



**Care of Burns  
in Scotland**  
National Managed Clinical Network

# **Care of Burns in Scotland (COBIS)**

## **MIDYEAR REPORT 2019/20**

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# Introduction

In 2017 the Care of Burns in Scotland (COBIS) network underwent a Minor Review - the outcome was approval of a further cycle of national commissioning, with a specific remit to support the implementation of the Review of Burns Services in Scotland. Recommendations from the review were incorporated into the Network workplan for 2019-20, with a strong focus on:

- implementing clinical guidelines and UK national standards to ensure best practice
- engaging a range of stakeholders in delivering the network annual plan
- improving and maintaining skills and knowledge in burns management
- developing an infrastructure to support a national burns hub and facilities service model.

## Highlights

### Clinical Effectiveness

COBIS has a range of [clinical guidelines](#) (adult and paediatric) accessible on the website, which includes guidance on the management of burns and supports unwarranted variation in practice. The Emergency Department guidelines are particularly helpful for the acute medical management of burns in adults and children. The network is represented on an innovation group, which is developing the Scottish Trauma Network [Trauma app](#).

The network has devised a 'Burns Care Bundle', which prompts clinicians to provide key elements of care for patients with a burn of more than 15% (adult) and 10% (paediatric). Completion of the key elements of the bundle is recorded on the Clinical Audit System (CAS) and demonstrates that patients have received recommended healthcare interventions.

Mr Stuart Watson (Lead Clinician, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde) was invited to review the UK National Burn Care Standards, which the Steering Group will use for benchmarking (and peer group review) in 2020 in NHS Scotland.

Ongoing partnership with the Scottish Government Resilience Unit, the Scottish Ambulance Service and the Scottish Trauma Network will ensure that incidents involving mass casualties, which include burns, are managed with an effective and planned approach. This extends to close working with the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service, for regular and exceptional supply of allografts. Dr Sharon Zahra (Consultant and Clinical Lead, Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service) presented at the COBIS workshop at the national Scottish Trauma Network conference in June 2019, which demonstrates the close working relationship with the network.

## Education

In 2019-20 COBIS's key priority is the implementation of the Education Strategy including delivery of education sessions to the wider burn treatment community in Scotland.

The Education Strategy has four key themes:

- building a specialist workforce within burns care
- improving patient experience and supported self-management
- supporting burns hub and facility services and promoting education beyond burns care, for example, in primary care
- enhancing educational infrastructure, including educational opportunities in a range of formats.

Between April-October 2019 COBIS has delivered the following education activities:

- Regional education event held at Raigmore Hospital (NHS Highland) on 25 April, which included the medical and nursing management of burns and practical patient assessment and dressings demonstrations. Two further sessions have been arranged for Belford Hospital (NHS Highland) and Monklands Hospital (NHS Lanarkshire) in November.
- Creation of a series of short videos (in collaboration with NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde) to assist clinicians with assessment and treatment in the acute presentation of burns in Emergency Departments and the ongoing management and dressing of burns in adults and paediatrics. Links to these will be included on the website and meets the network's objective to provide education in a range of formats and are of particular benefit to remote and rural communities.
- Scottish Trauma Network (STN)/COBIS/Scottish Acquired Brain Injury (SABIN) national conference on 26-27 June 2019. This attracted approximately 450 delegates and raised the profile of COBIS across a broader community of clinicians and services.
- Additional content for the COBIS website including links, [patient information leaflets](#) and updated clinical guidelines.

## Stakeholder Engagement

One of the aims of jointly delivering the national STN conference was to increase stakeholder engagement with a broader group of clinicians. Over the 2-day conference the network gained 60 new Twitter followers, including high-profile followers such as Angiolina Foster (CEO NHS24), in addition to those signing up for COBIS communications.

The network presented two breakout sessions ('Current Management of Burns' and 'Multidisciplinary Management of Burns') with invited speakers from outwith the COBIS network, including Dr Sharon Zahra (Consultant and Clinical Lead, Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service), Ms Kathleen Harvey-Wood (Principal Clinical Scientist, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde) and Mrs Fiona Graham (Paediatric Dietitian, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde).

COBIS is collaborating with the Scottish Government on '[A Consultation On Fireworks in Scotland](#)' led by Ms Ash Denham, Minister for Community Safety. The network will support this consultation by gathering the views of the burns community and through the collection of specific burns data over the period 15 October-12 November 2019.

The network has updated its Communication Strategy to include the scope and type of communications required, including use of social media (the COBIS [Twitter account](#) has generated over 500 followers since November 2017).

## Data Management

The network is collaborating with the Information Management Service ([IMS](#)) to improve and validate the data recorded through the Clinical Audit System (CAS). IMS is leading on data management, liaising directly with clinical users of CAS, providing training where required and producing local data reports. Quarterly data reports generated by IMS, and shared with the burns units, provide an opportunity for clinicians to monitor progress and make improvements with data collection.

A Data Group was established in October 2018 to make refinements to the CAS data set, ensuring the information collected supports the audit of burns services.

## Website

A [physiotherapy and occupational therapy zone](#) has been developed on the COBIS website to promote the sharing of clinical expertise across Scotland. This initiative attracted 120 visitors to the website the day the network announced this via email and Twitter.

Updates to the COBIS website include increasing the number of links to relevant organisations.

## Patient Information

To ensure that patients and families are supported to manage their condition and to share in informed decision-making, the network has drafted a universal Patient Information Leaflet on the Management of Burns in Adults. Clinicians from across Scotland have contributed to this document, which will support patients in the emerging national hub service model. This fits with Scottish Government's [Realistic Medicine](#) with the focus on the principle of building a personalised approach to care, regarding collaborative working with patients and engaging in shared decision-making.

## Quality Strategy

In 2017-18 the COBIS Steering Group produced and approved its [Quality Strategy](#), which was reviewed and amended in March 2019. The network's key quality improvement project is to improve follow-up support for children and young people and their families through the Scottish Burned Children's Club (SBCC) - a Third Sector Organisation partner with COBIS. A driver diagram (Appendix 1) has been developed and improvement in the number and scope of referrals will be measured. Baseline data indicates that referrals are submitted from NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde only. Improvement work will focus on promotion of the excellent support offered by the SBCC amongst clinicians across Scotland. This is in line with the [National Standards for Provision and Outcomes in Adult and Paediatric Burn Care](#) (2018) that all patients should be offered burn-specific support resources.

## Risks and Issues

It has been acknowledged by individual burns units (including NHS Tayside and NHS Lothian) that clinicians have not been as engaged with the network as the Steering Group Terms of Reference recommend. There is a risk that the units are not supported at local level to participate in national planning. In an effort to maximise participation, the network arranged Steering Group meetings to be held in Tayside and Lothian. It was also agreed by the Lead Clinician that an invitation would be extended to additional members of the burns units to attend the Steering Group meetings to contribute to national planning.

The Clinical Guidelines developed by COBIS are the most frequently accessed pages of the website. However, a number of the paediatric guidelines have exceeded their review date and there is a challenge in identifying clinicians with the capacity to review these.

## Acknowledgement

The Care of Burns in Scotland network acknowledges the expertise and commitment from the Lead Clinician, Chairs of the three subgroups (Education, Data, and Communication and Engagement) and the Steering Group in delivering the 2019-20 workplan.

## Care of Burns in Scotland (COBIS) Network WORKPLAN – 2019-20 Midyear Update October 2019

When defining network objectives please consider the Institute of Medicine's six dimensions of quality, which are central to NHS Scotland's approach to systems-based healthcare quality improvement:

1. **Person-centred:** providing care that is responsive to individual personal preferences, needs and values and assuring that patient values guide all clinical decisions;
2. **Safe:** avoiding injuries to patients from healthcare that is intended to help them;
3. **Effective:** providing services based on scientific knowledge;
4. **Efficient:** avoiding waste, including waste of equipment, supplies, ideas, and energy;
5. **Equitable:** providing care that does not vary in quality because of personal characteristics such as gender, ethnicity, geographic location or socio-economic status; and
6. **Timely:** reducing waits and sometimes harmful delays for both those who receive care and those who give care.

### Key

RAGB status	Description
<b>RED (R)</b>	The network is unlikely to achieve the objective by the agreed end date.
<b>AMBER (A)</b>	There is a risk that the network will not achieve the objective by the agreed end date but progress has been made.
<b>GREEN (G)</b>	The network is on track to achieve the objective by the agreed end date.
<b>BLUE (B)</b>	The network has been successful in achieving the network objective to plan.

Objective Number	Smart Objective	Planned start/ end dates	Detailed Plan Available / Owner	Description of progress towards meeting objective as at 31.10.2019	Anticipated Outcome	RAGB status
<b>1. Effective Network Structure and Governance</b> [linked to Quality Dimensions 3,4,5,6]						
2019-01	The network will organise 3 Steering Group and 3 of each sub-group meetings by 2020 to ensure effective delivery of the 2019-20 workplan.	01/04/2019	Steering Group and Sub-Group membership	Steering Group meetings are planned for 2019-20 and sub-groups are arranged throughout the year.	Effective delivery of the COBIS network workplan to ensure continuation of progress.	<b>G</b>
<b>2. Service Development and Delivery</b> [linked to Quality Dimensions 1,2,3,4,5,6]						
2019-02	By March 2020 review existing and develop new clinical guidelines relevant to burns services.	01/04/2019	Education Group	Current review of adult guidelines (by Lead Clinician).  Challenge in identifying clinicians with capacity to review paediatric guidelines.  Guideline on Fluid Resuscitation being updated by key clinicians.	Delivery of evidence-based practice and equity of access to high quality care across Scotland to reduce harm and unwarranted variation.	<b>A</b>
2019-03	By September 2019 review patient and family burns information, with the aim of developing a single Scottish information	01/04/2019	Communication Group	Universal burns management leaflet has been drafted by clinicians across Scotland. Next	Patients and families are supported to manage their	<b>G</b>



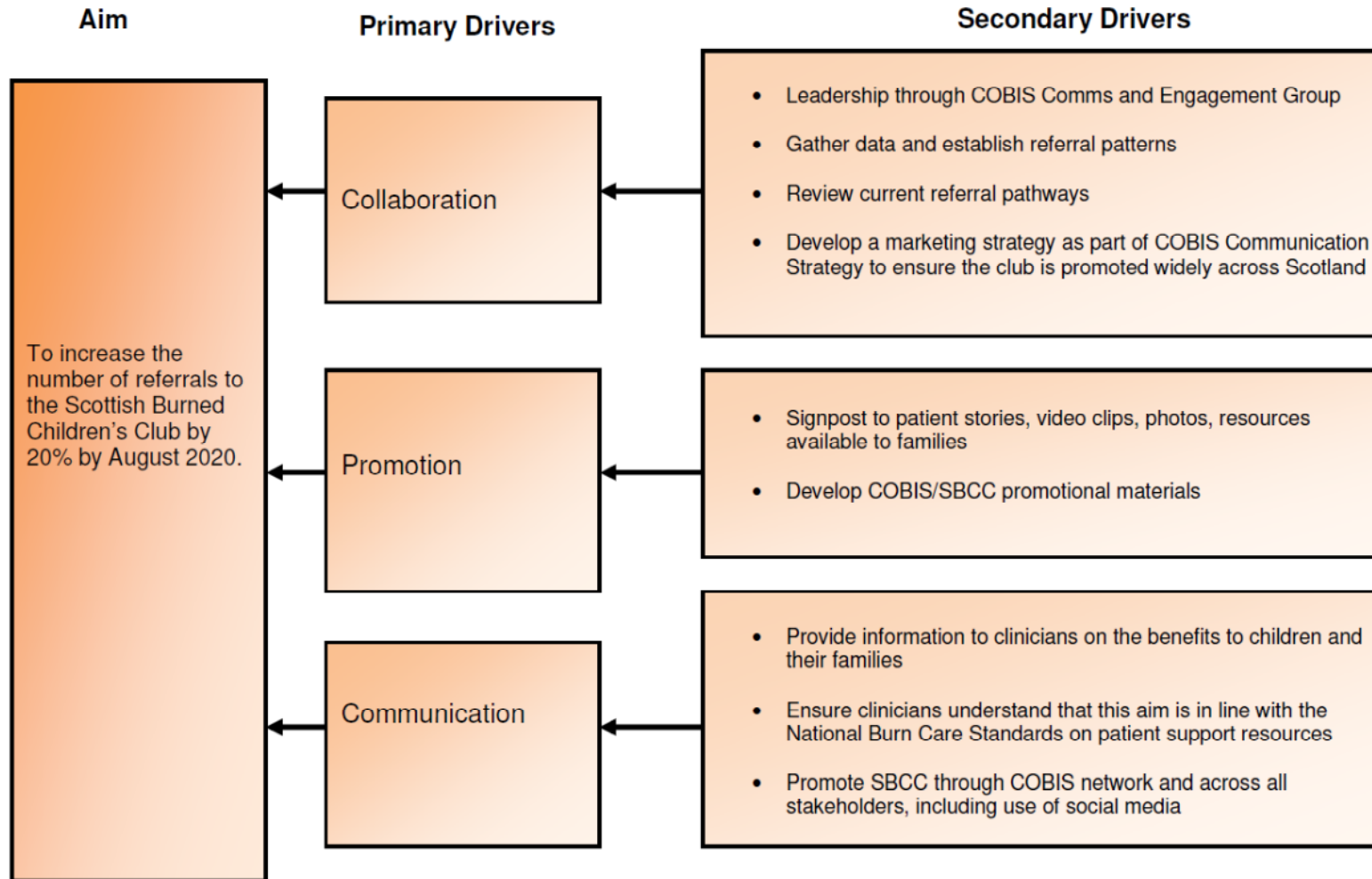
Objective Number	Smart Objective	Planned start/ end dates	Detailed Plan Available / Owner	Description of progress towards meeting objective as at 31.10.2019	Anticipated Outcome	RAGB status
	leaflet.			version being developed by key clinicians.	condition and to share in informed decision-making.	
<b>3. Stakeholder Communication and Engagement</b> [linked to Quality Dimensions 1,3,4,5,6]						
2019-04	By June 2019 review and update the COBIS Communication Strategy to meet the needs of all stakeholders, including provision of information and effective sign-posting through the website.	01/04/2019-01/07/2019	Communi-- cation Group	Communication Strategy reviewed July 2019 and QI project identified.  Collaboration with the Scottish Government Consultation on Fireworks in Scotland.	Stakeholders across Scotland will inform the annual workplan to ensure a personalised approach to care.	<b>B</b>
2019-05	By October 2019 develop a collaborative youth campaign to raise awareness of burns risk factors for young people.	01/04/2019	Communi-- cation Group	QI Project aims to increase referrals to the Scottish Burned Children's Club to ensure equitable patient support across Scotland.	Through joint working the campaign will reduce risk of injury to young people.	<b>G</b>
<b>4. Education</b> [linked to Quality Dimensions 1,2,3,4,5,6]						
2019-06	By March 2020 deliver one national conference and two regional teaching events.	01/04/2019	Education Group	The COBIS network joined forces with the Scottish Trauma Network and the Scottish Acquired Brain	Healthcare professionals across Scotland share and	<b>G</b>

Objective Number	Smart Objective	Planned start/ end dates	Detailed Plan Available / Owner	Description of progress towards meeting objective as at 31.10.2019	Anticipated Outcome	RAGB status
				Injury Network to deliver a two-day national conference in June 2019.  2 regional sessions are planned for the Autumn.	increase their knowledge and skills and in burns management.	
2019-07	By September 2019 review and update the Education Strategy to support stakeholders' learning needs in response to the emerging burns service model.	01/04/2019	Education Group	The network is collaborating with NHSGGC and Medreach to create a series of short videos on the current management of burns and burns assessment in Emergency Departments.	The workforce is valued and has access to evidence-based specialist burns training and resources for improved health and care.	<b>G</b>
<b>5. Audit and Continuous Quality Improvement</b> <small>[linked to Quality Dimensions 1,2,3,4,5,6]</small>						
2019-08	By December 2019 improve the quality of the Clinical Audit System dataset and provide clinical access to dashboard.	01/04/2019	Data Group	Data Group has identified actions to engage clinicians in CAS training and review of dataset.  Key areas identified for improvement.	Clinicians are able to access their data and audit patient outcomes to drive improvement.	<b>G</b>

Objective Number	Smart Objective	Planned start/ end dates	Detailed Plan Available / Owner	Description of progress towards meeting objective as at 31.10.2019	Anticipated Outcome	RAGB status
2019-09	By March 2020 agree a subset of the UK National Burn Care Standards for implementation in Scotland and audit performance against these to drive improvement.	01/04/2019	Steering Group	The four burns centres have been asked to assess current provision against UK standards as a baseline.  Steering Group has agreed to carry out peer review site visits to assess against Standards.	Patients will benefit from burns centres working together to provide optimum care and manage risk better.	G
<b>6. Value</b> [linked to Quality Dimensions 1,2,3,4,5,6]						
2019-10	By July 2019 audit the impact of the Emergency Department burns algorithms to gather evidence of clinical value.	01/04/2019	Communi-- cation Group	The Comms and Engagement Group has identified a clinician (Mr Thomas Reekie) to review the use of acute burns management posters within Emergency Departments and Minor Injury Units in Scotland.	Effective communication between those involved in patient decisions and contribute to patient care.	G

## Appendix 1

### COBIS Driver Diagram – Referral to the Scottish Burned Children’s Club (SBCC)



DRAFT COBIS SBCC Driver Diagram v02