



MRSA and C Difficile

- NHS organisations across the UK are required to report regularly on rates of MRSA (methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus). The standard measure is number of cases per bed-day. A bed-day is one patient in one bed for one day.

Rates of MRSA per 1000 bed days – latest figures:

- Wales 0.08
- England 0.17
- Scotland 0.17

For more information about MRSA, read our briefing MRSA – key facts and how it's being tackled - www.welshconfed.org/reso/1776/image/MRSA%20E.pdf

NHS organisations submit figures for clostridium difficile (known as C Diff), but different measures are used in Wales and England. However, prevalence surveys of healthcare-associated infections – including C Diff – were undertaken in acute hospitals in Wales and England in 2006. These surveys use the same measures in each country, allowing direct comparison.

Prevalence of C Diff:

- Wales 1.1
- England 1.98

Commenting on the prevalence survey data on the number of healthcare-associated infections, Dr Eleri Davies, Director of the National Public Health Service Welsh Healthcare Associated Infection Programme said:

“Results for Wales are encouraging, suggesting that improved infection control practices are having positive results.”

References

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