

Annual Infection Prevention and Control Statement 2023-2024 for Avon Valley Practice.

This annual statement will be generated each year in November in accordance with the Health and Social Care Act 2008 (Code of Practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance.

This document outlines the key components of an effective infection prevention and control strategy. It covers governance and leadership, risk assessment, training and education, monitoring and surveillance, outbreak management, and continuous improvement.

A well-designed strategy is essential for protecting patients and staff and ensuring the safe delivery of care.

ES by Emma Scott

Governance and Leadership

IPC Lead

Senior leaders have a crucial role to play in infection prevention and control. Emma Scott (ANP/ Nurse Partner) is our IPC lead, and undertakes training on a regular basis by attending IPC meetings / webinars organised by the BSW ICB, completing annual IPC level 2 training and regularly reviewing the ICB IPC Teamnet Resources.

Designated Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Lead

Every Primary Care Provider should have a designated infection prevention and control lead. The IPC lead is responsible for identifying risks to the practice, its patients and staff and taking responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of its IPC actions to manage and reduce those risks.

Collaboration with Relevant Stakeholders

Successful infection prevention and control relies on collaboration between different departments and stakeholders. This may include infection control teams, occupational health teams, cleaning staff, and patient representatives, among others.

The IPC lead is supported by Anna Morton (Managing Business Partner) and Lauren Mercer-Johnson (TNA) that is responsible for Legionella monitoring.

IPC Audits and Risk Assessments

"Prevention is better than cure" Desiderius Erasmus

Identifying and mitigating potential risks is a key part of infection prevention and control.

Avon Valley Practice has a new Pando IPC reminder messaging system for 2023 - where IPC reminders can be placed.

Avon Valley Practice plan undertakes the following audits: These remain current and in date. Supplementary to the below audits are the adhoc audits that arise from new guidance for example, spirometry ICB best practice audit completed this year and Covid audits during the pandemic.

- **5 Yearly:**

Clinical Waste Audit (due 05/2024)

- **Annually:**

Annual Infection Prevention and Control Efficacy audit (due 05/2024)

Calibration of Legionella Testing Equipment. (due 07/2024)

Hand Hygiene Assessment on staff

- **Biannually:**

Disposable curtain replacement (11/2023)

- **Quarterly:**

Cleanliness Environmental NHSC audit (12/2023)

Spillage Kit checks

- **Monthly:**

Sharps Audit

Legionella Monthly Water checks

Contractor Cleaning Inspections

- **Immunisations:**

As a practice we ensure all staff are up to date with their Hepatitis B immunisations and offered any occupational health vaccinations applicable to their role (i.e., Seasonal Flu, Covid, MMR). Vaccination records are held on Teamnet in their HR records.

We take part in the National Immunisation campaigns for patients and offer vaccinations in house and via Home visits to our patient population.

- **Training and Education**



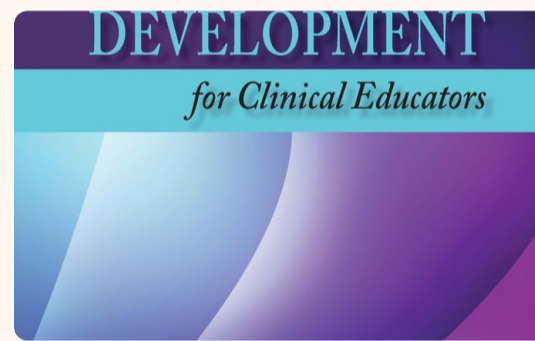
Training Requirements for All Staff

All staff receive annual basic training on infection prevention and control. This may include hand hygiene, using personal protective equipment, and isolation precautions, among other topics. Accessed in 2022 through Relias and now moving to Ilearn.



Specific Training for Infection Prevention and Control

Additional training has been provided to staff with specific infection prevention and control responsibilities. Clinical Vaccinating staff completed annual Flu and Covid training. An update on new waste management arrangements was held in by the IPC Lead.



Continued Professional Development Opportunities

Monthly Clinical meetings allows for the sharing of best practices and the development of new skills and knowledge when needed / required.

In 2023 we received additional NOID training.

Policies:

All Infection Prevention and Control related policies are in date for this year and are available to all staff on Teamnet. <https://teamnet.clarity.co.uk/Library/ViewItem/e1dcbfca-2d7c-445e-b343-ae1d00f80567>

They are reviewed annually by A Morton and E Scott to ensure they are in date and that they reflect the latest best practice and emerging threats

The IPC lead Emma Scott is responsible for reviewing and producing the Annual Statement for and on behalf of Avon Valley Practice.

Continous Improvement:

Feedback and Suggestions from Staff

Staff input is valuable in Avon Valley Practice in identifying areas for improvement and developing effective prevention strategies. The monthly clinical meetings are used to provide the opportunity for this to take place.

Promotional Weeks.

International Infection Prevention week was promoted on the Upavon Staff wall and on Team Announcements in October 2023 - Reminding staff of the fundamentals of IPC.