

Appendix 14 –Mandatory - NIPCM Healthcare Infection Incident Assessment Tool (HIIAT)

The Healthcare Infection Incident Assessment Tool (HIIAT) should be used by the Infection Prevention and Control Team (IPCT) or Health Protection Team (HPT) to assess every healthcare infection incident i.e. all outbreaks and incidents (including decontamination incidents or near misses) in any healthcare setting (that is, NHSScotland, independent contractors providing NHS services and private providers of healthcare).

The HIIAT has two parts/functions:

Part 1: Assessment

Assesses impact of a healthcare infection incident/outbreak on patients, services and public health.

The HIIAT should:

- Be utilised to assess the initial impact and monitor any ongoing impact (escalating and de-escalating the incident/outbreak until declared closed).
- Remain assessed 'Amber' or 'Red' only whilst there is ongoing risk of exposure, new cases, or until all exposed cases have been informed.

An individual member of the IPCT or HPT may undertake the initial assessment. If a PAG/IMT is established then further assessments will be led by the chair of the PAG/IMT.

Incident	Severity of illness	Impact on services	Risk of transmission	Public Anxiety
Minor	Patients require only minor clinical interventional support as a consequence of the incident. There is no associated mortality as a direct result of this incident.	No or minor impact on services.	Minor implications for Public Health. Minor risk or no evidence of cross transmission or on-going exposure	No or minor public anxiety is anticipated. No, or minimal, media interest: no press statement.
Moderate	Patients require moderate clinical interventional support as a consequence of the incident. There is no associated mortality as a direct result of this incident.	Moderate impact on services e.g. multiple wards closed or ITU closed as a consequence of the control measures	Moderate implications for Public Health. Moderate risk or evidence of cross transmission or on-going exposure	Moderate public anxiety is anticipated. Media interest expected: prepare press statement
Major	Patients require major clinical interventional support as a consequence of the incident and/or Severe/life threatening/rare infection and/or there is associated mortality*	Major impact on services e.g. hospital closure(s) for any period of time as a consequence of the control measures	Major implications to Public Health or Significant risk of cross transmission, of a severe/life threatening/rare infection or significant on-going exposure	Major public anxiety anticipated. Significant media interest: prepare press statement

Calculate the Impact:

All Minor = **GREEN**

3 minor and 1 Moderate = **GREEN**

No major and 2-4 Moderate = **AMBER**

Any Major = **RED**

Part 2: Communication

Supports a single channel of infection incident/outbreak assessment and information reporting both internally within a NHS Board area and externally to ARHAI Scotland and Scottish Government Health and Social Care Department (SGHSCD).

GREEN	AMBER	RED
<p>If the HIIAT is assessed as Green, this should be reported through the electronic outbreak reporting tool (ORT).</p> <p>If support from ARHAI Scotland is required this should be communicated to ARHAI Scotland by email and through the ORT.</p> <p>Follow local governance procedures for assessing and internal reporting.</p>	<p>If the HIIAT is assessed Amber, report to ARHAI Scotland through the ORT. This will be reviewed within 24 hours for onward reporting to SGHSCD. NHS board will be cited.</p> <p>Ensure fields are completed as fully as possible.</p> <p>If ARHAI Scotland support is required, this should be communicated by email or by telephone (see contact pages) and through the ORT.</p> <p>Press statement (holding or release) must be prepared and sent to ARHAI Scotland via the ORT.</p> <p>Follow local governance procedures for assessing and internal reporting.</p> <p>Review and report HIIAT at least twice weekly or as agreed between IMT and ARHAI Scotland.</p> <p>The HIIAT should remain Amber only whilst there is ongoing risk of exposure to new cases or until all exposed cases have been informed.</p>	<p>If the HIIAT is assessed Red, report to ARHAI Scotland through the ORT. This will be reviewed within 24 hours for onward reporting to SGHSCD. NHS board will be cited.</p> <p>Ensure fields are completed as fully as possible.</p> <p>If ARHAI Scotland support is required, this should be communicated by email or by telephone (see contact pages) and through the ORT.</p> <p>Press statement (holding or release) must be prepared and sent to ARHAI Scotland via the ORT.</p> <p>Follow local governance procedures for assessing and internal reporting.</p> <p>Review and report HIIAT daily or as agreed between HPS and IMT (a minimum of weekly).</p> <p>The HIIAT should remain Red only whilst there is significant ongoing risk of exposure to new cases or until all exposed cases have been informed.</p>

GREEN	AMBER	RED
<p>The final decision to release a press statement irrespective of HIIAT assessment (colour) is the decision of the IMT</p> <p>Following assessment by the NHS Board and ARHAI Scotland one collective HIIORT may be submitted for instances where multiple areas within a site are affected by the same infection such as seasonal influenza</p>		

* Only HAI deaths which pose an acute and serious public health risk must be reported to the Procurator Fiscal (SGHD/CMO(2014)27).