

Scottish Antimicrobial Prescribing Group
Empirical Prescribing Indicators Report
September 2011

Background

The CDI HEAT target for 2009-11 has been reviewed by the HAI Task Force and a new CDI target from April 2011 has been set using a 'best in class' approach so that by March 2013 the rate of CDI in patients aged 65 and over is 0.39 cases or less per 1000 total occupied bed days in all NHS boards.

To support NHS boards in achieving and maintaining this target the Scottish Antimicrobial Prescribing Group (SAPG) has reviewed the supporting prescribing indicators to evaluate their success in assuring that antibiotics with a high risk of CDI are not routinely used.

This report details compliance with the hospital-based empirical prescribing indicator. Data included in the report are for the period April – June 2011.

Hospital – based empirical prescribing: Antibiotic prescriptions are compliant with the local antimicrobial policy and the rationale for treatment is recorded in the clinical case note in ≥95% of sampled cases.

Method

Empirical prescribing data are collected in acute admissions units. Medical and surgical admissions units are reported separately where possible. Firstly, a check is made that the indication for the antibiotic is recorded in the patient's medical notes. When an indication is recorded the prescription is then assessed for compliance with the local antibiotic prescribing policy. If an indication is not recorded the case is not assessed for compliance with policy. Where prescriptions deviate from policy but there is a clearly documented rationale for antibiotic choice the prescription is judged compliant. Where policy has not been followed and there is no documented justification for not following the policy the case is marked as non-compliant.

Results

The median compliance (range) is reported for each of the empirical prescribing measures:

Empirical prescribing (Medical Admissions)

Indication documented: 100% (90% - 100%)

Policy Compliant: 88% (74% - 100%)

Empirical Prescribing (Surgical Admissions)

Indication documented: 97% (71% - 100%)

Policy Compliant: 89% (67% - 100%)

All boards are submitting empirical prescribing data for Medical Admissions and 10 of 14 boards are submitting Surgical Admissions data. Four Boards not submitting data are commencing data collection from July 2011 onwards or have resource issues which prevent data collection from progressing at present.

Of the boards that have submitted data, 71% and 50% achieved the target for indication documented in Medical and Surgical Admissions respectively. 29% of boards achieved the target for compliance with policy in Medical Admissions and 30% of boards in Surgical Admissions.

Empirical Prescribing (Medical Admissions) April 2011 – June 2011

	Indication Documented			Policy Compliant		
	Sample Size	% Compliance	>=95%	Sample Size	% Compliance	>=95%
Ayrshire and Arran	91	100%	Yes	90	91%	
Borders	60	100%	Yes	60	85%	
Dumfries and Galloway	55	100%	Yes	54	74%	
Fife	41	100%	Yes	41	88%	
Forth Valley**	96	94%		93	88%	
Grampian	50	100%	Yes	49	80%	
Greater Glasgow and Clyde	360	98%	Yes	351	93%	
Highland	55	100%	Yes	55	100%	Yes
Lanarkshire	162	93%		151	93%	
Lothian	154	97%	Yes	150	83%	
Orkney	30	100%	Yes	29	100%	Yes
Shetland	40	100%	Yes	40	100%	Yes
Tayside	97	90%		89	97%	Yes
Western Isles	77	93%		73	79%	
Submitting Data = 14/14	1368	100%	10 of 14	1325	90%	4 of 14
	Total Number of Patients	Median Compliance	Boards Achieving Target	Total Number of Patients	Median Compliance	Boards Achieving Target

** Combined Assessment Unit (Medical and Surgical Admissions)

Empirical Prescribing (Surgical Admissions) April 2011 – June 2011

	Indication Documented			Policy Compliant		
	Sample Size	% Compliance	>=95%	Sample Size	% Compliance	>=95%
Ayrshire and Arran	79	91%		72	77%	
Borders	60	100%	Yes	58	85%	
Dumfries and Galloway	89	100%	Yes	89	88%	
Fife						
Forth Valley**						
Grampian						
Greater Glasgow and Clyde	281	85%		243	90%	
Highland	59	100%	Yes	58	93%	
Lanarkshire						
Lothian	<10	100%	Yes	<10	100%	Yes
Orkney	17	71%		13	100%	Yes
Shetland	<10	100%	Yes	<10	67%	
Tayside	46	87%		40	100%	Yes
Western Isles	33	93%		31	87%	
Submitting Data = 10 of 14	674	97%	5 of 10	614	89%	3 of 10
	Total Number of Patients	Median Compliance	Boards Achieving Target	Total Number of Patients	Median Compliance	Boards Achieving Target

** Results included with medical admissions data