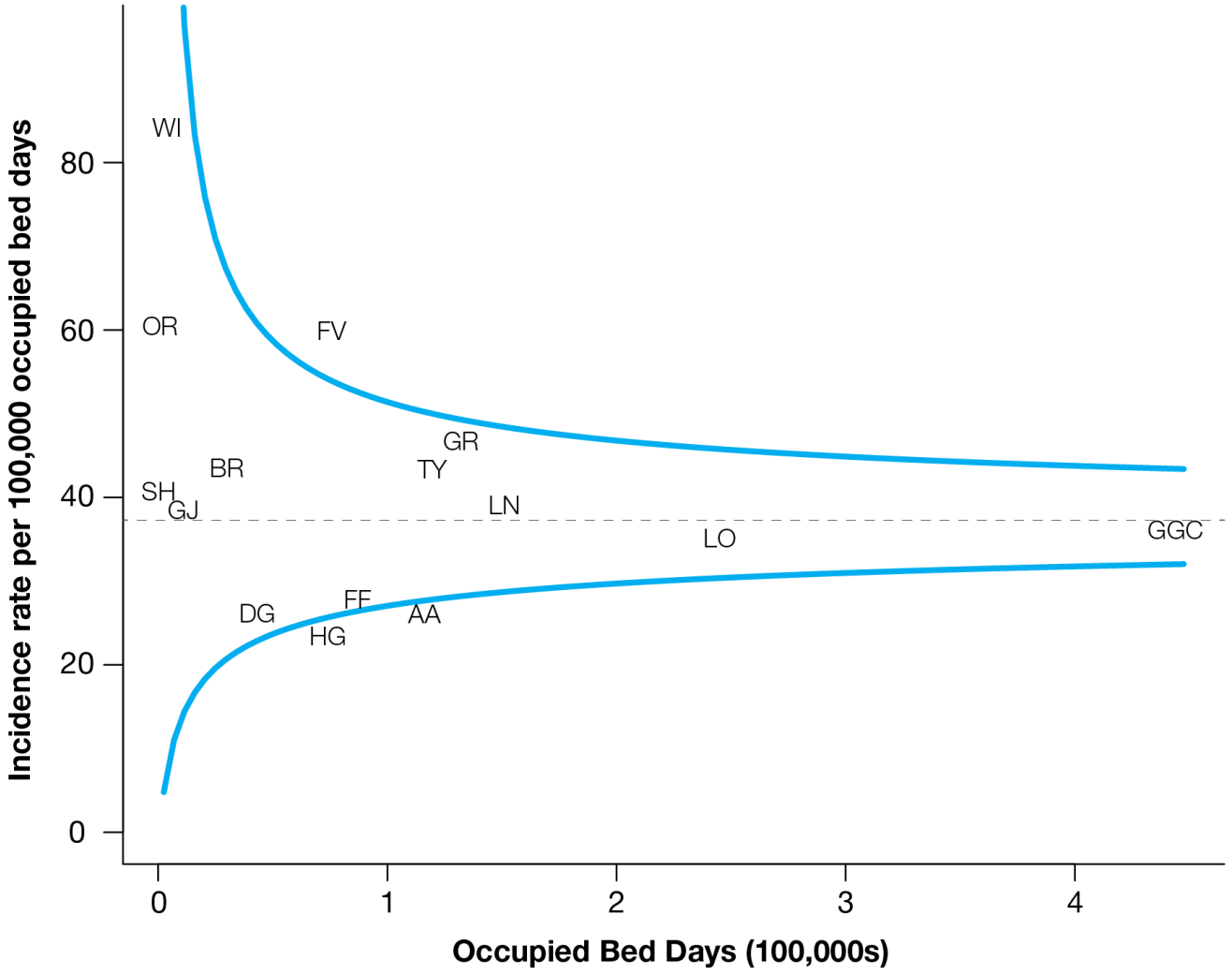
1. An arrow denotes statistically significant change.
2. Quarterly population rates are based on an annualised population.
3. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & National Records of Scotland (NRS) mid-year population estimates.
4. Figures include any updates received following the last publication (see Appendix 2).

Table 8: ECB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 population) for community associated infection cases: year-ending March 2022 (YE Q1 22) compared to year-ending March 2023 (YE Q1 23).[1,2,3]

NHS Board	YE Q1 22 Cases	YE Q1 22 Population	YE Q1 22 Rate	YE Q1 23 Cases	YE Q1 23 Population	YE Q1 23 Rate
AA	218	368,690	59.1	194	368,690	52.6
BR	55	116,020	47.4	53	116,020	45.7
DG	87	148,790	58.5	91	148,790	61.2
FF	154	374,730	41.1	160	374,730	42.7
FV	96	305,710	31.4	110	305,710	36.0
GR	181	586,530	30.9	182	586,530	31.0
GGC	466	1,185,040	39.3	441	1,185,040	37.2
HG	113	324,280	34.8	110	324,280	33.9
LN	319	664,030	48.0	321	664,030	48.3
LO	321	916,310	35.0	284	916,310	31.0
OR	8	22,540	35.5	15	22,540	66.5
SH	9	22,940	39.2	7	22,940	30.5
TY	169	417,650	40.5	138	417,650	33.0
WI	17	26,640	63.8	3	26,640	↓ 11.3
Scotland	**2,213**	**5,479,900**	**40.4**	**2,109**	**5,479,900**	**38.5**

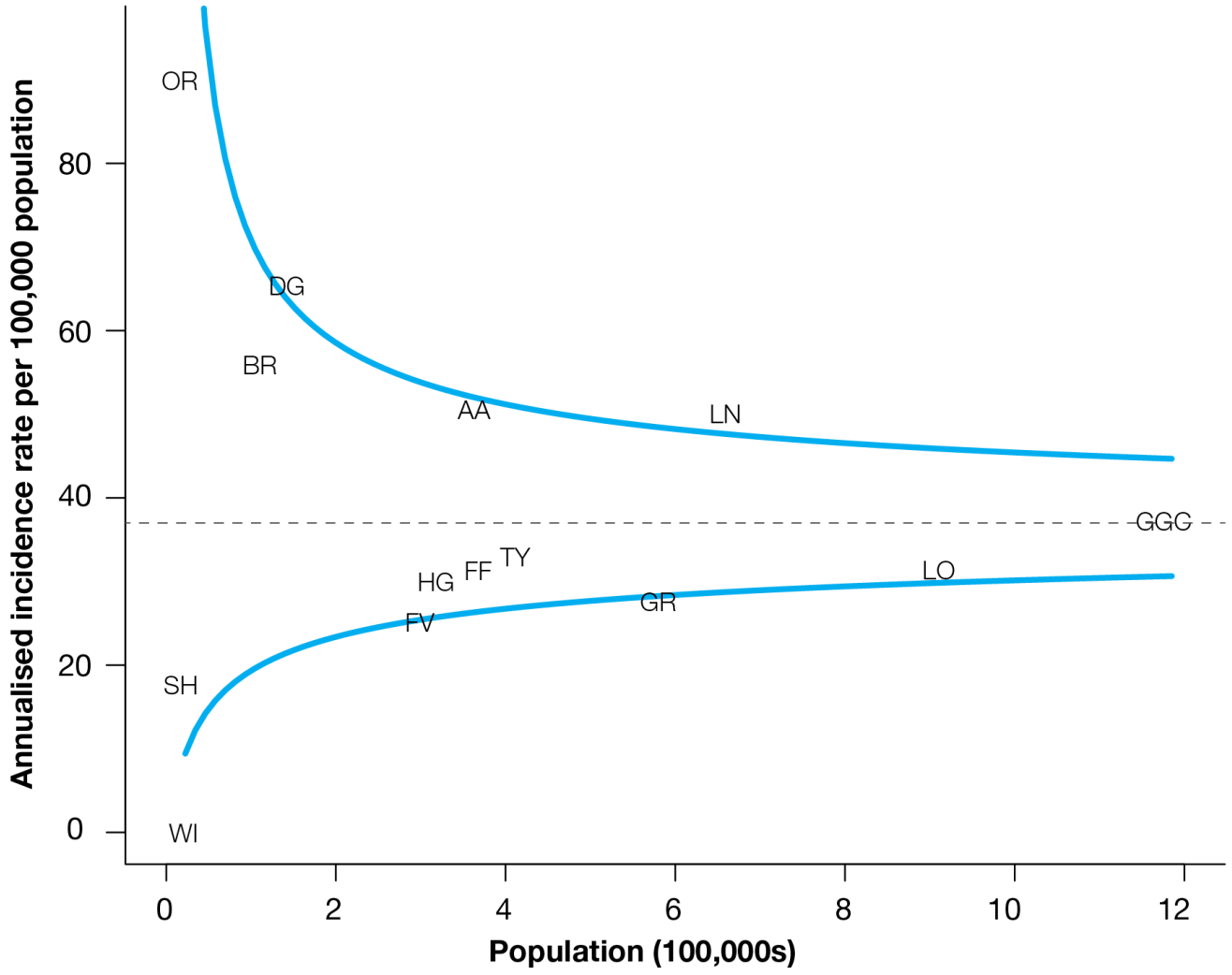
1. An arrow denotes statistically significant change.
2. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & National Records of Scotland (NRS) mid-year population estimates.
3. Figures include any updates received following the last publication (see Appendix 2).

Figure 3: Funnel plot of ECB incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBD) in healthcare associated infection cases for all NHS boards in Scotland in Q1 2023.[1]



1. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & Total occupied bed days: Information Services Division ISD(S)1.

Figure 4: Funnel plot of ECB incidence rates (per 100,000 population) in community associated infection cases for all NHS boards in Scotland in Q1 2023.[1]



1. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & National Records of Scotland (NRS) mid-year population estimates.

Staphylococcus aureus bacteraemia (SAB)

Total cases for quarter

- During Q1 2023, 433 *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia (SAB) cases in patients were reported to ARHAI. In the previous quarter there were also 433 SAB cases.

Healthcare associated infection cases by NHS board where specimen taken

- During Q1 2023, 300 SAB cases were reported to ARHAI as healthcare associated. This corresponds to an incidence rate of 19.1 cases per 100,000 TOBDs (**Table 9**).
- Yearly trends (comparing year-ending March 2022 with year-ending March 2023) show that there was an increase in NHS Lothian (**Table 10**).
- NHS Tayside was above the 95% confidence interval upper limit in the funnel plot analysis (**Figure 5**).
- No NHS boards were above normal variation when analysing trends over the past three years (see **supplementary data**).

Community associated infection cases by NHS board of residence

- During Q1 2023, 133 SAB cases were reported as community associated. This corresponds to an incidence rate of 9.8 cases per 100,000 population (**Table 11**).
- Yearly trends (comparing year-ending March 2022 with year-ending March 2023) show that there were no increases or decreases in NHS boards or Scotland overall (**Table 12**).
- No NHS boards were above the 95% confidence interval upper limit in the funnel plot analysis (**Figure 6**).
- No NHS boards were above normal variation when analysing trends over the past three years (see **supplementary data**).

Table 9: SAB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBDs) for healthcare associated infection cases: Q4 2022 (October to December 2022) compared to Q1 2023 (January to March 2023).[1,2,3]

NHS Board	Q4 Cases	Q4 Bed Days	Q4 Rate	Q1 Cases	Q1 Bed Days	Q1 Rate
AA	29	119,580	24.3	23	118,331	19.4
BR	7	32,790	21.3	4	32,121	12.5
DG	8	46,878	17.1	6	45,647	13.1
FF	10	91,962	10.9	16	89,482	17.9
FV	14	79,270	17.7	13	78,301	16.6
GJ	1	13,327	7.5	3	12,960	23.1
GR	32	132,046	24.2	27	134,646	20.1
GGC	86	443,639	19.4	77	447,480	17.2
HG	14	75,533	18.5	12	76,330	15.7
LN	24	149,515	16.1	27	153,017	17.6
LO	42	248,852	16.9	48	246,989	19.4
OR	0	3,151	0.0	0	3,304	0.0
SH	3	2,878	104.2	2	2,452	81.6
TY	30	123,441	24.3	39	121,920	32.0
WI	2	6,190	32.3	3	5,936	50.5
Scotland	**302**	**1,569,052**	**19.2**	**300**	**1,568,916**	**19.1**

1. An arrow denotes statistically significant change.
2. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & Total occupied bed days: Information Services Division ISD(S)1.
3. Figures include any updates received following the last publication (see Appendix 2).

Table 10: SAB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBDs) for healthcare associated infection cases: year-ending March 2022 (YE Q1 22) compared to year-ending March 2023 (YE Q1 23).[1,2,3]

NHS Board	YE Q1 22 Cases	YE Q1 22 Bed days	YE Q1 22 Rate	YE Q1 23 Cases	YE Q1 23 Bed days	YE Q1 23 Rate
AA	69	435,232	15.9	87	468,245	18.6
BR	21	121,414	17.3	21	128,215	16.4
DG	33	169,643	19.5	32	183,748	17.4
FF	43	336,103	12.8	53	357,892	14.8
FV	53	287,240	18.5	49	310,872	15.8
GJ	11	49,129	22.4	13	51,352	25.3
GR	95	488,979	19.4	98	529,681	18.5
GGC	319	1,639,980	19.5	320	1,760,291	18.2
HG	50	277,003	18.1	40	300,704	13.3
LN	92	563,870	16.3	102	592,853	17.2
LO	131	959,835	13.6	170	984,013	↑ 17.3
OR	2	12,346	16.2	3	13,085	22.9
SH	4	9,110	43.9	6	10,521	57.0
TY	98	451,189	21.7	125	483,681	25.8
WI	7	24,295	28.8	9	24,883	36.2
Scotland	**1,028**	**5,825,368**	**17.6**	**1,128**	**6,200,036**	**18.2**

1. An arrow denotes statistically significant change.
2. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & Total occupied bed days: Information Services Division ISD(S)1.
3. Figures include any updates received following the last publication (see Appendix 2).

Table 11: SAB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 population) for community associated infection cases: Q4 2022 (October to December 2022) compared to Q1 2023 (January to March 2023).[1,2,3,4]

NHS Board	Q4 Cases	Q4 Population	Q4 Rate	Q1 Cases	Q1 Population	Q1 Rate
AA	9	368,690	9.7	17	368690	18.7
BR	1	116,020	3.4	5	116,020	17.5
DG	4	148,790	10.7	5	148,790	13.6
FF	15	374,730	15.9	10	374,730	10.8
FV	6	305,710	7.8	8	305,710	10.6
GR	17	586,530	11.5	16	586,530	11.1
GGC	19	1,185,040	6.4	21	1,185,040	7.2
HG	11	324,280	13.5	8	324,280	10.0
LN	15	664,030	9.0	13	664,030	7.9
LO	20	916,310	8.7	18	916,310	8.0
OR	1	22,540	17.6	0	22,540	0.0
SH	0	22,940	0.0	0	22,940	0.0
TY	13	417,650	12.3	12	417,650	11.7
WI	0	26,640	0.0	0	26,640	0.0
Scotland	**131**	**5,479,900**	**9.5**	**133**	**5,479,900**	**9.8**

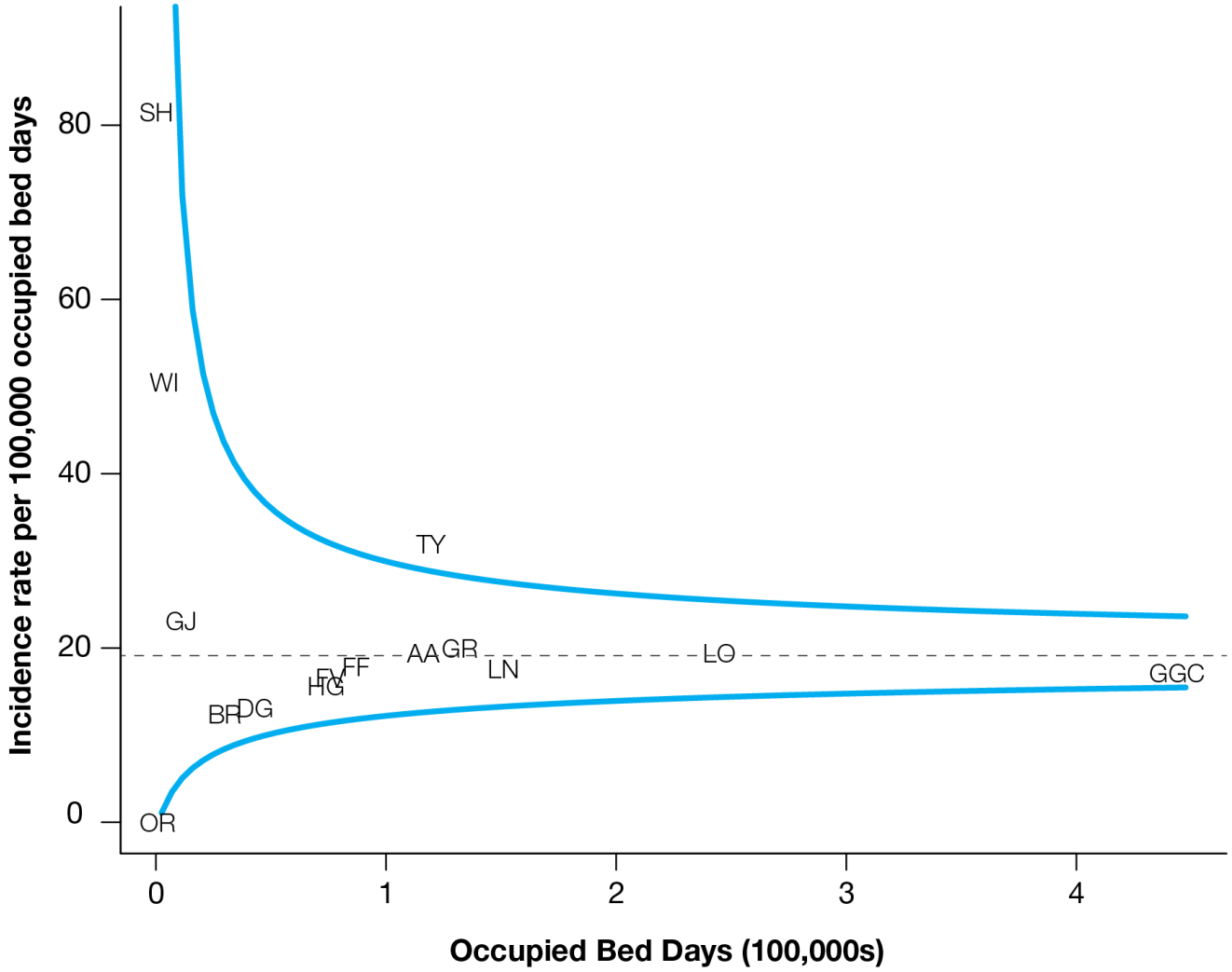
1. An arrow denotes statistically significant change.
2. Quarterly population rates are based on an annualised population.
3. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & National Records of Scotland (NRS) mid-year population estimates.
4. Figures include any updates received following the last publication (see Appendix 2).

Table 12: SAB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 population) for community associated infection cases: year-ending March 2022 (YE Q1 22) compared to year-ending March 2023 (YE Q1 23).[1,2,3]

NHS Board	YE Q1 22 Cases	YE Q1 22 Population	YE Q1 22 Rate	YE Q1 23 Cases	YE Q1 23 Population	YE Q1 23 Rate
AA	52	368,690	14.1	45	368,690	12.2
BR	17	116,020	14.7	12	116,020	10.3
DG	32	148,790	21.5	22	148,790	14.8
FF	37	374,730	9.9	46	374,730	12.3
FV	30	305,710	9.8	31	305,710	10.1
GR	61	586,530	10.4	69	586,530	11.8
GGC	75	1,185,040	6.3	76	1,185,040	6.4
HG	32	324,280	9.9	37	324,280	11.4
LN	69	664,030	10.4	51	664,030	7.7
LO	86	916,310	9.4	95	916,310	10.4
OR	2	22,540	8.9	2	22,540	8.9
SH	3	22,940	13.1	2	22,940	8.7
TY	48	417,650	11.5	35	417,650	8.4
WI	2	26,640	7.5	1	26,640	3.8
Scotland	**546**	**5,479,900**	**10.0**	**524**	**5,479,900**	**9.6**

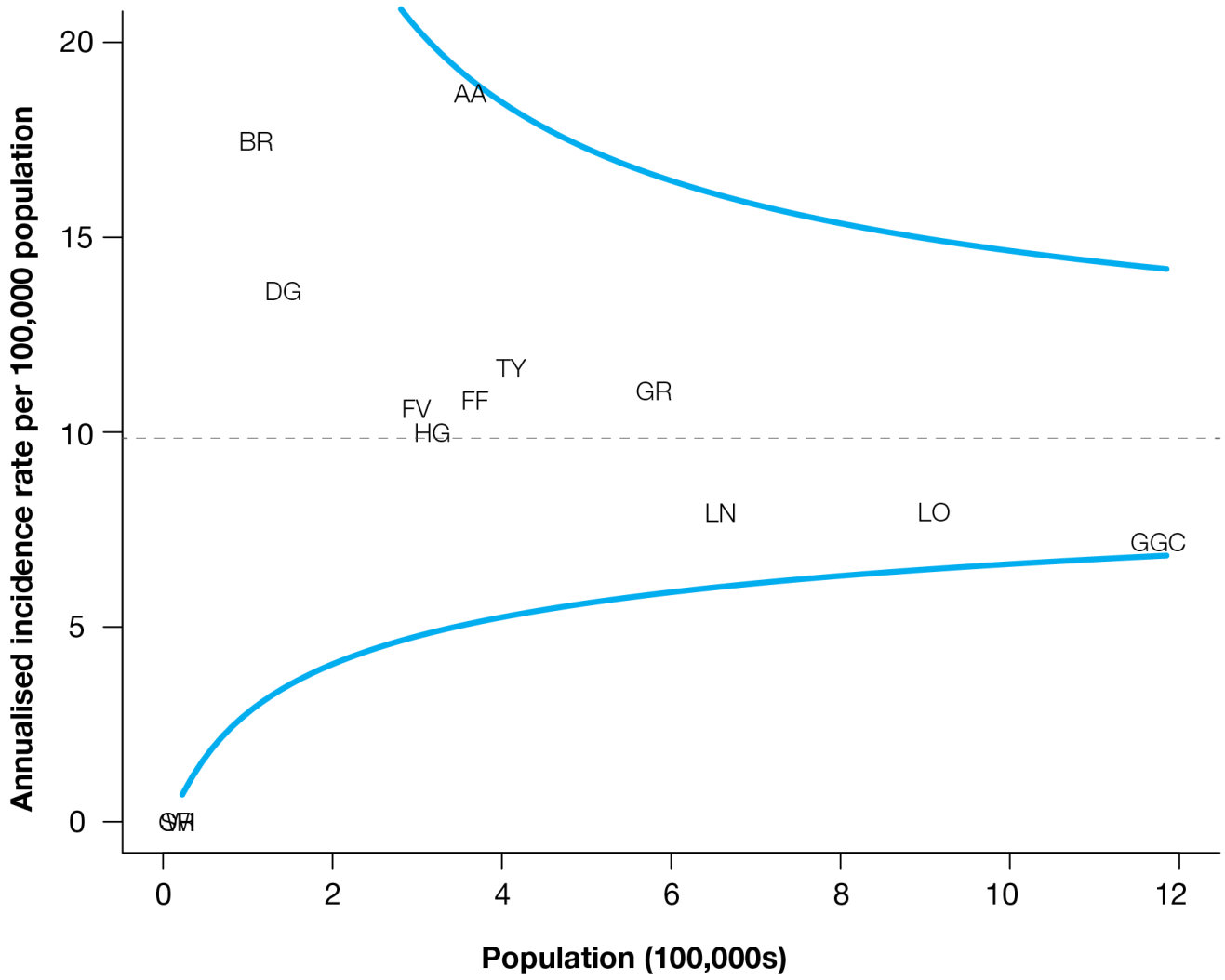
1. An arrow denotes statistically significant change.
2. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & National Records of Scotland (NRS) mid-year population estimates.
3. Figures include any updates received following the last publication (see Appendix 2).

Figure 5: Funnel plot of SAB incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBD) in healthcare associated infection cases for all NHS boards in Scotland in Q1 2023.[1,2]



1. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & Total occupied bed days: Information Services Division ISD(S)1.
2. NHS Fife, NHS Forth Valley, and NHS Highland overlap, as do NHS Borders and NHS Dumfries & Galloway.

Figure 6: Funnel plot of SAB incidence rates (per 100,000 population) in community associated infection cases for all NHS boards in Scotland in Q1 2023.[1,2]



1. Source of data is Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) & National Records of Scotland (NRS) mid-year population estimates.
2. NHS Orkney, NHS Shetland and NHS Western Isles overlap.

Surgical Site Infection (SSI)

Epidemiological data for SSI are not included for this quarter. Surveillance of SSI was paused in 2020 to support the COVID-19 response and has not yet resumed.

List of Tables

File name	File and size
Table 1: CDI cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBDs) for healthcare associated infection cases: Q4 2022 (October to December 2022) compared to Q1 2023 (January to March 2023).	supplementary data (493 Kb)
Table 2: CDI cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBDs) for healthcare associated infection cases: year-ending March 2022 (YE Q1 22) compared to year-ending March 2023 (YE Q1 23).	supplementary data (493 Kb)
Table 3: CDI cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 population) for community associated infection cases: Q4 2022 (October to December 2022) compared to Q1 2023 (January to March 2023).	supplementary data (493 Kb)
Table 4: CDI cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 population) for community associated infection cases: year-ending March 2022 (YE Q1 22) compared to year-ending March 2023 (YE Q1 23).	supplementary data (493 Kb)
Table 5: ECB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBD) for healthcare associated infection cases: Q4 2022 (October to December 2022) compared to Q1 2023 (January to March 2023).	supplementary data (493 Kb)
Table 6: ECB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBDs) for healthcare associated infection cases: year-ending March 2022 (YE Q1 22) compared to year-ending March 2023 (YE Q1 23).	supplementary data (493 Kb)
Table 7: ECB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 population) for community associated infection cases: Q4 2022 (October to December 2022) compared to Q1 2023 (January to March 2023).	supplementary data (493 Kb)
Table 8: ECB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 population) for community associated infection cases: year-ending March 2022 (YE Q1 22) compared to year-ending March 2023 (YE Q1 23).	supplementary data (493 Kb)
Table 9: SAB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBDs) for healthcare associated infection cases: Q4 2022 (October to December 2022) compared to Q1 2023 (January to March 2023).	supplementary data (493 Kb)
Table 10: SAB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 TOBDs) for healthcare associated infection cases: year-ending March 2022 (YE Q1 22) compared to year-ending March 2023 (YE Q1 23).	supplementary data (493 Kb)

File name	File and size
Table 11: SAB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 population) for community associated infection cases: Q4 2022 (October to December 2022) compared to Q1 2023 (January to March 2023).	supplementary data (493 Kb)
Table 12: SAB cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 population) for community associated infection cases: year-ending March 2022 (YE Q1 22) compared to year-ending March 2023 (YE Q1 23).	supplementary data (493 Kb)

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Further Information

Further information can be found on the **ARHAI Scotland website.**

The data from this publication is available to download **from our web page** along with background information and metadata.

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 October 2023.

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Appendices

Appendix 1 – Background information

Revisions to the surveillance

Description of Revision	First report revision applied	Report section(s) revision applies to	Rational for revision
Addition of healthcare/ community case assignment	October 2017	CDI/SAB	An increasing awareness of those infections occurring in community settings has warranted measurement of incidence rates by healthcare setting (healthcare settings vs. community settings) to enable interventions to be targeted to the relevant settings.
Use of standardised denominator data for CDI/ECB/SAB	October 2017	CDI/SAB	The 'total occupied bed days' data will be extracted from the ISD(S)1 data collection which contains aggregated information on acute and non-acute bed days including geriatric medicine and long-term stays in real-time. The standardisation of denominator data across the three surveillance programmes could result in slightly less accurate denominators due to inclusion of persons in the denominator who are at slightly lower risk of infection. However, in surveillance programmes developed for the purpose of preventing infection and driving quality improvement in care, consistency of the denominators over time tend to be more important than getting a very precise estimate of the population at risk, as the primary aim is to reduce infection to a lower incidence relative to what it was at the initial time of benchmarking.

Description of Revision	First report revision applied	Report section(s) revision applies to	Rational for revision
Reporting of CDI cases aged 15 years and above only	October 2017	CDI	Current Scottish Government Local Delivery Plan Standards are based on the incidence rate in cases aged 15 years and above, therefore the report has been aligned to reflect this. ARHAI will continue to monitor CDI incidence rates in the separate age groups (15-64 years and 65 years and above) internally.
Reporting of total SAB cases only (i.e. Removal of MRSA sub-analysis)	October 2017	SAB	MRSA numbers are becoming too small to carry out statistical analysis. ARHAI will continue to monitor internally.
Name change for *Clostridium difficile* to *Clostridioides difficile*.	October 2018	CDI	A novel genus *Clostridioides* has been proposed for *Clostridium difficile* which will now be known as *Clostridioides difficile*. There are no implications with regards to the natural history of infection, infection prevention and control, or clinical treatment. **https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1075996416300762?via%3Dihub**
Addition of year end trends to ECB	October 2018	ECB	This analysis (already included for other reported organisms) is now possible for ECB due the amount of data that has now been collected.
Change in production of Quarterly SPC Charts	April 2020	All sections	Updated method used for calculating exceptions within the SPC charts. The mean, Trigger/warning lines (+2 standard deviations) and upper control limits (+3 standard deviations) presented, are now calculated using the 12 quarters prior to the most recent quarter, as to compare the new rate against an existing baseline.
Changes to data collection in	July 2020	All sections	A CNO letter sent 25th March 2020 asked NHS Boards to continue to report case numbers and origin of infection data but they would not be

Description of Revision	First report revision applied	Report section(s) revision applies to	Rational for revision
response to COVID-19			required to report risk factor data as would normally be expected under enhanced/extended surveillance for *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia (SAB), *Escherichia coli* bacteraemia (ECB) and *Clostridioides difficile* infection (CDI). All mandatory and voluntary Surgical Site Infection (SSI) surveillance was paused until further notice.
Change from Health Protection Scotland to ARHAI Scotland	October 2020	All sections	In April 2020, as part of launch of Public Health Scotland, the ARHAI Group within Health Protection Scotland (HPS) became ARHAI Scotland. ARHAI Scotland will continue to support NHS boards in the prevention and control of healthcare associated infections. The report was updated to reflect this branding change.
Change from National Waiting Times Centre (NWTC) to NHS Golden Jubilee (GJ)	January 2021	All sections	Labelling updated.
Change to reporting of ribotypes	October 2022	CDI	A description of CDI ribotypes (RTs) has not been included in the report since October 2022. The CDI typing service provided by the Scottish Microbiology Reference Laboratory (SMiRL) is currently being reviewed.
Recommencement of mandatory surveillance	April 2023	All sections	As part of a return to pre-pandemic surveillance, for data collected from October 2022 onwards enhanced/extended surveillance

Description of Revision	First report revision applied	Report section(s) revision applies to	Rational for revision
following COVID-19 response			for *Escherichia coli* bacteraemia (ECB) and *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia (SAB) has been reinstated. Mandatory surveillance of enhanced fields including source of infection/entry point and risk factors as appropriate has resumed in line with the bacteraemia surveillance protocol. Previously, for data collected from 25 March 2020 onwards, only origin of infection was mandatory for ECB and SAB surveillance. Meanwhile all mandatory and voluntary Surgical Site Infection (SSI) surveillance will remained paused until further notice.

Report methods and caveats

Full details of the report methods and caveats can be found **here**.

UK comparisons

Improved collaboration with the other UK nations has made comparisons and standardisation across the UK a high priority for all four nations' governments/health departments. The changes introduced in the Scottish HAI surveillance, described here facilitate benchmarking of the Scottish data against those of the rest of the UK.

Key to NHS boards

AA = NHS Ayrshire & Arran

BR = NHS Borders

DG = NHS Dumfries & Galloway

FV = NHS Forth Valley

FF = NHS Fife

GJ = NHS Golden Jubilee

GR = NHS Grampian

GGC = NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde

HG = NHS Highland

LN = NHS Lanarkshire

LO = NHS Lothian

OR = NHS Orkney

SH = NHS Shetland

TY = NHS Tayside

WI = NHS Western Isles

Appendix 2 – Publication Metadata

Publication title

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

Description

This release provides information on *Clostridioides difficile* infection, *Escherichia coli* bacteraemia, *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia and Surgical Site Infection in Scotland for the period January to March 2023.

Theme

Infections in Scotland

Topic

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

Format

MS Word reports and MS Excel workbooks

Data source(s)

***Clostridioides difficile* infection:**

Case data source: Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS)

Data linkage source: General / Acute Inpatient and Day Case Scottish Morbidity Records (SMR01)

Healthcare associated denominator: Total occupied bed days: Information Services Division ISD(S)1

Community associated denominator: National Records of Scotland (NRS) mid-year population estimates

***Escherichia coli* bacteraemia:**

Case data source: Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) Enhanced Surveillance Web Tool

Healthcare associated denominator: Total occupied bed days: Information Services Division ISD(S)1

Community associated denominator: NRS mid-year population estimates

***Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia:**

Case data source: Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS) Enhanced Surveillance Web Tool

Healthcare associated denominator: Total occupied bed days: Information Services Division ISD(S)1

Community associated denominator: NRS mid-year population estimates

Surgical Site Infection:

Case data source: Surgical Site Infection Reporting System (SSIRS)

Number of procedures denominator: SSIRS

Date that data are acquired

The date the data were extracted for analysis.

Clostridioides difficile: 20/04/2023

Escherichia coli Bacteraemia: 30/05/2023

Staphylococcus aureus Bacteraemia: 30/05/2023

Surgical Site Infection: Epidemiological data for SSI are not included for this quarter.

Surveillance of SSI was paused in 2020 to support the COVID-19 response and has not yet resumed.

Release date

04 July 2023

Frequency

Quarterly

Timeframe of data and timeliness

The latest iteration of data is 31 March 2023, therefore the data are three months in arrears.

Continuity of data

Quarterly as at March, June, September, December

Revisions statement

These data are not subject to planned major revisions. However, ARHAI aims to continually improve the interpretation of the data and therefore analysis methods are regularly reviewed and may be updated in the future.

Revisions relevant to this publication

Updates to previously published figures

Total Occupied Bed Days (TOBDs)

There were no retrospective amendments to this data.

Clostridioides difficile Infection (CDI)

Data linkage between CDI surveillance data and the Scottish Morbidity Records (SMR01) is used to identify community and healthcare associated CDI cases. Delays in SMR01 data availability at the time of report production means that some cases may be reassigned as either healthcare associated or community associated CDI at a later date (see **Methods and Caveats**).

Quarter	NHS board	Previous Healthcare associated CDI cases	Updated Healthcare associated CDI cases	Previous Community associated CDI cases	Updated Community associated CDI cases	Reason
2022 Q4	LN	29	30	6	5	Retrospective data amendment

***Escherichia coli* Bacteraemia (ECB)**

There were no retrospective amendments to the data.

***Staphylococcus aureus* Bacteraemia (SAB)**

There were no retrospective amendments to the data.

Surgical Site Infection (SSI)

Epidemiological data for SSI are not included for this quarter. Surveillance of SSI was paused in 2020 to support the COVID-19 response and has not yet resumed.

Concepts and definitions

***Clostridioides difficile* Infection (CDI)**

Clostridioides difficile infection (CDI) is the most common cause of intestinal infections (and diarrhoea) associated with antimicrobial therapy. Clinical disease comprises a range of toxin mediated symptoms from mild diarrhoea, which can resolve without treatment, to severe cases such as pseudomembranous colitis (PMC), toxic megacolon and peritonitis that can lead to death.

For mild disease, diarrhoea is usually the only symptom. Other clinical features consistent with more severe forms of CDI include fever, leukocytosis, pseudomembranous colitis and ileus.

Symptoms of CDI, and associated immune reactions in children differ from those in adults, but the pathology is not well described. Routine testing in children aged less than 3 years old is not recommended.

Approximately 3% of healthy adults and 20% of hospital patients carry *C. difficile* in their gut. The elderly living in care homes or staying in long-term care facilities are more likely to carry *C. difficile* than other adults. In studies from the US, 20% of care home residents and 50% of patients in long-term care facilities, respectively, were colonised with *C. difficile*.

The Scottish CDI guidance 'Guidance on Prevention and Control of CDI in Healthcare Settings in Scotland' and *C. difficile* testing protocol 'protocol for diagnosis of CDI' are key documents for the control and reduction of CDI in Scotland.

There remains scope for a reduction of incidence rates through continued local monitoring, appropriate prescribing, and compliance with infection prevention and control measures.

Escherichia coli **Bacteraemia (ECB)**

Escherichia coli (*E. coli*) is a bacterium commonly found in the gut of animals and people where it forms part of the normal gut flora that helps human digestion. Although most types of *E. coli* live harmlessly in your gut, some types can make you unwell. Some types of *E. coli* can cause urinary tract infections (UTI) and illnesses such as pneumonia.

E. coli continues to be the most frequent cause of Gram-negative bacteraemia in Scotland and is a frequent cause of infection worldwide.

New cases of ECB are identified by laboratory testing (via positive blood cultures) and submitted to the national system ECOSS. Only cases of ECB that have been reviewed and confirmed by the NHS boards in the enhanced surveillance system are included in the quarterly commentaries.

Staphylococcus aureus **Bacteraemia (SAB)**

Staphylococcus aureus (*S. aureus*) is a Gram-positive bacterium which colonises the nasal cavity of about a quarter of the healthy population. This colonisation is usually harmless. However, infection can occur if *S. aureus* breaches the body's defence systems and can cause a range of illnesses from minor skin infections to serious systemic infections such as bacteraemia. Some strains of *S. aureus* produce toxins or show resistance to first line treatments therefore can be more complicated to treat.

Scotland has had a mandatory meticillin resistant *S. aureus* (MRSA) bacteraemia surveillance programme since 2001. The programme was extended to include meticillin sensitive *S. aureus* (MSSA) bacteraemias in 2006 and in 2014 to include enhanced *S. aureus* bacteraemia (SAB) surveillance. Full details of the surveillance methods may be found in the protocol.

Surgical Site Infection (SSI)

A surgical site infection (SSI) is an infection that occurs after surgery in the part of the body where the surgery took place. SSI may be superficial infections involving the skin only, while other SSI is more serious and can involve tissues under the skin, organs, or implanted material.

SSI is one of the most common types of healthcare associated infection in Scotland, estimated to account for 16.5% of inpatient healthcare associated infection within NHSScotland, according to Scottish Point Prevalence Survey 2016. Surgical Site Infection Surveillance (SSIS) is mandatory across NHSScotland and all NHS boards participate in SSI surveillance for all inpatient and post discharge surveillance (PDS) for 10 post-operative days for caesarean section procedures and prospective readmission surveillance for hip arthroplasty for 30 post-operative days. Additional new mandatory large bowel and vascular procedures commenced since April 2017. Reporting these procedures will not take place until it is assessed that robust data have been provided by boards.

Further information on the methods and caveats for can be found **here**.

When a board is highlighted as an exception this will be looked at further as per the exception reporting process.

Further information on the production of quarterly exception reports (SOP) can be found **here**.

Relevance and key uses of the statistics

***Clostridioides difficile* Infection (CDI)**

Surveillance data is essential for monitoring trends and assisting in outbreak investigations. Certain strains of *C. difficile* have been associated with more severe disease (e.g. PCR types 027 and 078) and antibiotic resistance has been suggested to be a factor in the emergence

and spread of *C. difficile* epidemic types. In addition, the identification of ribotypes and whole genome sequencing can assist in the investigation of outbreaks.

The surveillance data should inform and support NHS boards in implementing antimicrobial prescribing policies, infection control and prevention interventions.

Escherichia coli Bacteraemia (ECB)

The outputs of the surveillance programme are intended to support the NHS boards in controlling and reducing the burden of ECB. Benchmarking against other NHS boards (and other countries) is an important function of the surveillance. In conjunction with other sources of intelligence (including enhanced surveillance data) the outputs of the quarterly surveillance can also help the NHS boards with planning and targeting activities to reduce risk to patient of becoming infected and improve the care of patients (i.e. strategic planning, targeted intervention, care quality improvement).

As urinary tract infections are commonly associated with *E. coli* bacteraemia cases, ARHAI Scotland coordinates the sharing of urinary tract infection (UTI) reduction resources. These include the National Hydration Campaign which aims to convey the public health benefits of good hydration in terms of UTI prevention, and the National Catheter Passport which gives information on how to care for urinary catheters at home as well as a clinical section for a nurse, doctor or carer. Work is also being done on improving antimicrobial treatment of people with infections – co-ordinated by the Scottish Antimicrobial Prescribing Group (SAPG) through a network of antimicrobial management teams.

Staphylococcus aureus Bacteraemia (SAB)

ARHAI continues to offer support to NHS boards across Scotland to aid their local SAB reduction strategies. A programme of enhanced SAB surveillance commenced in all NHS boards in Scotland on 1 October 2014. This is providing further intelligence to focus future reduction interventions.

Surgical Site Infection (SSI)

SSIs are estimated to double the length of post-operative stay in hospital and significantly increase the cost of care. The national SSIS programme is intended to enhance the quality of

patient care with use of data obtained from surveillance to compare incidence of SSI over time and against a benchmark rate and to use this information locally to review and guide clinical practice.

Accuracy

CDI, ECB and SAB data are the product of the Electronic Communication of Surveillance in Scotland (ECOSS). Participating laboratories routinely report all identifications of organisms, infection or microbiological intoxication, unless they are known to be of no clinical or public health importance. The collected data is used for: the identification of single cases of severe disease, outbreaks, and longer term trends in the incidence of laboratory reported infections, enhanced surveillance, health protection, analytical and statistical use.

Delays in SMR01 data availability at the time of report production means that some CDI cases may be reassigned at a later date. Therefore, healthcare-associated and community-associated CDI cases in this report are provisional and may change as more data becomes available.

The enhanced ECB and SAB ECOSS web tool has built-in validation rules that must be met before the data is submitted. Further checks of the data are made by ARHAI before the data are analysed. CDI validation of collected data entails sending a list of CDI cases extracted from ECOSS and asking for confirmation that the cases represent true CDI cases, i.e., meet the case definition which is defined in the surveillance protocol sent to all the NHS boards and available on the **website**. The final list of CDI cases is then agreed before publishing.

SSI data comes from the Surgical Site Infection Reporting System (SSIRS). Complying with a national minimum dataset and definitions for Surgical Site Infections, enables the data submitted to Health Protection Scotland to be mapped into the national dataset following a rigorous quality assurance process.

SSIRS has built-in validation rules and data cannot be submitted until rules are met. SSIRS primary validation checks for incomplete or ambiguous core data fields, for example, if presentation to the surgery is ’emergency’ the OPCS code should correspond. Secondary validation includes data checks that can be accepted without completion and/or values that are outside the stated requirements.

Completeness

ECB/SAB:

Surveillance data are collected using an ECOSS Surveillance Web Tool that allows data collectors in NHS boards to validate ECOSS records as well as additional cases that may not be included in the ECOSS system. This therefore means that completeness is near to 100%. Only cases reviewed in the enhanced surveillance are included in the 'analysis' in the commentary publication.

CDI:

Diagnosis of CDI is confirmed in a patient who is both symptomatic with diarrhoea and whose stool has tested positive using a two-step diagnostic algorithm. Laboratory reports of positive samples are then sent to ECOSS for data extraction. In the community, patients with CDI may have a mild illness that does not require a GP visit, or the symptoms may not be recognised by a GP for a *C. difficile* test request. In hospitals, the chance of a diarrhoea sample not being tested for *C. difficile* is much lower, and patients who have ileus (i.e., CDI but with no diarrhoea) might be missed; however, as a result of ARHAI published guidance on managing CDI patients, this is not likely. ARHAI carries out validation with the NHS boards to check that no CDI cases have been missed from ECOSS each quarter. As with most surveillance programmes, completeness will not be 100% but mandatory surveillance, supported by ARHAI through issued guidance on diagnosis of CDI and validation of cases, ensures this is as near to 100% as practically possible. When categorising by healthcare or community, not all cases may be successfully data linked in any one quarter. Therefore, the sum total of the healthcare and community CDI cases may not equal the total number of CDI cases reported to ARHAI.

SSI:

Surveillance coordinators are responsible for completeness and accuracy of data. At hospital level, processes are in placed to ensure all patients included in the standard surveillance have had forms completed (e.g. cross checking with admission or theatre list). ARHAI also compare SSIRS data with data from ISD to a make sure all procedures under surveillance have been included; however, this comparison is only done annually.

Comparability

CDI / ECB / SAB:
Public Health England report rates per quarter for CDI, ECB and SAB (methods and definitions may differ) – **https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/mrsa-mssa-and-e-coli-bacteraemia-and-c-difficile-infection-quarterly-epidemiological-commentary**

SSI:
SSI rates by health board are not published by the rest of UK. Annual numbers are reported by Public Health England - **https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/surgical-site-infections-ssi-surveillance-nhs-hospitals-in-england**

Accessibility

It is the policy of ARHAI to make its web sites and products accessible according to **published guidelines**.

Coherence and clarity

Tables and charts are accessible via the ARHAI Scotland website at:
https://www.nss.nhs.scot/publications/quarterly-epidemiological-data-on-clostridioides-difficile-infection-escherichia-coli-bacteraemia-staphylococcus-aureus-bacteraemia-and-surgical-site-infection-in-scotland-january-to-march-q1-2023/

Value type and unit of measurement

Healthcare associated cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 Total occupied bed days (TOBDs)) for *Clostridioides difficile* infection, *Escherichia coli* bacteraemia & *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia.

Community associated cases and incidence rates (per 100,000 population) for *Clostridioides difficile* infection, *Escherichia coli* bacteraemia & *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia.
Number of procedures and Surgical Site Infections and incidence per categories (per 100 procedures) for inpatients and post discharge surveillance.

Disclosure

The PHS protocol on Statistical Disclosure Protocol is followed
https://publichealthscotland.scot/publications/statistical-disclosure-protocol/

Official Statistics designation

Official Statistics

UK Statistics Authority Assessment

Not Assessed

Last published

04 April 2023

Next published

October 2023

Date of first publication

7 April 2015

Prior to this *Clostridioides difficile* infection (first publication - 2 Apr 2008) and *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia (first publication - 3 Apr 2002) were separate reports.

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Date form completed

04 July 2023

Appendix 3 – Early access details

Pre-Release Access

Under terms of the "Pre-Release Access to Official Statistics (Scotland) Order 2008", ARHAI is obliged to publish information on those receiving Pre-Release Access ("Pre-Release Access" refers to statistics in their final form prior to publication). The standard maximum Pre-Release Access is five working days. Shown below are details of those receiving standard Pre-Release Access.

Standard Pre-Release Access:

- Scottish Government Health Department
- NHS Board Chief Executives
- NHS Board Communication leads

Appendix 4 – ARHAI Scotland and Official Statistics

About ARHAI Scotland

ARHAI Scotland works at the very heart of the health service across Scotland, delivering services critical to frontline patient care and supporting the efficient and effective operation of NHS Scotland.

Official Statistics

Our statistics comply with the **Code of Practice for Statistics** in terms of trustworthiness, high quality and public value. This also means that we keep data secure at all stages, through collection, processing, analysis and output production, and adhere to the **'five safes'**.