

# PROTOCOL: Development of a tool for the collection of costs attributable to infectious disease outbreaks in public acute hospitals



**CICER**  
Tacaíocht don Treoiríne Chliniciúil  
Clinical Guideline Support

## What is CICER doing?

CICER (Centre in Ireland for Clinical guideline support and Evidence Reviews) has begun research to develop and pilot a tool to estimate the cost of infectious disease outbreaks in public acute hospitals.



## Why is CICER doing this?

There is no standard approach to estimate costs of disease outbreaks in Irish acute hospitals.

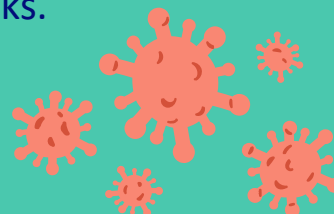
This study aims to provide a tool to better understand financial impacts of disease outbreaks and inform resource allocation and further investments in infection prevention and control.

It has been requested by the Department of Health as part of Ireland's second One Health National Action Plan on Antimicrobial Resistance.



## Why are infectious disease outbreaks a challenge?

- They can lead to longer hospitalisation, prolonged illness, or even death.
- Hospital-acquired infections can also impact on the welfare and finances of patients and their families.
- Antimicrobial resistance is rising, making it harder to treat hospital infections and potentially increasing patients' length of stay.
- Other hospital services such as elective surgery may be postponed or cancelled, in turn increasing resources required and overall costs from hospital outbreaks.



## What is CICER?

CICER produces evidence reviews and provides methodological support for the development of National Clinical Guidelines, which are published by the National Clinical Effectiveness Committee.

CICER is funded by the Health Research Board (HRB) and hosted by the Health Information and Quality Authority (HIQA).

<https://www.hiqa.ie/areas-we-work/cicer-clinical-guideline-support>

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