

## Re: Your request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, could you provide the following information:

1. Prior to blood culture collection, what skin asepsis solution does your hospital/Trust/Health Board use in the skin preparation/ cleaning process - (a) licensed skin antiseptic applicator (b) licensed skin disinfection wipe (c) non licensed wipe (d) other?
2. How long do you clean the patient's skin for and what technique is used?
3. How long does your organisation allow the patients skin to dry before blood culture collection?
4. Do you know the percentage of contamination rate of blood cultures in your organisation?
5. What is the management process following a confirmed blood sample contamination. Is it escalation to (a) infection control team (b) microbiology (c) education and development (d) other, please specify or (e) no process?

- 1) Chloraprep applicator
- 2) 30 seconds
- 3) Skin is left to dry, as soon as it dries, blood cultures are taken
- 4) It fluctuates monthly. For December the rate was 5.2%
- 5) Reviewed by Microbiology. If any individual has 2 or more reported, they and their manager are notified via letter from the Consultants in Infection. IPC review data and feedback through governance processes