Scottish Infection Research Network

Steering Group

Terms of Reference

Background

As part of its commitment to develop and support high quality research around Healthcare-Associated Infections (HAI) within Scotland, the Scottish Government supported the formation of the Scottish Infection Research Network (SIRN).

Remit

a. To work collaboratively with existing national groups (Policy Unit, HAI Task Force National Advisory Group) to identify priority areas for HAI research and to develop research streams within these areas.

b. Put out calls for bids, and evaluate bids according to agreed criteria and allocate funding accordingly. This may involve third party participation i.e. CSO.

c. To develop a sustainable, high quality research infrastructure.

d. To build capacity and capability within the HAI research community.

e. To develop and support effective collaborative relationships among the HAI research community.

f. To endorse and promote HAI related research that is scientifically credible and has practical application.

g. To knowledge manage HAI research activities in Scotland and wider, communicate to key stakeholders and ensure good quality HAI research underpins curriculum development in HAI in HEIs.

h. To liaise with relevant Scottish groups, as deemed appropriate, to ensure that issues and evidence surrounding HAI is utilised and maintained as an integral part of the decision making processes of these groups.

Steering Group

The Steering Group consists of representatives who are drawn from academic institutions, clinicians, nurses, statisticians, educationalists and policy groups who coordinate the functions of the Network.

The membership of the Steering Group should mirror the main professions and skills involved in HAI and Infection research as far as possible. Membership will be drawn from available stakeholders and policy groups within the NHS and research establishment. One seat on the Steering Group will a member external to the main stakeholder groups.

Membership shall be reviewed annually on an on-going basis.
Director

The Director chairs the Steering Group.

Reporting arrangements

SIRN shall report to HAI Policy Unit by provision of an annual written report focusing on outcomes and deliverables. The Group will also report to the Deans of Health and appropriate senior managers in the infection control area in Universities in Scotland.

Administration

The Administration Manager is based within the Glasgow University and who sits within and reports upwards through the Administration line management structures. The Manager is employed on Glasgow University terms and conditions.

Functioning

Meetings are held regularly - on a quarterly basis - and are chaired by the Director.