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Assure



NHSScotland Assure

Research

Service Overview

Wednesday
29th November,
12-1pm

Introduction to NHSScotland Assure

- NHS National Services Scotland has designed NHS Scotland Assure to improve the management of risk in new builds and refurbishment projects across NHS Scotland.
- We co-designed our service with users to deliver a coordinated approach – our world-first multi-disciplinary team includes microbiologists, infection prevention and control nurses, architects, planners, and engineers.
- NHS Scotland Assure launched in June 2021.
- We're accountable to the Scottish Government. We provide assurance that the healthcare environment is safe, fit for purpose, cost effective and capable of delivering sustainable services over the long term.



NHSScotland Assure Research Objectives

- Develop a deeper understanding of healthcare environment risks.
- Establish/ promote access to a robust built environment evidence base to inform NHS Scotland and develop a sustainable approach for the delivery of healthcare environment research.
- Establish an extensive healthcare environment research network and develop a community of healthcare environment expertise.
- Develop and support collaborative research. This will involve partnerships between health boards, academia, industry and the wider research communities to enhance the available evidence base and make recommendations.
- Develop the capability and capacity to work with industry and NHS Boards to ascertain the efficacy of new technology and innovations.



What do we mean
by the healthcare
environment?



NHSScotland Assure Guidance



What is Guidance?

Guidance used within NHSScotland:

- Scottish Health Technical Memorandums (SHTMs)
- Extant Guidance e.g. Building Regulations, British Standards etc...
- National Infection Prevention & Control Guidance (NIPCM)
- Find more information on NHS Scotland Assure at <https://www.nss.nhs.scot/browse/nhs-scotland-assure>



Scottish Health Technical Memorandum 03-01 (Interim Version – Additional guidance related to COVID 19 to be added in an update in 2022)

Specialised ventilation for healthcare premises
Part A: The concept, design, specification, installation and acceptance testing of healthcare ventilation systems

February 2022
Interim Version 3.0



National Infection Prevention and Control Manual

NHSScotland Assure's Role

What is NHSScotland Assure's role in relation to Guidance?

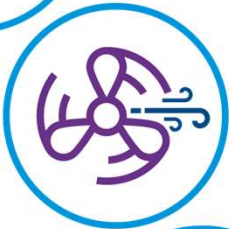
- Provision of advice and expertise
- Development and publication of national Clinical and Technical Guidance
- Identification of gaps or deficiencies in Guidance
- Scheduling of Guidance reviews and updates
- Dissemination of Guidance and relevant updates

Ensure advice and Guidance is based upon not only best practice but best evidence!

Key Research Themes



Water systems, including drainage (design, installation, commissioning and maintenance (DICM))



Ventilation systems (DICM)



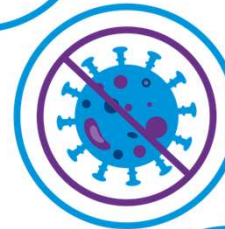
Pathogens, the microbiome, AMR, transmission risks and burden of disease in the hospital environment



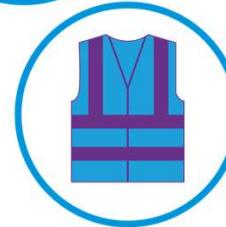
Hospital design, including size and single room provision



Lessons learned from COVID-19



Human factors/Ergonomics and Infection Prevention and Control



Climate change requirements and the unintended consequences on built environment risks



The role of safety and harms in relation to medical gases, electrical systems and fire safety

Key Messages & Considerations

Applied or experimental research (as defined by Frascati definition) will be progressed for review. Applications should consider the key points outlined below and refer to the Scope document and application guidelines on the Edinburgh Napier Webpage

Impact & Benefits

- ✓ Evidence value, importance and potential impact on improvement to risk management and quality within the healthcare environment across NHSScotland
- ✓ Specific references and alignment to relevant guidance and advice produced by NHSScotland Assure
- ✓ Research which can be translated to support practice and development of advice and Guidance.

• Collaboration & Engagement

- ✓ Multi-disciplinary collaboration between NHSScotland and academia
- ✓ Does the research engage with both clinical and technical expertise as appropriate?
- ✓ Support from NHSScotland Health Boards and academic institutions must be evidenced

• Funding & Timelines

- ✓ Applications have a funding request limit of £300k, in line with FEC guidelines and costings
- ✓ Research Projects should last no longer than 2 years from receipt of funding.

Where applications for larger scale consortia are proposed please contact the team at Edinburgh Napier University



Key Messages & Considerations

Applications which do not meet the previous criteria will not be considered for review

Impact & Benefits

- x No evidence of direct or clear impact on NHSScotland Assure Guidance, advice and practice
- x Applications which seek to duplicate or overlap with ongoing studies (unless there is a clear and strong rationale for replicating research in the Scottish context)
- x Applications which are solely seeking scale up and adoption of an innovative product across NHSScotland

Collaboration & Engagement

- x Applications which have not sought the appropriate stakeholder support or collaboration
- x Applications which do not take cognisance of the multifactorial nature of the healthcare environment.

Funding & Timelines

- x Applications in excess of £300k (taking into account FEC guidelines)
- x Projects with a timeline more than 2 years from receipt of funding.



Thank you!

[@nhs.scot](https://nss.nhsscotlandassure)