

Infection Control Annual Statement

2016

Purpose

This annual statement will be generated each year in January in accordance with the requirements of The Health and Social Care Act 2008 *Code of Practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance*. It summarises:

- Any infection transmission incidents and any action taken (these will have been reported in accordance with our Learning Event procedure)
- Details of any infection control audits undertaken and actions undertaken
- Details of any risk assessments undertaken for prevention and control of infection
- Details of staff training
- Any review and update of policies, procedures and guidelines

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Lead

Alchester Medical Group has 1 Lead for Infection Prevention and Control: Dr Helena Doucas, GP Partner.

The IPC Lead is supported by: Helen Cooper, Nurse Manager, and assisted by Paula Pengelly, Practice Nurse.

Helen Cooper has attended an IPC training course in 2016 and keeps updated on infection prevention practice.

Infection transmission incidents (Learning Events)

Learning events (which may involve examples of good practice as well as challenging events) are investigated in detail to see what can be learnt and to indicate changes that might lead to future improvements. All learning events are reviewed in the monthly / bimonthly practice / staff / partner meetings and learning is cascaded to all relevant staff.

In the past year there have been no significant events raised that related to infection control.

Infection Prevention Audit and Actions

The Annual Infection Prevention and Control audit for Victoria House Surgery was completed by Paula Pengelly in December 2016.

As a result of the audit, the following things have been changed at Alchester Medical Group, or are currently being reviewed:

- A new chair is on order for the Minor Surgery room, which will be a vinyl covered chair and is wipeable
- Maintenance to repair and fill holes in coving in Minor Surgery room
- White rock on splash back tiles to cover grouting, OR take off tiles and replace with smooth wipeable surface
- To get hand soap dispensers to attach to walls

The Annual Infection Prevention and Control audit for Langford Medical Practice was completed by Helen Cooper in January 2017.

As a result of the audit, the following things have been changed at Alchester Medical Group, or are currently being reviewed:

- Fit stave holders in cleaners cupboard
- Soap dispensers to be wall mounted
- Obtain and fit wall-mounted couch roll holders for those couches without integral holders
- Obtain and fit DaniCenters in treatment rooms / minor ops room

An audit on Minor Surgery was undertaken by Dr Hannon in January 2017.

No infections were reported for the 155 patients who had had minor surgery at Victoria House.

As a result of the audit, nothing has been changed.

An audit on hand washing was undertaken in April 2016.

Alchester Medical Group plan to undertake the following audits in 2017:

- Annual Infection Prevention and Control audit
- Minor Surgery outcomes audit
- Domestic Cleaning audit
- Hand hygiene audit

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments are carried out so that best practice can be established and then followed. In the last year the following risk assessments were carried out / reviewed:

Legionella (Water) Risk Assessment: The practice has reviewed its water safety risk assessment to ensure that the water supply does not pose a risk to patients, visitors or staff. The water has had a sample sent off for testing, from both sites, in October 2016, and the results are clear.

Immunisation: As a practice we ensure that all of our staff are up to date with their Hepatitis B immunisations and offered any occupational health vaccinations applicable to their role (i.e. MMR, Seasonal Flu). We take part in the National Immunisation campaigns for patients and offer vaccinations in house and via home visits to our patient population.

Curtains: The NHS Cleaning Specifications state the curtains should be cleaned or if using disposable curtains, replaced every 6 months. To this effect we use disposable curtains and ensure they are changed every 6 months. The window blinds are very low risk and therefore do not require a particular cleaning regime other than regular vacuuming to prevent build-up of dust. The modesty curtains although handled by clinicians are never handled by patients and clinicians have been reminded to always remove gloves and clean hands after an examination and before touching the curtains. All curtains are regularly reviewed and changed if visibly soiled.

Toys: NHS Cleaning Specifications recommend that all toys are cleaned regularly and we therefore provide only wipeable toys in waiting / consultation rooms.

Cleaning specifications, frequencies and cleanliness: We have a cleaning specification and frequency policy which our cleaners and staff work to.

Hand washing sinks: The practice has clinical hand washing sinks in every room for staff to use. Some of our sinks do not meet the latest standards for sinks but we have removed plugs and reminded staff to turn of taps that are not 'hands free' with paper towels to keep patients safe.

Training

All our staff receive annual training in infection prevention and control.

We use NSA (National Skills for Health) e-learning for all our staff mandatory and non-mandatory training, which provides separate infection prevention and control courses for non-clinical and clinical staff.

Helen Cooper and Joanne Jackson attended a Best Practice in Nursing Conference in October 2016 where they received ad-hoc training in Infection Prevention and Control.

All hand washing facilities for patients and staff have a pictorial display of correct hand washing techniques. We try to demonstrate hand washing techniques on Staff yearly, when we do our Hand Washing Audit.

Policies

All Infection Prevention and Control related policies are in date for this year.

Policies relating to Infection Prevention and Control are available to all staff and are reviewed and updated annually by Nurse Manager Helen Cooper, and all are amended on an on-going basis as current advice, guidance and legislation changes. Infection Control policies are available to staff for reading, on the shared drive.

Responsibility

It is the responsibility of each individual to be familiar with this Statement and their roles and responsibilities under this.

Review date

January 2018

Responsibility for Review

The Infection Prevention and Control Lead and the IPC Lead nurse are responsible for reviewing and producing the Annual Statement.

Publication

A copy of this Annual Statement will be uploaded to our practice website, and we will notify patients of any seasonal or other outbreaks that they may need to be aware of via posters in the surgery and on our website.

Helen Cooper

Nurse Manager

For and on behalf of the Alchester Medical Group, January 2017