

INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL POLICY STATEMENT

Person responsible for this policy: *Helen Todd, Beth Jenkinson & Dr Sally Waller*
Date of last review: February 2021
Date of next review: February 2023

1.0 Introduction

Good infection prevention and control (IPaC) is essential to ensure that people who use primary care services receive safe and effective care. This practice is committed to providing effective IPaC practices to minimise the risk of infection and ensure the safety of patients, visitors and staff.

2.0 Scope

This policy states how Nettleham Medical Practice ensures compliance with the Health and Social Care Act 2008 *Code of Practice for healthcare, including primary care and adult social care on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance 2010* (to be known hereafter as the Code). The Code consists of ten criteria; this policy will incorporate criteria 1; 3; 4; 5; 6; 8; 9m; 9x 9y and 10.

3.0 Responsibilities

3.1 Designated Lead IPaC Responsibilities

The designated leads for IPaC are: *Dr Sally Waller, Helen Todd and Beth Jenkinson* and can be contacted within the practice. The purpose of this role is to develop an annual IPaC programme to include:

- The practice's collective responsibility for preventing and controlling infection and the measures needed to reduce such risks.
- A review of all Policies, procedures and guidance and if necessary develop new guidance
- An audit programme to demonstrate adherence to policies and guidelines and compliance with clinical procedures
- Initial and on-going training all staff will receive

The IPaC lead will produce an annual statement covering the following list of activities that is available to view on request:

- Completed IPaC risk assessments
- IPaC audits, outcomes and subsequent actions
- Known infection transmission and subsequent actions
- Training received by staff
- Reviewed and updated policies, procedures and guidance

The local commissioning lead for IPaC is: Kevin Shaw (Tel: 01522 513355 or Mob: 07837096035) who can be contacted via the global email system. The purpose of this role is to provide advice and support relating to the quality of IPaC procedures within the practice. The Health Protection Agency local unit can also be contacted for advice on telephone number 0344 2254524 Option 1.

3.2 Other IPC Responsibilities- relating to staff

This practice uses (There is currently no contracted Occupational Health service attached to the practice but Occupation Health Services are paid for on an ad hoc basis) for their Occupational Health service. This service includes:

- Risk-based screening for communicable diseases and assessment of immunity to infection after a conditional offer of employment and on-going health surveillance
- Offer of relevant immunisations
- Arrangements in place for regularly reviewing the immunisation status of care workers and providing vaccinations to staff as necessary in line with *Immunisation against infectious disease* (“The Green Book”) and other Department of Health guidance.

Staff employed or contracted by this practice receive IPaC training commensurate with their role within the practice. The responsibilities of each member of staff for prevention and control of infection are reflected in their job description and any development plan or appraisal.

This practice will ensure all members of staff including agency, external contractors and volunteers understand and comply with the need to prevent and control infections including those associated with invasive devices.

This practice will ensure that clothing worn by staff when carrying out their duties will be clean and fit for purpose. All healthcare staff will ensure that their hands can be decontaminated throughout the duration of clinical work by being bare below the elbows (with the exception of a wedding ring or equivalent) when delivering direct patient care, removing wrist and hand jewellery, making sure that fingernails are short, clean and free of nail polish, covering cuts and abrasions with a waterproof dressing. (NICE clinical guidelines 139: 1.1.2.3

3.3 Other IPC Responsibilities- relating to patients

This practice uses *a number of local labs* for their diagnostic microbiology and virology laboratory service. These laboratories operate according to the requirement of the relevant national accreditation bodies, for the investigation and management of diseases.

When a service user under the care of this practice develops an infection, initial advice and treatment will be provided and an assessment of any potential communicable disease control issues undertaken to ensure that appropriate actions are taken to minimise risks to others. This information will be documented on the practice’s patient summary record. This practice will ensure that information on infectious conditions about service users as appropriate is shared with other health and social care providers when:

- A patient that is admitted to hospital, social care or mental health facility

- A patient that is scheduled for an invasive procedure
- A patient is transported in an ambulance
- There is an outbreak or suspected outbreak amongst patients

This practice will make available information to service users about their approach to preventing and controlling of infection, staff roles and responsibilities and who to contact with infection control concerns. The practice will consider patient feedback in the running of the practice. The practice will also make available up to date information on current infectious conditions.

The practice has an immunisation procedure in place for service users which includes:

- A record of all immunisations given
- The immunisation status and eligibility for immunisation of service users are regularly reviewed in line with the *Immunisation against infectious disease* ('The Green Book') and other Department of Health guidance; and
- Following a review of the record of immunisation, all service users are offered further immunisation as needed, according to the national schedule.

This practice complies with national guidance and specifications for cleaning and decontamination, cleaning schedules are available via the Practice Management Team.

4.0 Risk Assessment

A risk assessment for infection control risks within the practice has been completed and an action plan developed in response to any risks identified to reduce or control them which will be monitored.

5.0 Notifiable Diseases

Any notifiable disease will be reported to the appropriate authority in accordance with The Health Protection (Notification) Regulations 2010. A full list of notifiable diseases is below:

Acute encephalitis Plague
 Acute poliomyelitis Rabies
 Anthrax Relapsing fever
 Cholera Rubella
 Diphtheria Scarlet fever
 Dysentery Smallpox
 Food poisoning Tetanus
 Leptospirosis Tuberculosis
 Malaria Typhoid fever
 Measles Typhus fever
 Meningococcal septicaemia Viral haemorrhagic fever
 Mumps Viral hepatitis – (A; B; C; other)
 Ophthalmia neonatorum Whooping cough
 Paratyphoid fever Yellow fever