

# Clostridium difficile

Clostridium difficile is one of the HCAI's that is closely monitored at the RNOH. In collaboration with the pharmacy department the RNOH continues to promote best practice in antimicrobial stewardship and maintains a high level of infection prevention and control measures for all HCAs.

Combined efforts to reduce Clostridium difficile positive cases in the trust include:

- Prudent antimicrobial prescribing
- Early isolation of cases
- Improved documentation in medical notes
- Checklist for actions
- Enhanced environmental cleaning using chlorine based disinfectant
- Appropriate infection prevention and control precautions at point of contact
- Hand hygiene, particularly washing with soap and water
- Use of personal protective equipment
- Sign on the patients door indicating precautions required

The Trust also continued to undertake mandatory reporting of Methicillin sensitive Staphylococcus aureus (MSSA) and Escherichia coli (E.coli) cases and have extended our surveillance.

Use of broad-spectrum antimicrobials is monitored and restricted by using narrower spectrum agents in order to reduce the likelihood of the emergence of resistant organisms and diarrhoea associated with Clostridium difficile.