

<b>Enw'r Pwyllgor: Name of Sub-Committee:</b>	Exception Report from Infection Prevention Strategic Steering Group
<b>Cadeirydd y Pwyllgor: Chair of Sub-Committee:</b>	Sharon Daniel, Assistant Director of Nursing Professional Development and Workforce
<b>Cyfnod Adrodd: Reporting Period:</b>	Meeting held on 8 <sup>th</sup> September 2020
<b>Materion Ansawdd, Diogelwch a Phrofiad: Quality, Safety &amp; Experience Matters:</b>	
<p>The Infection Prevention Strategic Steering Group reviewed the newly published 'Covid-19 Guidance for the Remobilisation of Services within Health and Care Settings' dated 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020.</p> <p>Red, Amber and Green pathways have been introduced to reflect the high, medium and low pathways within the national guidance. The Strategic Steering Group recognised the complexities associated with identifying these pathways, which will require clinical judgement and will need to be service led. The choice of pathway will influence decisions regarding utilisation of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and the guidance will aid decision-making on managing patients and support staff in working safely. This will inform PPE modelling which is being constantly reviewed by the PPE Cell with input from Procurement, Infection Prevention and Health &amp; Safety.</p> <p>The availability of isolation rooms was discussed together with the previously reported non-compliance with the Welsh Government Welsh Health Circular (WHC) Airborne Isolation Room (2018) 033 requirements. A Task &amp; Finish Group has been convened to provide a strategic view on how the Health Board can work towards improved compliance recognising the strategic direction as set out in 'A Healthier Mid &amp; West Wales'. One recommendation from the Task &amp; Finish Group has been the use of pop-up isolation rooms which provide air changes and can be used for isolation of suspected or confirmed infections. The estimated cost (£20,000 per room plus annual maintenance costs) is believed to be preferable to permanent structural changes however further discussion is required at the Capital Estates and IM&amp;T Sub-Committee (CEIM&amp;TSC). The Group agreed that these would be beneficial to the Health Board in the management of current and emerging organisms, and consideration should be given to purchasing 10 rooms.</p> <p><i>Clostridioides difficile</i> Infection (CDI) has increased during the previous month and is showing a 7% increase (4 cases) compared to 2019/20 figures. Glangwili General Hospital (GGH) has been the centre of this increase which is reporting a rate of 3.29 per 1000 admissions currently. This remains below the Health Board rate of 4.74 per 1000 admissions and reflects the low incidence that GGH has reported in recent years. Nevertheless there has been one period of increased incidence in GGH which has been investigated with good clinical engagement and learning. This rise has been seen in other Health Boards in Wales, reporting a 20 – 59% increase in CDI.</p> <p><i>Escherichia coli (E.coli)</i> Blood Stream Infection (BSI) is showing a decrease of 31% (54 cases) in comparison to the previous year. Some of this reduction will be due to the reduced number of patient admissions during the first quarter of 2020/21.</p> <p><i>Staphylococcus aureus (S. aureus)</i> BSI numbers have showed a reduction of 19% (9 less cases).</p>	

Klebsiella sp. BSI numbers have showed a reduction of 22% (7 less cases) compared with the previous year.

*Pseudomonas aeruginosa* BSI has seen a decrease in numbers resulting in a 50% reduction (7 less cases); which could be attributed to the work undertaken across the Health Board around water safety.

Ongoing collaborative work has led to the development of two posts; Community Senior Infection Prevention Nurse for Carmarthenshire County Council, and a Health Protection Adviser for Aberystwyth University, thereby improving links with the community across the Health Board.

**Risgiau:**

**Risks (include Reference to Risk Register reference):**

- The Infection Prevention Themed Risk Register was reviewed; it was noted that two risks require updating which will be reported to the services involved.

**Gwella Ansawdd:**

**Quality Improvement:**

- Development of patient pathways in line with national guidance.
- Support provided regarding the reset of services.

**Argymhelliad:**

**Recommendation:**

QSEAC is asked to note the content of this report and consider the proposal of purchasing pop-up isolation rooms.

**Dyddiad Cyfarfod Nesaf y Grŵp Gweithredol:**

**Date of Next Operational Group Meeting:**

21<sup>st</sup> October 2020