What is the Aged Care National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey?

The Aged Care National Antimicrobial Prescribing Survey (acNAPS) is a joint collaboration between the National Centre for Antimicrobial Stewardship and the Australian Infection Surveillance - Aged Care (AIS-AC) Coordinating Centre, both based at the Doherty Institute in Melbourne. AIS-AC is the new national branch of the Victorian Healthcare Associated Infections Surveillance System (VICNISS).

The aims of the acNAPS are to:
- Reduce harm to residents through preventing infections and promoting the appropriate use of antimicrobials, while reducing the emergence of antimicrobial resistance.
- Develop and implement a sustainable methodology to estimate the prevalence of infections and the appropriateness of antimicrobial prescribing.
- Assist in demonstrating concordance with the Australian Aged Care Accreditation Standards for Infection Control and Medication Management.

The 2015 pilot

The pilot of the acNAPS was conducted between 22 June 2015 and 31 August 2015. Results are currently being analysed and will become publically available in early 2016.

The website and data collection tools will remain open throughout the year if facilities wish to repeat the audit at any time.

Who can participate?

All Australian RACFs (include Multi-Purpose Services) are eligible to participate and all residents in participating RACFs are included. This includes permanent, respite or transitional residents.

How should the survey be performed and what data is to be collected?

The survey should be performed on a single day (point prevalence survey). Some general demographic and denominator data about each participating RACF will be collected. More specific data for individual residents will be required for those residents who have a confirmed or suspected infection and/or are receiving an antimicrobial on the audit day.

Data can be collected by a nurse, infection control practitioner or pharmacist.
**What support material is provided?**

A resource pack (user guide and data collection forms) is available to participants. Phone and email support will be available during business hours. The NAPS support team includes a clinical microbiologist, pharmacists and an infection control practitioner.

**How will the data be reported?**

Reports of each facility's own results will be available via the Reports page of this website prior to the end of the data collection period. State-wide and national comparison reports will be available after the data collection period has ended or as otherwise advised by the NAPS Coordinating Team.

**Who do I contact for more information?**

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