

## **Infection Control Annual Statement**

**2017**

### **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.

Helen Cooper is a member of the Infection Prevention Society, 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 quarterly practice Staff meetings and learning is cascaded to all relevant personnel.

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 Helen Cooper in January 2018

As a result of the audit and of the review conducted by the CCG Infection Control Lead, the following things have been changed at Alchester Medical Group, or are currently being reviewed:

- A new chair is on order for Room 3, which will be a vinyl covered chair and is wipeable
- Maintenance to repair and fill holes in Minor Surgery room
- To purchase 2 square wall dispensers for surgical scrub and gel
- To get hand soap dispensers to attach to wall.
- Disposable blood pressure cuff barriers ordered for each consulting room and for the Waiting Room machine.
- Either repair or replace the couch in Room 2, which has dangerous edges.
- The veneer strip on the front of the desk is damaged and cannot be cleaned properly, therefore needs replacing
- All Treatment Rooms need gel wall dispensers sited near the couch.

- The patient toilet on the ground floor has damaged pipe boxing which needs replacing.

The Annual Infection Prevention and Control audit for Langford Medical Practice was completed by Helen Cooper in January 2018

As a result of the audit and of the review conducted by the CCG Infection Control Lead, the following things have been changed at Alchester Medical Group, or are currently being reviewed:

- Clinical examination light ordered for Room 9
- Soap dispensers to be wall mounted
- Gel dispensers ordered for the Treatment Rooms.
- Quote obtained for repair to flooring in the lobby area
- Quote requested to remove carpeting in consulting rooms and replace with washable flooring, where these rooms are to be used for invasive procedures, eg implant insertions or joint injections.
- Maintenance to be arranged to repair areas of damage in the Waiting Room.
- Disposable blood pressure cuff barriers ordered for each consulting room, and for the Waiting Room machine.

An audit on Minor Surgery was undertaken by Dr Hannon in December 2017. 140 patients had a minor surgery procedure at Victoria House, and of these there was one reported infection. This was in a diabetic patient who had an already - infected sebaceous cyst excised.

All planned surgery involving potential infection, such as toenail wedge resection, is placed at the end of the morning list in order to reduce the risk of cross-infection.

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

An audit of IUCD insertions was undertaken in December 2017. Dr VanStigt inserted 151 coils, of which 3 needed to be resited due to expulsion (2) or movement (1). Dr Koralage inserted 29 devices, with no adverse reactions.

As a result of the audit, nothing has been changed

An audit on hand washing was undertaken in December 2017

Alchester Medical Group plan to undertake the following audits in 2018 :

- 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 2017, 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/Care 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 at Langford only – no toys are kept at Victoria House.

**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 off 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.

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 2019

**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 2018