

From the Chief Medical Officer
Dr Michael McBride



Department of
**Health, Social Services
and Public Safety**

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AN ROINN

**Sláinte, Seirbhísí Sóisialta
agus Sábháilteachta Poiblí**

MÁNNYSTRIE O

**Poustie, Resydènter Heisin
an Fowk Siccar**

HSS(MD) 5/2010

**Chief Executives of Public Health Agency, Health
and Social Care Board, HSC Trusts including NIAS,
RQIA and the Patient and Client Council
Director of Public Health and Medical Director, Public
Health Agency**

*(for onward distribution to relevant health protection
staff)*

Medical Directors HSC Trusts – for onward
dissemination to all doctors dealing with
infection control

Medical Director Ambulance Trust

Nursing Directors HSC Trusts – for onward
dissemination to all nurses dealing with
infection control nurses.

Consultants in Communicable Disease Control

Consultant Microbiologists

Medical Director RQIA

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Your Ref:

Our Ref: HSS(MD) 5/2010

Date: 29 January 2010

Dear Colleague

CHANGING THE CULTURE 2010: STRATEGIC REGIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL; OF HEALTHCARE-ASSOCIATED INFECTIONS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

The 2006 *Changing the Culture* action plan has been updated by the Healthcare Associated Infection (HCAI) Strategic Steering Group, chaired by Dr Elizabeth Mitchell, working in partnership with HSC colleagues. The new regional strategic action plan, entitled *Changing the Culture 2010*, is underpinned by the two core principles of the original *Changing the Culture* published in 2006, namely that infection prevention and control is an integral part of healthcare, and that it is everyone's responsibility. It is intended to bring together the priority strands of work that need to be delivered in order to accelerate progress in reducing HCAs, and will complement the Trusts' HCAI action plans.

