

# Tackling Healthcare Associated Infections (HCAIs) Outside of Hospital Programme



## Background

- Infection costs the NHS around £1 billion per year; it is estimated that as many as 5,000 patients die each year in the UK as a direct result of HCAIs *(Source: Department of Health)*
- Cutting rates of healthcare associated infections (HCAIs) such as Meticillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) and Clostridium difficile (C.Diff) is a key priority for healthcare professionals
- There are many challenges ahead if the Government's target of 'no avoidable infections' is to be met, and public confidence increased – collaborative working between all healthcare settings is essential
- The Health Act 2006 states that “effective prevention and control of HCAIs has to be embedded into everyday practice and applied consistently to everyone”

## How can the Improvement Foundation help?

- The Improvement Foundation is now offering an integrated programme of support to help tackle HCAIs specifically in Care Homes, which will complement work already taking place locally and nationally
- A full 12-month programme is available for PCTs, Local Authorities and individual Care Homes who are ready to tackle HCAIs. Each site will identify local improvements teams which will include representative managers, nurses and other staff from each Care Home, residents, carers and relatives, local General Practitioners and community nursing teams

## What are the benefits of taking part in this programme?

- Tackling the issues of HCAIs in Care Homes
- Promoting best practice in the prevention and control of HCAIs
- Delivery of key objectives of the 2008/9 NHS Operating Framework
- Involvement of carers and relatives in tackling HCAIs in Care Homes
- Access to a clinically approved 'Assessment Framework' designed to help organisations undertake a diagnosis of their capacity and capability to meet the challenges of the HCAI agenda and to help further progress towards the goal of 'no avoidable infections'
- Highlight successes through a set of improvement measures
- Learning from examples of good practice from across the country
- Access to a comprehensive Programme Handbook
- Learning from leading local, national and international speakers at 3 full-day Learning Workshops
- Local support throughout the programme from Improvement Foundation Area teams



## What is the cost to join this programme?

- The cost of the 12-month development programme varies according to the number of Care Homes involved. Please contact us for further information

## Why the Improvement Foundation?

- The Improvement Foundation leads the field in service improvement work across the public sector in the UK and overseas
- Experts in quality improvement, we have an eight-year track record of demonstrating significant, sustainable impact and value for money
- We work closely with the Department of Health, the NHS Institute for Innovation and Improvement and several other organisations, and in partnership with frontline staff and service users to deliver large-scale improvements in services and health outcomes