

INFECTION CONTROL ANNUAL STATEMENT 2022-2023

PURPOSE

This annual statement has been generated in April 2023: It summarises:

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

Significant Events

In the past year there have been 0 significant event regarding infection transmission incident.

Due to the Coronavirus pandemic, the Practice put extra infection control measures in place, the majority remain in place These include:

- The removal of all magazines and leaflets from the waiting area
- Installation of a hand sanitizer gel dispenser at both sites
- Increased supply of hand sanitizer gel pumps on reception
- The use of paper towels instead of hand towels
- The introduction of waiting room cleaning every 2 hours
- Workstations sanitized at every shift change
- Installation of protective screens on the front desk at both sites

Audits

Due to the associated increased risk of C Diff, the Practice monitors the prescribing of Co-amoxiclav.

Co-amoxiclav indications for use (taken from April 2022 community guidelines): **There is interim guidance (March 2023 – June 2023) to link to rapidly changing national advice regarding the management of sore throat and scarlet fever**

[27 patients were audited 2 were out of guidelines](#)

To be discussed at next Clinical Meeting-

- Ensure all prescribing clinicians are aware of where to find the guidelines for reference prior to prescribing. Legacy – Clinical Protocols – Community antibiotic guidelines (Be aware of the interim guidance March – June 2023 to link to rapidly changing national advice regarding the management of sore throat and scarlet fever
- Treatment for pilonidal either acute or recurrent is not in current guidelines suggest seek advice from microbiology prior to prescribing.

We carry out continuous hand washing audit

A hand washing audit was carried out January 23 at both sites

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments were carried out September 2022 to enable best practice to be established and then followed.

Curtains

The surgery has curtains in consulting rooms as modesty screens to be used around couches during examinations. 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 modesty curtains although handled by clinicians were never handled by patients and clinicians would always remove gloves after an examination and before touching the curtains.

Toys

There are no toys at the surgery

Staff Training

Infection Control policies are in the Docman library and all staff are aware of them. They are also available in paper form in files at both sites. The Policies are reviewed annually and discussed firstly at clinical meeting and then at the following staff meeting. All new staff are informed of the policies at induction.

Individual training has been completed by all staff throughout 2022. All the nursing team attend mandatory annual training .

Policies, Procedures and Guidelines

All policies are reviewed and amended on an ongoing basis as current advice changes or need arises.

Labelling, Storage and Transportation of Specimens– reviewed **April 2023**

Spillage of bodily fluids – reviewed **April 2023**

Sharps and Needlestick injuries – reviewed **April 2023**

Disposal of Waste including sharps disposal – reviewed **April 2023**

Management of Clostridium Difficile Infection – reviewed **April 2023**

Vaccine Cold Chain and Storage – reviewed **April 2023**

Hep B – reviewed **April 2023**

Hand Decontamination Policy – reviewed **April 2023**

Decontamination of Equipment Policy – reviewed **April 2023**

Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) – reviewed **April 2023**

Use of Personal Protective Equipment – reviewed **April 2023**

Infection Control Policy – reviewed **April 2023**