

Department of Health

# Surveillance in the Northern Territory

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# Agenda

1. Current Program
2. Data
3. Challenges
4. Future Recommendations: Jurisdictional & National

# Northern Territory Public Hospital Profile

## Top End Region

1. Royal Darwin Hospital- 360 Beds
2. Palmerston Regional Hospital- 116 Beds

## East Arnhem Region

3. Gove District Hospital- 30 Beds

## Big Rivers Region

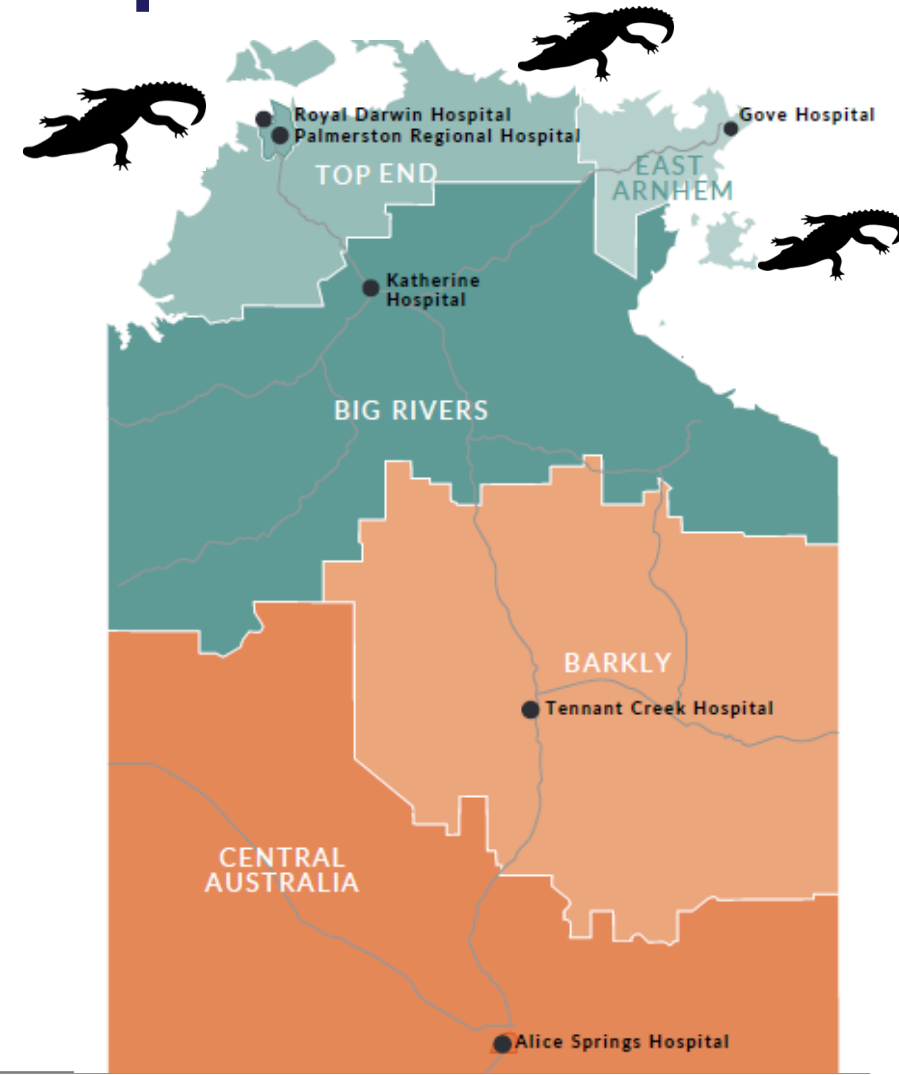
4. Katherine District Hospital- 60 Beds

## Central Australia

5. Alice Springs Hospital- 165 Beds

## Barkly Region

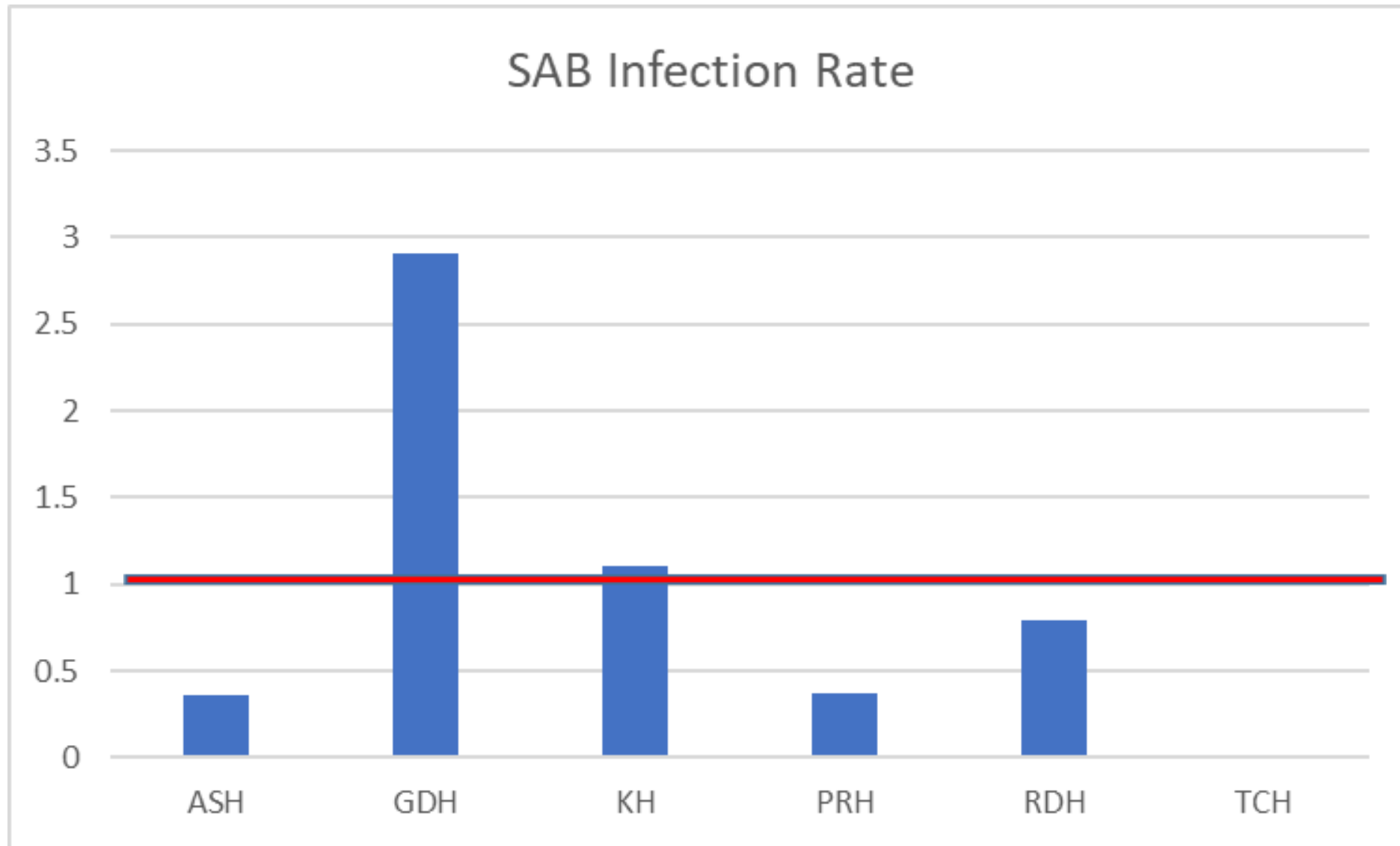
6. Tennant Creek Hospital- 20 Beds



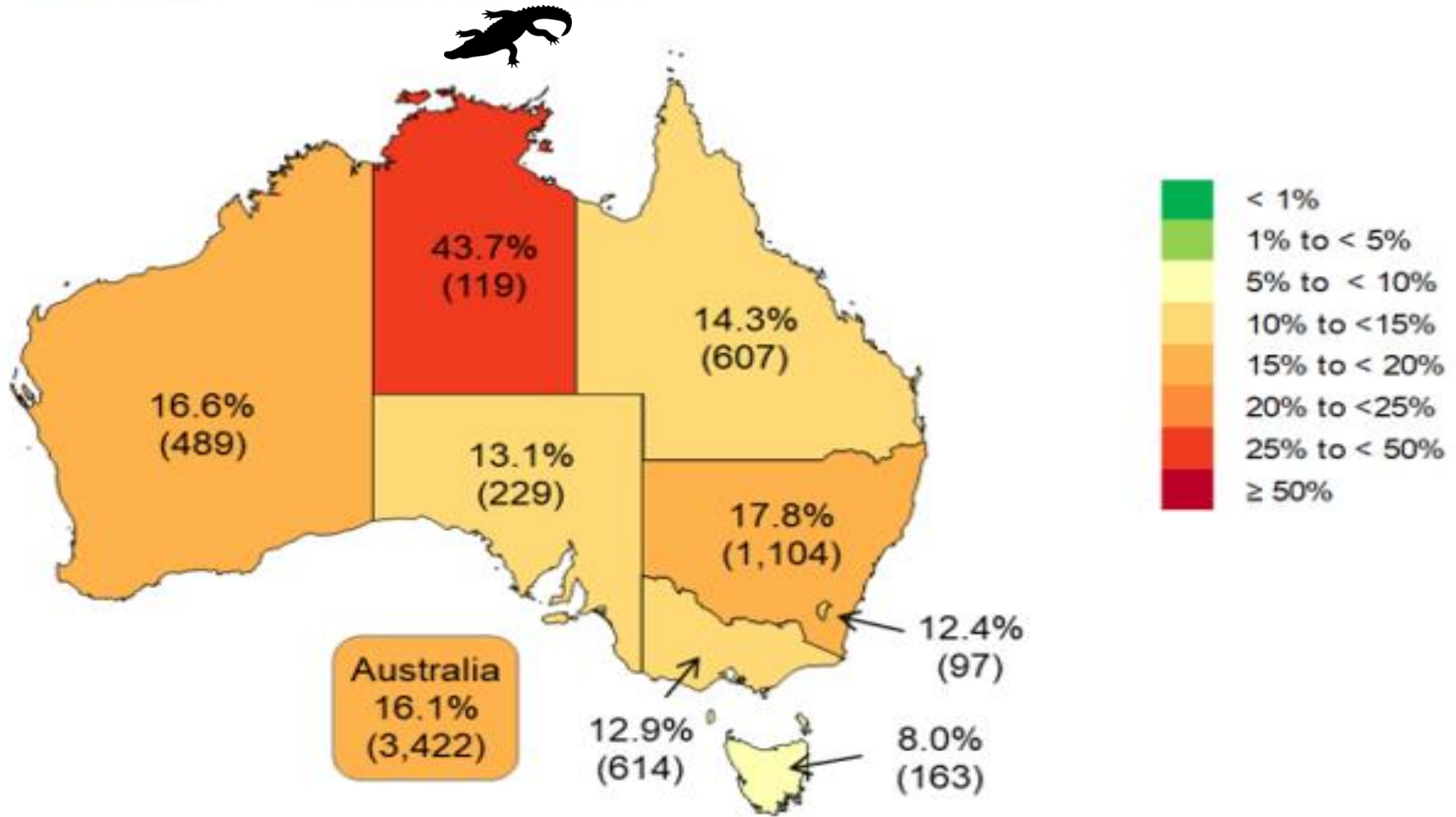
# Territory Wide Surveillance

- SABSI is the only mandatory NT Health KPI for Healthcare associated infections
- All hospitals that perform LUCS & Hip & Knee Arthroplasty undertake SSI surveillance however this is not mandated nor a KPI
- CLABSI in the ICU is reported in the ANZICs registry
- PIRT data is used for benchmarking

Facility	SABSI		CLABSI	SSI	CDI	MRO
Royal Darwin	✓	.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Alice Springs	✓	.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Palmerston Regional	✓	.	✓	X	✓	✓
Katherine District	✓	.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Tennant Creek	✓	.	X	X	✓	✓
Gove	✓	.	✓	✓	✓	✓

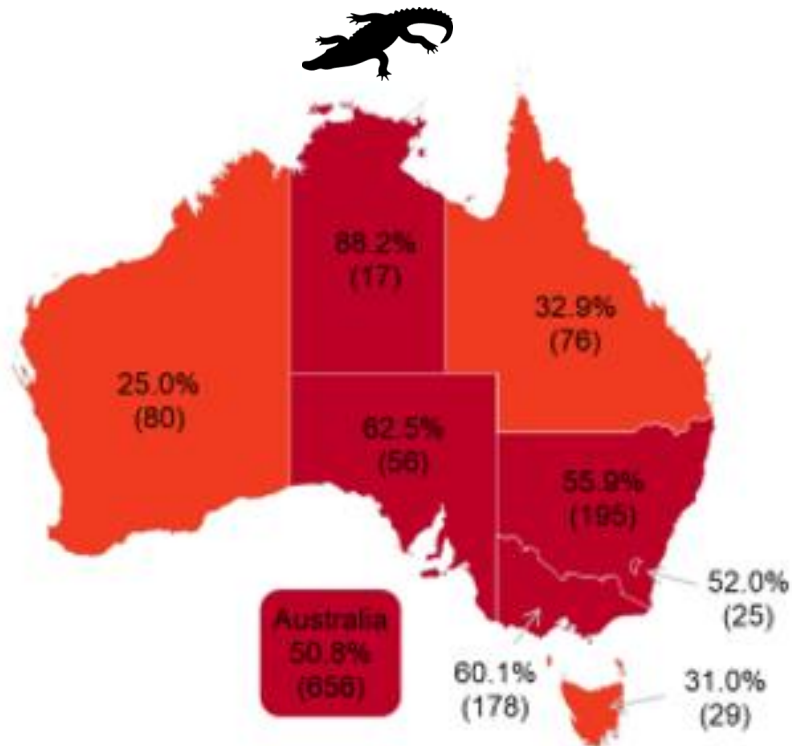


**Figure 2:** Percentage of *Staphylococcus aureus* from patients with bacteraemia with resistance to methicillin as defined by EUCAST, Australia, AGAR, 2023

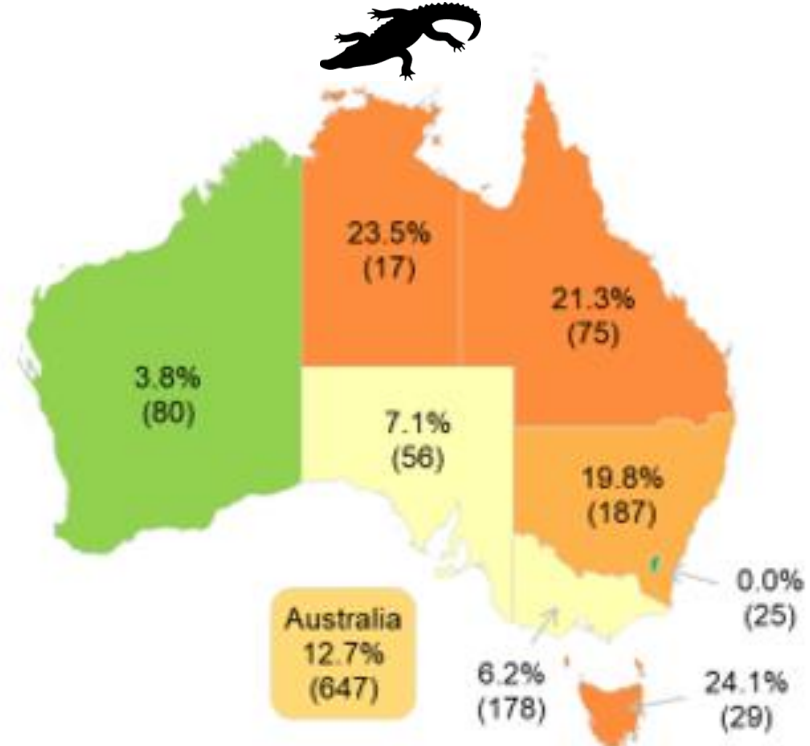


**Figure 2:** Percentage of *Enterococcus faecium* from patients with bacteraemia with resistance as defined by EUCAST to vancomycin (A) and teicoplanin (B), and *Enterococcus faecalis* with resistance to high-level gentamicin (C), Australia, AGAR, 2023

A. Vancomycin



B. Teicoplanin



# Challenges

- Lack of standardisation and consistency across health services
- Developing surveillance program
- Staffing
  - Seniority
  - Retention
  - Resourcing
  - Turnover
- NT Health Governance Structural changes
- Lack of digital solutions
- Lack of Territory Wide HAI body
- High rates of MROs
- Significant morbidity in the population

# Future Recommendations: Jurisdictional & National

## Jurisdictional

- Implementation of digital solutions to improve efficiency
- Implementation of consistent training and support, particularly in remote areas

## National

- Standardised surveillance frameworks that support smaller jurisdictions
- Development of surveillance training programs