Report to:	Board of Directors	Date: 4 February 2021
Report from:	Chair of the Quality & Risk Committee	
Principal Objective/ Strategy and Title	**GOVERNANCE:** **To update the Board on discussions at the Quality risk meetings held on 17 December 2020.**	
Board Assurance Framework Entries	**675, 684, 730, 742, 1787, 1929**	
Regulatory Requirement	**Well Led/Code of Governance:**	
Equality Considerations	**To have clear and effective processes for assurance of Committee risks**	
Key Risks	**None believed to apply**	
For:	**Insufficient information or understanding to provide assurance to the Board**	

1. Significant issues of interest to the Board

The business of the committee was necessarily reduced in December by the growing operational needs of the Covid-19 pandemic, with few issues arising that are not already well known across the hospital.

1.1 **SIs.** After two months in which we had 3 SIs, the number has now fallen again to zero in month, adding to the suggestion that this was coincidence rather than evidence of systemic pressure.

1.2 **Patient acuity.** We noted that there may be sharp changes in patient acuity as we manage the demands of the pandemic by prioritising the most urgent of our other cases. This might lead to higher relative numbers of incidents such as falls and other problems. It will be important to try to capture changes in patient acuity in reports to the committee and Board in order fully to understand trends in safety and other indicators.

1.3 We received an update on M.absessus, noting the most recent cases and that there will be an epidemiological study all affected patients. We discussed at some length some of the ethical issues around patient information and consent.

2. Key decisions or actions taken by the Quality & Risk Committee

2.1 **Policies etc**. We have ratified policies and strategies on risk management, data quality, and the medical gas system operation.

3. Matters referred to other committees or individual Executives

3.1 None.

4. Recommendation
4.1 The Board of Directors is asked to note the contents of this report.