

BRIEFING NOTE

TO: Health Scrutiny and Performance Sub Panel
DATE: 10.08.2008

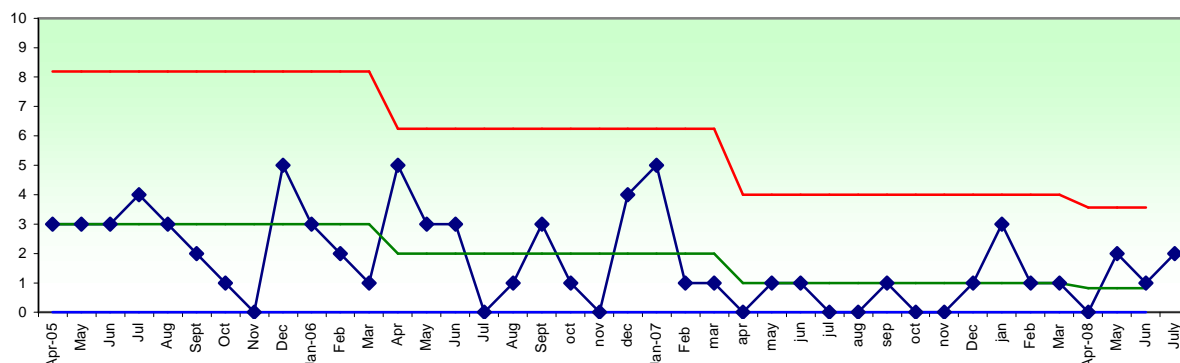
RE: MRSA bacteraemia and Clostridium difficile figures, Walsall Hospitals NHS Trust

Purpose

This report has been written to provide the Health Scrutiny and Performance Sub Panel with an overview of MRSA bacteraemia and Clostridium difficile figures for Walsall Hospitals NHS Trust.

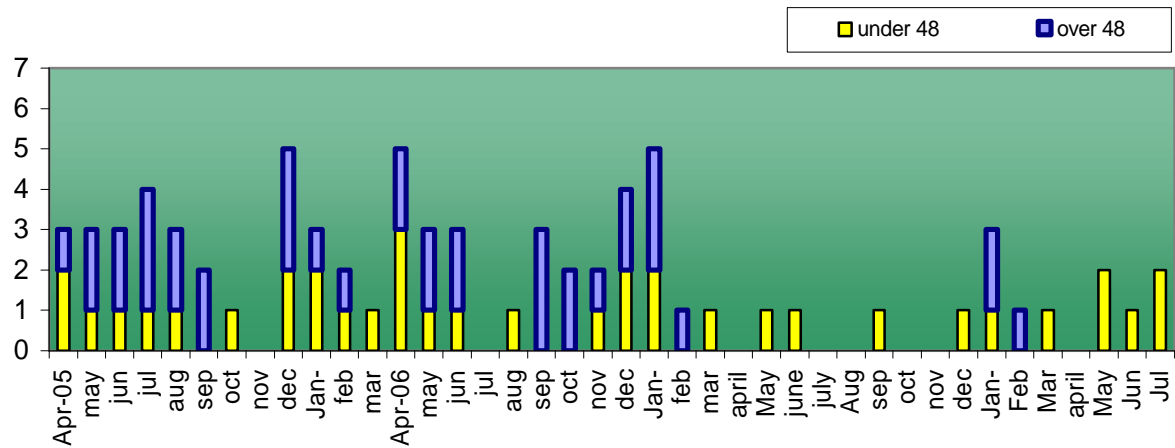
MRSA BACTERAEMIA

Total Number of Mandatory MRSA Bacteraemia Report from April 2005 to July 2008.



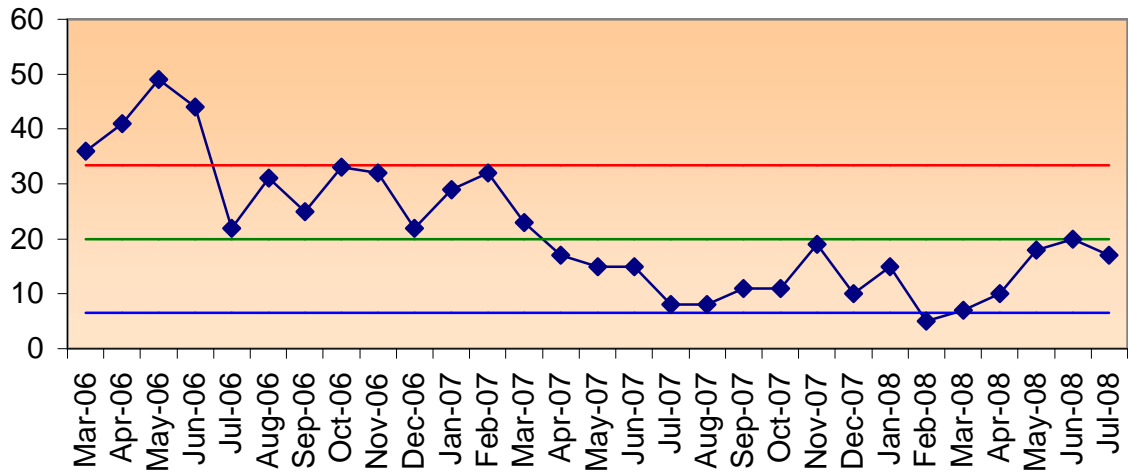
There has currently been a total of 5 MRSA bacteraemia reported for the first 4 months of 2008/9. This indicates an increase compared to the same time period for 2007/8. However, as the chart below illustrates, all of these specimens have been obtained within 48 hours of admission, indicating that this bacteraemia has not been acquired within Walsall Hospitals NHS Trust.

Comparison of Bacteraemia specimens taken pre and post 48hours of admission April 2005 to July 2008.



CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE ASSOCIATED DIARRHOEA

CDT cases by month (figures exclude community specimens) March 2006 to July 2008



The figures for CDAD are slightly disappointing, as we have seen a rise in our figures during the first quarter of 2008/9. We now undertake a Root Cause Analysis on all patients with a positive sample for CDAD and this has identified that the nature of the infection is changing. Our investigations have revealed that a percentage of patients (between 25% - 50%) have samples taken within 48 hours of admission and are, therefore, being admitted with the infection. This acquisition within the community is not within the hospitals control but we are working with our colleagues, such as pharmacists and General Practitioners, regarding antibiotic prescribing in the community setting. We are also meeting with representatives within the PCT to discuss Infection Prevention and Control within the whole Health Economy.

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