

## **WP2 European standards & indicators for Public Health surveillance and technical guidelines for the control of HAI & AMR**

The general outline of the Work Package is to review existing guidelines, standards and indicators from Infection Control programs in the European Union and provide a manual of international standards for both HAI and AMR including the following specific results:

- (a) develop and disseminate indicators for national and international measurement of occurrence and control capabilities of HAI and AMR.
- (b) develop guidelines for including precautions for specific pathogens (e.g. MRSA, multi-resistant TB, SARS) or routes of transmission in hospitals.
- (c) develop baseline standard (routine) precautions for healthcare settings outside hospitals.§
- (d) define of a set of related (resources/processes/outcome) indicators and inclusion on a WHO internet-based information system including a geographical interface (Global Atlas of Diseases, <http://globalatlas.who.int/> ). The implementation of these methods and indicators in countries outside the EU will thus be promoted.

The guidelines on infection control practices will be distributed (see also WP8) and will be designed so that they can serve as useful tools for the ECDC to tackle IC-control related problems in healthcare institutions.

Educational material (slide show, case studies) on these recommendations will also be produced in order to facilitate their integration in educational seminars, organised regionally and also co-organised with ESCMID (see WP4).

### Description of Work

1. Setting up a detailed methodology
2. Creation of expert working group(s) in collaboration with different interested parties such as HPA, ESCMID and EARSS. These groups will build further on the previous works of WHO (Manual 2002) and ESCMID, HELICS indicators, HARMONY tools and EU Council recommendations on AB use.
3. Review and analysis of the existing, standards, recommendations and related indicators used in European countries (WHO). Identification of differences and critical points. Review of evidence. (WHO & WG).
4. Preparation of a draft document: “Guidelines on Infection Control in Healthcare settings in Europe: recommended practices and indicators for monitoring and evaluating progress” by WG.
5. Validation by national authorities + a panel of academic and professional reviewers.
6. Preparation of the education materials (slides & case studies) by HPA, UH and Veneto Region.
7. Design of database and mapping tools (Global Atlas of Diseases. <http://www.who.int/globalatlas>) for data collection and analysis
8. Dissemination of guidelines and results through formal publications, the internet and a regional consultation organized in collaboration with the Veneto Region.

The work package will be lead by WHO, which will host an expert researcher for the workgroup coordination, review and analysis of existing recommendations, writing of draft and (after validation) final documents and the coordination of database design. An IT specialist will be hired by WHO to link and integrate the designed database into the Global Atlas of Diseases.

Interaction with other work packages and partners:

- WP1 (IC status and curriculum): the study and inventory of the status of IC practitioners in the EU member states will generate indicators (such as e.g. number of IC physicians and number of IC nurses per 1000 beds) of interest to WP2.
- WP4 (supporting development of IC in countries which require technical support): the educational material developed in WP2 will be used in training session organized in WP4.
- WP8 (Dissemination) Publication of results and guidelines, 2000 copies
- WP9 (Project management) Support for the implementation of this work package, including organizational, additional travel expenses and administrative activities and technical meetings.
- HELICS: guidelines on monitoring of outcome indicators will be based on minimal data from HELICS standard methodology for surveillance of ICU-acquired infections, surgical site infections and prevalence surveys.
- Recommendations regarding AMR surveillance and control will build on, among others, existing work carried out by the ESCMID Study Group for AMR Surveillance (ESGARS) (Clin Microbiol Infect 2004;10:349-383), EARSS, ARPAC (Antibiotic Resistance - Prevention and Control, [www.abdn.ac.uk/arpac/index](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/arpac/index)) and WP5 (Improving surveillance and controlling antibiotic (AB) resistance in ICU).
- Recommendations regarding IC practices will take into account the tools to score IC policies developed by HARMONY (<http://www.harmony-microbe.net/infcontrol.htm>) and previous work done by ARPAC and HELICS. The WP will also collaborate with WP7 (nursing homes) with regard to recommendations for IC in different healthcare settings.

### **Tasks of the National Representatives**

- Assist in the preparation of existing national standards, recommendations and related indicators for Infection Control programmes.
- Validate the document ‘Guidelines on Infection Control in Healthcare settings in Europe: recommended practices and indicators for monitoring and evaluating progress’.
- Review and approve the internet-based geographic information system on HAI and AMR (Global Atlas of Diseases).

### **Completion Criteria**

- Existing standards, recommendations and related indicators used in European countries have been analysed.
- Practices and indicators for the measurement of occurrence and control capabilities of HAI and AMR are established.
- The indicators have been included in the WHO internet-based information system.

### **Acceptance Criteria**

- The practices and indicators for measurement of occurrence and control capabilities are accepted by the countries concerned.

### **Risk Monitoring**

- An expert working group will collaborate with different interested parties such as HPA, ESCMID and EARSS. These groups will build further on the previous works of WHO (Manual 2002) and ESCMID, HELICS indicators, HARMONY tools, and EU Council recommendations on AB use.