



Minutes of the Strategic Infection Prevention and Control Advisory Group / Te Rōpū Tohutohu Rautaki Ārai Mate, Whakahaere (SIPCAG)

Chair	Greg Simmons (Co-Chair), Rawiri McKree Jansen (Co-Chair)
Members	Greg Simmons, Rawiri McKree Jansen, Anne Hutley, Arthur Morris, Brittany Jenkins, Dennis Te Moana, Jo Stodart, Lynne Downing, Maree Sheard, Marj Allan, Martin Thomas, Max Bloomfield, Sally Roberts, Sarah Marshall, Sue Barnes, Tanya Jackways, Vivian Black.
In attendance	Jeanette Bell, Marie Talbot (Minutes), Nikki Grae, Sue Atkins.
Apologies	Max Bloomfield, Maree Sheard, Martin Thomas, Arthur Morris
Guests	Carolyn Clissold Co-Lead Infection Services Network 1-3pm

The hui was held at Rydges Airport Hotel, Wellington on Wednesday, 20 March 2024.

The hui began at 9.15 am.

1. Welcome | Mihi whakapāha

Greg Simmons opened the meeting at 9.17am and Jeanette Bell gave the Karakia.

There were no changes to declarations of interest.

Apologies noted as above.

Greg Simmons then gave an update on recent membership changes: Tanya Jackways, Clinical Principal Advisor, IPC Clinical Leadership Office of Te Whatu Ora was welcomed for the meeting replacing Jane Pryer.

Cherene Warbrick-Daniel, Consumer Representative has resigned, so the advisory group will continue with the current two consumer representatives.

2. Ngā āmiki o mua / Minutes of the previous meeting - held 23 October 2023

The minutes were accepted as a true and correct record.

2.1 Ngā take korero / Matters arising

Action items from previous meeting:

Item	Topic	Action	Meeting update
1.	Health Roundtable	Health Roundtable quarterly data on SSI and SAB comparison with national surveillance data.	Agenda item for this meeting
2.	SIPCAG Terms of reference	Check Te Whatu Ora role and update SIPCAG ToR representation from Te Whatu Ora as required	On hold due to current health systems changes
3.	SSIIP	Include more information on SSI investigation reporting at the next SIPCAG.	Agenda item for this meeting
4.	SSIIP	Sharing postoperative antimicrobial prophylaxis for cardiac surgery	Completed
5.	SSIIP	Check the method used for collecting patients' smoking information on their health record	Agenda item for this meeting
6.	Hand hygiene	Letters to all district Executive Leadership Teams with what needs to be improved and asking for action.	Completed
7.	Hand hygiene	Link information about the new dashboard to the hand hygiene compliance letters.	Completed
8.	Antimicrobial guidelines project presentation from Sharon Gardiner	Confirm if the antibiotic prescribing dashboard will be linked to 1 or 4 apps	In progress, update at next meeting
9.	HA-SAB	Include data broken down by clinical speciality in the next results report	Completed
10.	HAI costings	Provide an update on the PPS costings, at the first SIPCAG meeting in 2024, with a prioritisation of interventions	Agenda item for this meeting
11.	Global IPC strategy	Find out who signed NZ up to the WHO global IPC strategy	Brittany Jenkins confirmed that NZ, as a member state, is automatically included when the strategy was endorsed internationally but also that feedback supporting the strategy was submitted by NZ

2.2 Ngā tino korero / Papers for noting:

Quarterly IPC update for Te Whatu Ora – January 2024.

3. Clinical Lead update

A written update was circulated with the papers for the meeting.

Sally Roberts highlighted a request from the World Health Organization (WHO) for New Zealand to supply a country and organisation level review of the delivery of Infection Prevention and Control (IPC). To date the WHO hasn't received the requested information and do not have a Ministry of Health (MOH) - Manatū Hauora contact.

Action:

Brittany Jenkins will follow up to identify MOH contact responsible for supplying information to the WHO and arrange a meeting to ensure that New Zealand IPC data contributed by mid-April 2024.

4. Surgical Site Infection Improvement Programme (SSIIP) update

Sue Atkins gave an update on the July to September 2023 period for cardiac and orthopaedic surgery.

Discussion:

There was discussion regarding procedures that are outsourced to private surgical hospitals (PSHs) and how the data is captured. Currently, PSHs send data to the outsourcing hospital for submission to the SSI data platform, National Monitor. Not all hospitals receive this data from PSHs. The group discussed the contractual requirements for outsourcing and the need for this to be stated in contracts. The IPC team is working with the Waitaha Canterbury team (who host National Monitor for Te Tāhū Hauora) and private surgical hospitals to provide access to direct data entry into National Monitor.

Non-reporting of SSI investigations for light surveillance districts was also discussed, and how reporting can be improved.

Rawiri McKree Jansen asked to meet with the IPC team to go over the IPC reports prior to their release and invited other SIPCAG members to attend.

Actions:

IPC team to check if Te Whatu Ora have standard contracts for outsourcing, and if these include requirements for reporting for publicly funded procedures.

In response to request to meet quarterly to go over IPC reports, IPC team to send SIPCAG members email links to updated data for HA-SAB, HH dashboard, and SSI dashboards. A follow up meeting can be set up if needed.

Lynne Downing (Royston Hospital, Hastings) is interested in direct SSI data entry. IPC team to let Waitaha Canterbury team know.

IPC team to look at ways to improve completion of SSI investigations.

5. New IPC data tile on Te Tāhū Hauora HQSC website

Sue Atkins showed the new IPC data tile that has been added to the Te Tāhū Hauora HQSC website.

Action:

Send out link to new data tile with draft minutes – IPC team.

6. Hand Hygiene New Zealand (HHNZ) programme update

Sue Atkins presented the HHNZ compliance audit results for November 2023–February 2024.

Sue also provided the following programme updates:

- A group of Gold Auditor Trainers recently reviewed the new Australian National Hand Hygiene Initiative (NHHI) Hand Hygiene Auditor Pathway for potential use in New Zealand. There was mixed feedback on the new pathway. Our IPC Specialist will review these resources, and progress this.
- In November all districts were sent letters highlighting compliance with the hand hygiene national target, the minimum number of moments required and actions that could be taken to optimise local hand hygiene programmes.
- A question about hand hygiene has been tested in the national outpatient and inpatient surveys. The IPC team has requested that the hand hygiene question be added as a regular item to the inpatient survey.
- The theme for World Hand Hygiene Day for 2024 is Promoting knowledge and capacity building of health and care workers through innovative and impactful training and education, on infection prevention and control, including hand hygiene. The theme is: Why is sharing knowledge about hand hygiene still so important? Because it helps stop the spread of harmful germs in health care.

Discussion:

There was discussion on reasons for non-compliance and ideas for improvement.

Marj Allan asked if we should expect higher compliance rates and whether the national compliance target of 80% should be increased.

Actions:

Provide progress update on review of new Australian hand hygiene auditing processes at next meeting.

Consider changing timing of annual hand hygiene letter updates to districts to coincide with World Hand Hygiene Day (to start May 2025).

Request addition of the hand hygiene question to the primary healthcare survey.

ACC to include hand hygiene in provider contracts – Sarah Marshall.

Look at evidence for increasing the compliance target and report back at the next meeting.

7. Healthcare-associated *Staphylococcus aureus* bacteraemia (HA-SAB) source data collection

Sue Atkins gave an overview of the results for October–December 2023 and Sally Roberts gave an overview of the HA-SAB 18-month review results.

Discussion:

There was discussion about ethnicity rates by type of device and the level of data being reported. Sally to work with HQI team to perform a multi-variable analysis of HA-SAB data – variables to be decided.

8. Comparison of Health Roundtable v Te Tāhū Hauora HA-SAB surveillance data

Sue Atkins gave the results of a comparison of data from Te Tāhū Hauora HA-SAB surveillance and Health Roundtable coding data for July 2022–June 2023.

Discussion:

There was discussion on the lower Health Roundtable numbers and the difficulties that arise with coding data. The conclusion from the comparison data is that Health Roundtable data is not suitable for HA-SAB surveillance.

Action:

Send a copy of the comparison data to Rawiri McKree Jansen – Marie Talbot
Close item on actions list.

9. Peripheral intravenous catheter (PIVC) quality improvement initiative

Sue Atkins gave an update on the PIVC quality improvement initiative. This included the principles, foundations, and components of the proposed bundle of care and next steps.

Discussion:

There was discussion about engaging the Te Whatu Ora Service Improvement & Innovation team with this work.

Action:

Elevate to Service Improvement & Innovation director about enabling project and freeing capacity locally – Rawiri McKree Jansen.

10. Infection Services Network, Aotearoa (ISNA)

Carolyn Clissold, Infection Services Co-Lead, Hospital & Specialist Services, Te Whatu Ora and Michael Hammond, Project Manager joined the meeting to give an overview of the Infection Services Network, Aotearoa. Carolyn and Michael outlined the purpose of the national infection services network and the plan to focus on IPC for the first 3-9 months.

Discussion:

There was discussion about stakeholders vs. experts as a group, communications needed with the plan for the network, use of the IPC standards (in the Ngā paerewa Health and disability services standards), links to community health and alert systems, and the need for stakeholders to understand each other's roles.

Action:

IPC team and Carolyn Clissold to meet about linking with Te Tāhū Hauora and SIPCAG.

11. Healthcare-associated infections (HAI) and antimicrobial resistance

Sally Roberts presented information about healthcare-associated infections, antimicrobial resistance, and surveillance in New Zealand.

Discussion:

There was discussion that this information should link to alert systems currently in place.

12. Group representative updates

- *Māori Health Authority – Te Aka Whai Ora* – Rawiri McKree Jansen gave an update on the disestablishment of the Māori Health Authority Te Aka Whai Ora and where areas of responsibility will move to going forward.

- *The Infection Prevention and Control Nurses College (IPCNC)* – Anne Hutley and Jo Stodart reported that IPCNC is updating their IPC competencies document. The IPCNC conference is on 21-23 August.
- *Accident Compensation Corporation (ACC)* – Sarah Marshall reported that while ACC isn't investing in IPC-specific work they are still interested in HAI and keen for future opportunities for investment in harm prevention.
- *New Zealand Microbiology Network (NZMN)* – Vivian Black reported that multidrug-resistant organisms (MDRO) alerting is progressing and that differences in surveillance between districts is challenging.
- *Ministry of Health – Manatū Hauora (MoH)* – Brittany Jenkins reported that the Ministry is supportive of the work Te Tāhū Hauora is doing to support district success with the Ngā Paerewa health and disability service standards. The Ministry note the increase in HA-SAB infections and suggest IPC team strengthen links to National Quality Forum and the IPC issues raised in this forum. The Ministry is interested in building links with the Infection Services Network.
- *Health New Zealand – Te Whatu Ora* – Tanya Jackways reported IPC role currently 0.6 interim until June, then plan for permanent IPC 1.0 FTE role. An update to VRE guidance for ARC has been drafted, an outbreak management document for respiratory illnesses (includes COVID, influenza, and pertussis) aimed at aged residential care is being developed in conjunction with public health.
- *Consumer Representatives* – Marj Allan commented that she feels confident with the progress of this group. Dennis Te Moana asked for a glossary of terms and mentioned that consumer councils are likely to change in the future as other ways of capturing consumer voices are being investigated.
- *Private Surgical Hospitals* - Lynne Downing gave an update on the size of the membership organisations; NZPSHA will hold a conference in Auckland on 11-13 September 2024.
- *Quality and Risk Managers* – Sue Barnes commented that the national quality and risk group is getting regular updates from the districts and working on raising their profile.
- *District management* – Greg Simmons reported that health services are under pressure and emphasis is on planned surgery and patient flow. New health targets are challenging but achievable.

Actions:

Send glossary of IPC terms to Dennis - Jeanette

Carolyn Clissold mentioned that screening and VRE guidelines are available, and she will send these to the group.

13. IPC programme plan

Jeanette Bell gave an overview of the IPC programme plan, what will be completed by June 2024, what is planned for June 2024-25.

Discussion:

There was discussion about how the work undertaken by Te Tāhū Hauora connects with the executive teams of other health agencies and the need to keep pushing for the work that is done by the IPC team to be seen.

14. General Business

There were no items of general business raised.

15. Karakia and close

The meeting was closed at 3.35pm with a Karakia.

Actions list

Item	Meeting	Topic	Action required	By whom	Status
1.	6 June 2023	SIPCAG Terms of reference	Update SIPCAG ToR representation as needed.	Nikki Grae, Jeanette Bell	On hold
2.	25 Oct 2023	Antimicrobial guidelines project presentation from Sharon Gardiner	Confirm if the antibiotic prescribing dashboard will be linked to 1 or 4 apps	Rawiri McKree Jansen	In progress
3.	20 Mar 2024	Clinical leads update	Identify MOH contact responsible for supplying information to the WHO and arrange a meeting to ensure that NZ IPC data contributed by mid-April	Brittany Jenkins	Complete
4.	20 Mar 2024	SSIIP - Private surgical hospital data	IPC team to check if Te Whatu Ora has standard contracts for outsourcing, and if these include requirements for reporting of publicly funded procedures.	Nikki Grae	In progress
5.	20 Mar 2024	SSIIP- member request to meet quarterly to go over IPC results	IPC team to send SIPCAG members email links to updated data for HA-SAB, HH dashboard, and SSI dashboards. A follow up meeting can be set up if needed.	IPC Team	Complete
6.	20 Mar 2024	SSIIP – Direct data entry	Let Waitaha Canterbury team know that Royston Hospital Hastings is interested in direct SSI data entry	Jeanette Bell	Complete
7.	20 Mar 2024	SSIIP – SSI investigations	Look at ways to improve completion of SSI investigations	IPC Team	Complete – update at meeting
8.	20 Mar 2024	New data tile on IPC webpage	Send out link to new data tile with draft minutes	Marie Talbot	Complete
9.	20 Mar 2024	HHNZ – review of new ACSQHC auditing	Provide progress update on review of new Australian hand hygiene auditing processes at next meeting.	IPC Team	Update at meeting and close
10.	20 Mar 2024	HHNZ – annual letters to districts	Consider sending annual district hand hygiene letters to coincide with World Hand Hygiene Day (starting 2025).	IPC Team	Update at meeting and close.
11.	20 Mar 2024	HHNZ – patient experience survey	Request addition of hand hygiene question to primary healthcare survey.	Jeanette Bell	Update at meeting and close.
12.	20 Mar 2024	Hand hygiene	ACC to include hand hygiene in provider contracts.	Sarah Marshall	In progress

Item	Meeting	Topic	Action required	By whom	Status
13.	20 Mar 2024	HHNZ compliance target	Look at evidence for increasing the compliance target and report back at the next meeting.	IPC Team	Update at meeting and close.
14.	20 Mar 2024	HA-SAB	Send a copy of the comparison data with Health Roundtable to Rawiri McKree Jansen	Marie Talbot	Complete
15.	20 Mar 2024	PIVC quality improvement initiative	Elevate to Service Improvement & Innovation director about enabling project and freeing capacity locally	Rawiri McKree Jansen	Closed
16.	20 Mar 2024	Representative updates	Send glossary of IPC terms to Dennis.	Jeanette Bell	Complete
17.	20 Mar 2024	Infection services network	Send updated VRE guidelines to group.	Carolyn Clissold	Complete
18.	20 Mar 2024	Infection services network	IPC team and Carolyn Clissold to meet about linking with Te Tāhū Hauora and SIPCAG.	Carolyn Clissold IPC Team	In progress