

**HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL  
23 AUGUST 2006**

**REVIEW INTO HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS  
EVIDENCE FROM SOUTH TEES PATIENT & PUBLIC  
INVOLVEMENT FORUM**

**PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

1. To introduce representatives of the Patient & Public Involvement Forum (PPIF) attached to the South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust, to the Health Scrutiny Panel.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

2. That the Panel notes the evidence of the PPIF, in the context of the overall review.
3. That the Panel asks any questions felt pertinent to the review of Healthcare Associated Infections.

**CONSIDERATION OF REPORT**

4. As the Panel will be aware, each NHS Trust has a PPIF attached to it, which is intended to be the voice of the patient in the day to day running of the Trust.
5. PPIF have legal rights to make visits to medical facilities and to assess and report upon the condition of those facilities including areas such as cleanliness and disability access. It may report the findings of such visits to the Trust Board, Overview & Scrutiny and the wider general public.
6. The PPIF attached to the South Tees Trust has made a number of visits to medical facilities at James Cook University Hospital and the cleanliness of such facilities will have been a prime factor in their assessment of the area.

7. It is to this end, that the PPIF has been invited to attend today's meeting and discuss with the Panel its views on and experiences of Healthcare Associated Infections within the South Tees Trust.
8. It is anticipated that representatives of the PPIF will firstly outline their initial views and experiences of HCAs within the South Tees Trust's facilities. Following that, the Panel is invited to ask any questions it has of the PPIF, on points of clarification in relation to the evidence received or lines of inquiry it wishes to explore further.
9. Members of the Panel may wish to ask questions around whether the PPIF feels actions could be taken to combat HCAs, which are presently not being taken, or whether all necessary action is being taken. The Panel may also be interested in what the Trust Board response has been to any communication from the PPIF on cleanliness/HCA issues and whether the PPIF has received any feedback from patient and/or carer groups on the topic of cleanliness and/or HCAs.

## **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

10. No background papers were used in the production of this report.

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