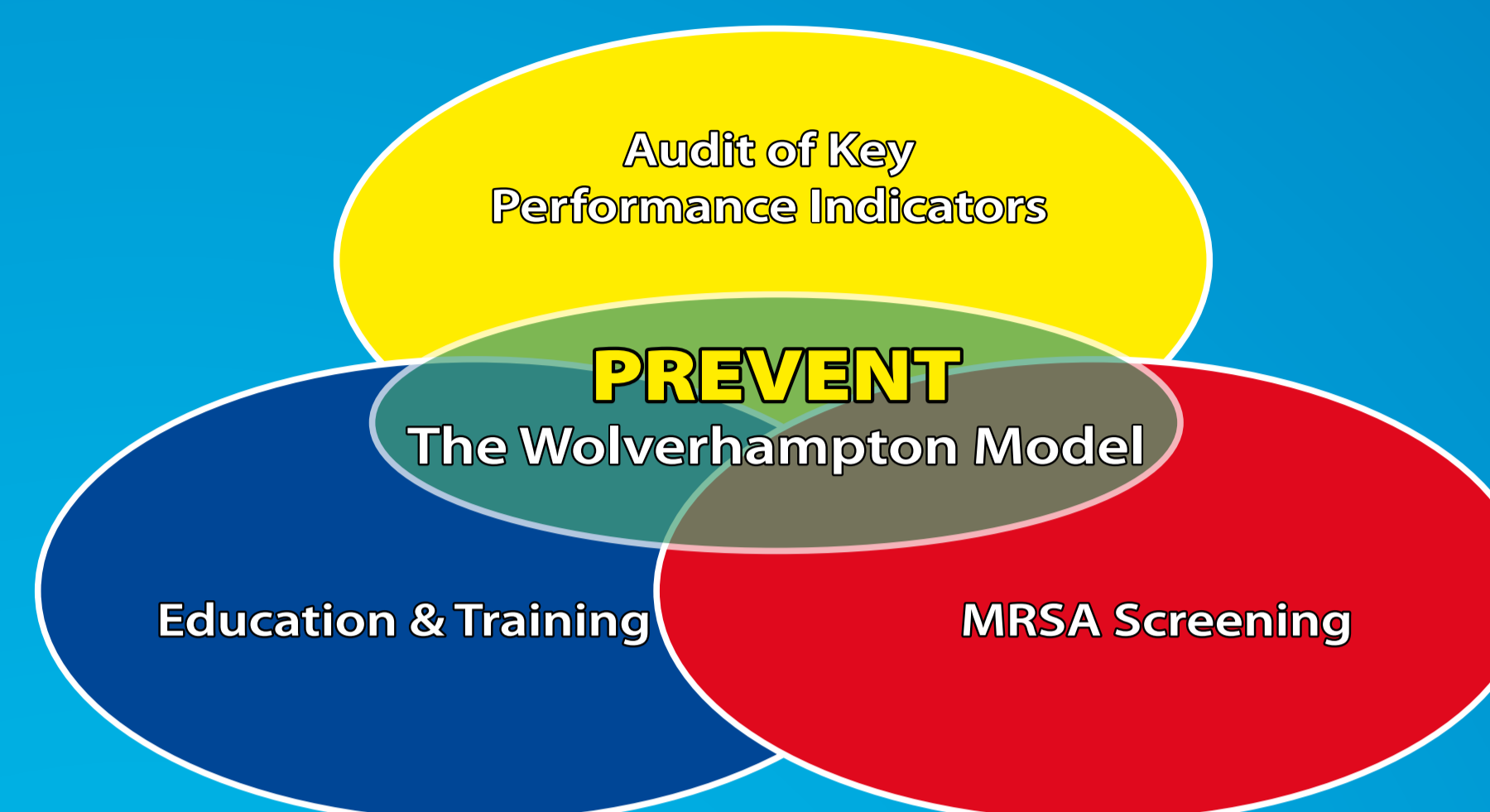


# PREVENT

## The Wolverhampton Message



### Contact Details

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### Summary

Preventing Health Care Acquired Infection (HCAI) by understanding the basic principles of infection prevention is a priority in delivering safe, clean care. It's a fundamental right to be given care in a safe and clean environment by trained personnel.

Wolverhampton has operated a Care Economy approach to Infection Prevention over the past five years working in partnership with the local acute hospital, Local Authority, Independent Contractors and Care homes to deliver a joined up vision of PREVENTING INFECTION.

Working together we are delivering a five year innovative project. The Wolverhampton Model incorporates a 'Seek and Destroy' MRSA screening programme, a PREVENT CHARTER audit programme and an education and training programme that includes a resource folder and DVD. It's proving highly successful to date with the MRSA colonisation rates halved and environmental standards in care homes measurably improved

### MRSA Screening, Care Home Audit and Education & Training Programme

In 2008 MRSA bacteraemia rates in the City were too high and cases that occurred in the care homes were analysed for lessons to be learned. It was found that residents presenting with MRSA bacteraemia were colonised with MRSA without the patient or staff knowing. Could screening for MRSA reduce risk? Was it a cost effective alternative?

Only the NHS Quality improvement study (2007) in Scotland was available as a guide to the cost effectiveness of MRSA screening. During audit of the care homes it was identified that staff were often lacking in regular Infection Prevention training and support. In addition environmental cleanliness standards and practices and knowledge of infection prevention were variable and in some instances poor. Turn over of staff was reported as high and morale in some care homes was in discussion reported as low. The care homes asked the Infection Prevention Team for help, guidance, support and training. The idea of PREVENT was born. Ideas are one thing; making them happen quite another. To succeed you need a vision, board level sharing of that vision, funding and leadership. You then need to share the vision, engage others, have good operational support and a robust project plan that can be measured.

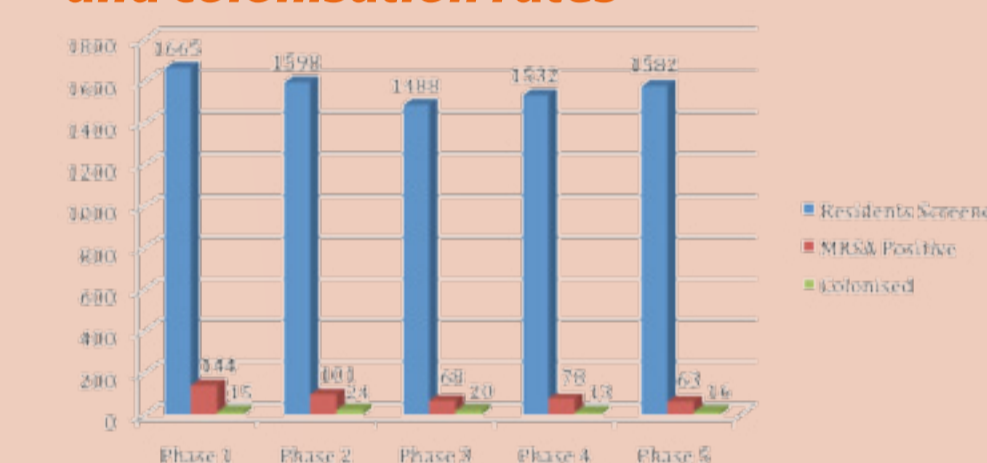
The rates of MRSA colonisation in the care homes in 2008 was unknown but MRSA admission screening by The Royal Wolverhampton Hospital Trust commenced in 2007 and indicated that the care homes were acting as a reservoir for MRSA colonisation. A joint meeting was held between the Acute Trust and Primary Care Trust to find a way forward. From this meeting PREVENT was further explored.

The Wolverhampton model PREVENT incorporates 3 strands;

### Strand One

An MRSA screening and treatment programme – It involves 6 monthly cycles of swabbing, testing and treating MRSA using a 'seek and destroy' approach. Any positive cases have a decolonisation pack prescribed under a Patient Group Directive (PGD) and delivered by the Infection Prevention Team. This keeps the General Practitioners out of the prescribing loop and enables conformity. Although the GP is informed of the result they know not to action it. This has required effective team work and effective communication.

Graph showing Phases 1-5 (June 2008- Jan 2011), numbers screened and colonisation rates



### Strand Two

The PREVENT CHARTER audit: an annual audit of clinical and environmental standards using a locally designed tool which reflects current national guidance.

Chart showing PREVENT Charter Awards (2008-2011)

	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11
Homes Audited	77	73	77
Bronze Awards	19	20	11
Silver Awards	11	28	32
Gold Awards	2	20	31
Total awards presented	32	68	74

### Strand Three

A locally produced Infection Prevention training DVD/resource pack, which has been circulated free to Independent Care Homes to facilitate training. Given the fast turnover of staff in the care homes the 30 minute pictorial DVD offers a watchable introduction to basic infection prevention in a format that can easily be absorbed. New staff can be show it as part of their induction – even if as in some cases English is not their first language the clear demonstration of hand washing, cleaning of a piece of equipment, swabbing and dealing with spillage are easily understood.

Care Home Managers were invited to sign a pledge of commitment to improving Infection Prevention standards and training year on year in return for the free PREVENT CHARTER package. This would mean the commitment of the PCT through the Infection Prevention Team to provide annual audit and a report and support training via a DVD and invite residents of the care home to have MRSA screening and treatment of residents in six monthly cycles.

Patient Safety in Primary Care Award Winners 2011

