

## Screening for MRSA in patients admitted to hospital

NHS Quality Improvement Scotland (NHS QIS) in conjunction with Health Protection Scotland (HPS) are holding workshops in Glasgow and Dundee to allow staff from NHSScotland an opportunity to hear more about the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) and the pilot study and to give their thoughts on the issues that should be considered as the protocol for the pilot is being developed.

### HTA Report 9: The clinical and cost effectiveness for screening for MRSA

NHS Quality Improvement Scotland published a Health Technology Assessment Report advising NHSScotland on screening for meticillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) to prevent infection with MRSA. We have advised that a pilot study is set up in Scotland to assess whether screening for MRSA in *all* patients who are admitted to hospitals is effective in preventing MRSA infections.

### Pilot Study

The Cabinet Secretary for Health and Wellbeing announced, on Monday 26th November, Scottish Government funding for the implementation of an MRSA screening programme. As part of this programme a commitment was made for a pilot study to be carried out over the next year to test the feasibility of the HTA model for MRSA screening strategy. Health Protection Scotland has been tasked with developing this pilot study.

### Facilitators

Dr Karen Ritchie, Senior Health Services Researcher, NHS QIS  
Dr Jacqui Riley, Consultant Nurse Epidemiologist, Health Protection Scotland  
Dr Ian Gould, Consultant Microbiologist, NHS Grampian  
Dr Gabby Phillips, Consultant Microbiologist, NHS Tayside  
Mr Robin Creelman, Chair of Public Involvement & Communications, HAI Taskforce

### *When and Where are the Workshops?*

**Thursday 21 February 2008 from 11 am – 1 pm (with lunch from 1pm)**  
**The Lighthouse, 11 Mitchell Lane, Glasgow**

**Thursday 28 February 2008 from 11 am – 1 pm (with lunch from 1pm)**  
**West Park Conference Centre, 319 Perth Road, Dundee**

**To register for this event, please contact us as soon as possible as places are limited:**

**Jennifer Graham, Project Officer**  
**NHS Quality Improvement Scotland**  
**Tel No: 0141 225 6999 Fax No: 0141 248 3778**  
**Email: [jennifergraham@nhs.net](mailto:jennifergraham@nhs.net)**