

# Core brief

## Introduction

This edition brings you the full media statement on the QEUH inspection from Healthcare Improvement Scotland.

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## Media statement in full - QEUH Inspection from Healthcare Improvement Scotland

You may have seen reports in the media yesterday and today regarding an inspection from Healthcare Improvement Scotland from January of this year at QEUH. The media has not carried our full statement in relation to this. As per our agreement with the Area Partnership Forum, we would like to share it with you in order to provide our position on the issue.

**15 December 2019**

### **NHS GREATER GLASGOW AND CLYDE RESPONSE**

"We would like to reassure our patients that the prevention and control of infection has always been, and remains, a top priority for NHSGGC.

"We apologise for the distress this has caused parents of patients, including Milly Main's, and want to reiterate we are working with the oversight board and Dr Marion Bain, who has been appointed to manage infection control across QEUH.

"The HIS report from March formed part of a wider routine inspection programme to provide assurance that best practice is implemented across health boards in Scotland. The independent report contained a number of positive findings and confirmed our staff have a good awareness of infection control, alongside high levels of hand hygiene compliance. The inspectors further highlighted infection rates were within acceptable levels.

"When we were made aware of the report's findings, immediate action was taken to implement any recommendations to ensure the safety of our patients.

"For additional reassurance, we asked Health Protection Scotland to carry out a detailed review of our infection performance compared to similar large hospitals over the past three years. Findings confirmed that at no time during this period did infection rates at QEUH and RHC exceed expected levels.

"While the HIS report identified water flushing as an issue in one specific area of the hospital, it was not considered a widespread observation. We took the opportunity to reinforce the importance of, and the roles responsible for, water flushing to all staff across the QEUH and RHC.

"A follow-up visit from HIS has since taken place in November and the report will be published in February."