

HEALTH SCRUTINY PANEL

23 OCTOBER 2006

**HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS – EVIDENCE FROM
MIDDLESBROUGH PRIMARY CARE TRUST**

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1. To introduce representatives of Middlesbrough Primary Care Trust(PCT), in attendance today to discuss the PCT's perspective on Healthcare Associated Infections (HCAIs) affecting the local health economy.

RECOMMENDATIONS

2. That Members of the Health Scrutiny Panel take note of the evidence provided and incorporate the evidence gathered into the overall review of the Panel.

CONSIDERATION

3. As Members of the Panel will be aware, representatives of the South Tees Hospitals NHS Trust have been in attendance at past meetings of the Health Scrutiny Panel, to provide evidence in relation to the Panel's ongoing review into Healthcare Associated Infections.
4. PCTs, however, have a unique role in being responsible for commissioning services on behalf of the communities they represent and holding approximately 75% of the entire NHS funding to pay for those commissioned services.
5. As such, PCTs have an important role in securing safe and effective health services for local people and their view on how the local economy is performing in any given field is very important. It is with that in mind, that representatives of Middlesbrough PCT will be in attendance at today's meeting, to present the PCT's perspective upon the issue.

6. It is anticipated that the PCT will initially present its views, before opening up to the Panel for questions, points of clarification and a wider debate.
7. The PCT has been briefed that the Panel would be particularly interested in its view in relation to the following themes.
 - 7.1 What is the PCTs view on the current rate of HCAIs at James Cook University Hospital?
 - 7.2 How does the PCT monitor the HCAI rate at James Cook University Hospital?
 - 7.3 With the advent of more community based services, is it something the PCT will have to be more directly involved with combating?
 - 7.4 What is Middlesbrough PCT currently doing to challenge the HCAI rate in the local health economy?
 - 7.5 What could PCTs do to contribute to challenge the HCAI rate in the local health economy?
8. The information gathered by the Panel will be incorporated into the overall review and used to inform the Panel's Final Report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

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

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