

Auckland Surgery Annual IPC Statement Report 2025

Each March Auckland Surgery produces its **Annual Statement** in compliance with the [Health and Social Care Act 2008 Code of Practice](#) on infection prevention and control (IPC) and related guidance, to ensure best practice in Infection Prevention Control. This report is thoroughly reviewed by the practice team to uphold best practice in IPC.

Purpose

- This report serves to:
- **Demonstrate compliance** with the **Health and Social Care Act 2008: Code of Practice on IPC**.
- **Promote Patient & Staff Safety** by Identifying, managing, and mitigating infection risks, fostering a safe environment for patients, healthcare professionals, and visitors.
- **Define responsibilities** ensuring all practice staff, patients, and visitors understand their role in maintaining infection prevention control measures.
- **Record IPC Activities** including Infection transmission incidents and action taken. Documented in line with the practice **significant event procedure**. Also, infection control audits, risk assessments, staff training and policy and procedure updates.

Aim and Compliance Measures

Auckland Surgery is committed to maintaining the highest standards in Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) by adhering to the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) Guidance, NHS England's National Infection Prevention and Control Manual, and key principles of Public Health England (PHE) Infection Prevention. To achieve compliance the surgery implements the following measures:

- **Infection Prevention Control Policies:** developing and implementing policies for managing and monitoring infection prevention and control ensuring that the risk of healthcare-associated infections (HCAIs) is minimized.
Ensuring policies are regularly updated to reflect the latest standards.
- **Environment management:** A clean and safe environment in all clinical and nonclinical areas, through regular cleaning schedules, safe waste disposal system, that minimizes infection risks.
- **Sterilization and Disinfection Protocols:** Adhering to strict sterilization and disinfection practices for medical equipment and surfaces to prevent cross-contamination between patients and staff.
- **Antimicrobial stewardship:** optimal antimicrobial use to improve patient outcomes and minimize resistance.
- **Clear and timely communication** regarding infections to service users, visitors, and healthcare providers.
- **Patient & Staff Education:** Informing patients on how they can contribute to preventing infections, including guidance on hand hygiene, wound care, and understanding potential risks associated with procedures. Prompt identification and treatment of individuals at risk of infection to prevent further transmission.

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Comprehensive training for all staff, including contractors and volunteers, to uphold infection control responsibilities. Ensuring that all staff undergo regular IPC training, including the correct use of personal protective equipment (PPE), hand hygiene techniques, and infection control protocols, to maintain a safe clinical environment.

- **Occupational Health and Immunization Services**

Access to occupational health services, including immunization in accordance with the UK Health Security Agency's [The Green Book](#).

Auckland Surgery partners with Guy's and St Thomas' Occupational Health services to support staff well-being.

- **Isolation and Laboratory Support**

Availability of adequate isolation facilities when necessary.

Reliable access to laboratory support as required.

Key IPC Areas Covered

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) leadership

IPC LEAD: SONIA DAILEY-ARCHER (NURSE MANAGER) Supported by: Marcia Dennis (Practice Nurse)

Antibiotic and Sepsis lead: Alexander Dossett Medical Doctor

Medicine Management (Pharmacy team) Email: Croydon.medicines@swlondon.nhs.net

External IPC Support and Resources

- **Specialist IPC team:** [Infection Prevention Control.co.uk/](http://InfectionPreventionControl.co.uk/)
www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk
- Address: Gibraltar House, Thurston Road Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL6 2NA
- Tel: 01423 557340
- **Local Hospital Consultant Microbiologist:** St George Hospital (0208 725 5693 opt 2)
- **Local Health protection Team:** UKHSA South London (HPT) 5th Floor, South Colonnade, London, E14 4PU. Tel: 0300 303 0450.
- **Public Health contact number:** 0208 726 6000

IPC Lead Responsibilities – Auckland Surgery

The IPC Lead plays a vital role in maintaining **high standards of infection prevention and control**. Responsibilities, outlined in their job description include:

Leadership & Adherence to Policy

- Champion best practices in infection control, ensuring compliance with national and local IPC standards and regulations.
- Provide strategic leadership for all IPC initiatives, guiding the practice in implementing effective infection control measures.

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- Develop, implement, and monitor IPC policies and procedures to maintain a safe environment for patients and staff.

Advisory & Training Responsibilities

- Offer timely expert advice to colleagues and patients.
- Oversee training on:
 - Hand hygiene and decontamination best practices.
 - Correct use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).
 - Safe handling and disposal of sharps. (Note: This list is not exhaustive.)
 - Ensure adequate availability of sharps containers, PPE, and hand decontamination materials to support compliance.

Monitoring & continuous improvement

- Conduct regular IPC audits, reporting findings to senior management to drive continuous improvement.
- Collaborate with relevant departments and external agencies to align IPC practices with national guidelines and best practices.

Staff Engagement & Support

Ensure all staff actively contribute to maintaining high IPC standards

Accessing IPC Advice & Support

Staff at Auckland surgery can seek specialist Infection Prevention Control advice from the IPC team at [Infection Prevention Control](#).

The IPC lead ensures external audits are conducted as needed.

IPC Audits & Compliance Measures

Auckland Surgery carries out routine audits in alignment with **infection prevention standards**, and **National Standards of Healthcare Cleanliness 2025** <https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/national-standards-of-healthcare-cleanliness-2025/>. A supporting IPC audit checklist is available at [Annex G Infection Control Audit Checklist](#).

Following any IPC audit, the IPC lead, ensures corrective actions are completed promptly. outstanding risks are logged in the practice risk register for ongoing review.

Recent IPC Inspection Findings

An external IPC inspection took place on March 27, 2023, confirmed full compliance with all Essential Quality Requirements of IPC standards. No additional findings were reported.

- Recommendations: The practice meets all compliance standards, and no action plan is required. No further recommendations have been provided.
- Risk Assessment: No comments or concerns were raised regarding risk assessment.

Scheduled Audits & Evaluations

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The following routine audits are conducted, evaluated, and reviewed to enhance infection prevention standards:

Staff & Occupational Health Audits

- Hand Hygiene Audit (Every Six Months) – Assesses adherence to hand hygiene protocols.
- Sharps Management Audit (Every Three Months) – Evaluates safe handling and disposal of needles and sharp instruments.
- Staff Immunisation Compliance Audit – Ensures vaccinations (e.g., flu, hepatitis B) align with UKHSA's The Green Book.
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Audit (Monthly) – Reviews correct use and availability of PPE.

Environmental Cleanliness & Hygiene Audits

- Monthly Environmental Cleanliness Audit – Ensures compliance with updated NHS cleaning standards.
- Annual Deep Cleaning Audit – Evaluates thorough cleaning procedures for high-risk areas.
- Legionella Risk Assessment – Monitors water system safety to prevent bacterial contamination.

Infrastructure & Equipment Audits

- Medical Equipment Cleaning & Maintenance Audit – Ensures proper sterilization and upkeep.
- Privacy Curtain Cleaning & Replacement Audit
- Couch Roll & Urine Test Strips Storage Audit – Assesses safe handling and storage conditions.

Risk Assessment & Compliance Monitoring

- Annual IPC Risk Assessment – Identifies infection risks and mitigation strategies.
- Audit & Compliance Monitoring – Regular IPC audits to identify gaps and implement corrective actions.
- Risk Register Updates – Recording outstanding risks and tracking resolution progress.
- Collaboration with External IPC Teams – Seeking specialist advice when required.

Patient Safety & Infection Control Audits

- Cold Chain Audit (Annually) – Monitors vaccine storage and handling.
- Sepsis Audit – Evaluates early detection and management practices.
- Wound Infection Audit (Minor Surgery) – Assesses infection control procedures in minor surgical interventions.

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments are conducted at Auckland surgery to minimize potential risks and ensure best practices are established and followed, safeguarding both patients and staff. In the past year, the following risk assessments have been carried out or reviewed:

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Environmental & Facility Risks

- Cleaning & Hygiene Standards – Compliance with the National Standards of Healthcare Cleanliness 2025.
- Legionella Risk Assessment – Ensuring water system safety and preventing bacterial contamination.
- Ventilation & Air Quality – Assessing airflow to minimize airborne infection risks.
- Clinical Waste Management – Safe disposal of clinical and hazardous waste
- Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Risk Assessment – Identifying potential health risk and controlling exposure.

Staff & Occupational Health Risks

- PPE Compliance – Ensuring correct use and availability of personal protective equipment.
- Staff Immunisation – Monitoring vaccinations (e.g., flu, hepatitis B) in line with UKHSA's The Green Book.
- Training & Competency – Assessing staff knowledge and adherence to IPC protocols.
- Sharps Management – Safe handling and disposal of needles and sharp instruments.

Patient Safety & Infection Control

- Hand Hygiene protocol Compliance – Regular audits to ensure adherence to best practices.
- Cold Chain Management – Proper storage and handling of vaccines and temperature-sensitive medicines.
- Sepsis & Wound Infection Prevention – Monitoring infection risks in minor surgical procedures.

Training & Staff Development

Induction Training – All new staff and contractors receive comprehensive IPC training upon joining.

Refresher Training – Ongoing updates via Practice Index e-learning, ensuring staff remain informed on evolving best practices.

Basic Life Support Training – Delivered annually via face-to-face sessions, reinforcing emergency response protocols.

Role-Specific IPC Training – Digital learning tailored to individual responsibilities, ensuring specialized knowledge and compliance.

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Infection Transmission Incidents (Significant Events)

Auckland Surgery monitors **infection transmission incidents** through **systematic reporting and evaluation**, ensuring **continuous improvement** in IPC measures.

Significant Event Process

- **Best practice examples** and incidents requiring improvement. Positive IPC Events – are shared during staff meetings to reinforce best practices.
- Incident Investigation – Staff members involved in an incident complete a **Significant Event Analysis (SEA) form**, initiating an investigation and action process.
- Findings and Review – Monthly discussions ensure outcomes are shared and inform audits or policy improvement.
- Past Year Review – No IPC-related significant event was recorded in the past year.

No reported complaints regarding cleanliness or infection control.

Policies & Procedures

Auckland Surgery adheres to rigorous IPC policies and procedures, ensuring compliance with UKHSA, NHS England, and National IPC Guidelines (2025 Standards).

Policy Management & Compliance

- Annual Review & Amendments – Policies are updated yearly based on best practices, legislation changes, and emerging guidance.
- Accessibility – All staff have easy access to IPC policies to ensure compliance.

Responsibility & Accountability

All Auckland Surgery staff must familiarize themselves with this statement and adhere to their specific IPC responsibilities within the practice. Staff are expected to support infection prevention initiatives, participate in audits and risk assessment. Follow IPC policies and procedures to maintain safe healthcare environment.

Review & Updates

Annual Review Lead: Sonia DAILEY-ARCHER

Next Review & Update: On or before March 2026.