

Five year overview of healthcare monitoring

2015 -2019



49

Public acute hospitals

23

Rehabilitation and community inpatient hospital services

1,660

Medical radiological facilities

HIQA carried out



265

on-site inspections completed across 5 thematic programmes:

- 161 Infection prevention and control
- 64 Medication safety
- 22 Maternity services
- 13 Nutrition and hydration
- 5 Rehabilitation and community inpatient healthcare services



10

ionising radiation inspections as part of the medical exposure to ionising radiation monitoring programme



1

antimicrobial stewardship review

Key findings

- 1 Targeted monitoring against national standards can drive significant improvement in healthcare services.
- 2 While difficulties around limited hospital capacity and staffing remain a major challenge, most acute hospitals have made improvements to keep patients safe across the areas we monitor.

Individual monitoring programmes



Infection prevention and control and antimicrobial stewardship:

- Improvements in national leadership and governance have strengthened the long-term ability to sustainably address infection prevention and control across public acute hospitals.

Medication safety:

- While measures to enhance medication safety are progressing, there is major variation in the provision and resourcing of medication safety programmes across public acute hospitals.

Maternity services:

- While the necessary systems, structures and processes are in place to provide safe, quality care for women who experience an obstetric emergency, challenges are posed by staffing levels and poor physical infrastructure.

Nutrition and hydration:

- Genuine commitment and enthusiasm to promoting and leading improvements in nutrition and hydration for people using public acute hospitals.

Opportunities for improvement

1. Need to address significant variation between hospitals in meeting the standards.
2. Strengthen and formalise access to specialist infection prevention and control expertise in rehabilitation and community inpatient services.
3. Progress the Patient Safety Bill to extend HIQA role to monitoring both public and private hospitals.