

North Harbour Medical Group

Annual Infection Control Statement.

Purpose:

This annual statement will be generated each year in March 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 Significant 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

Greensand Health Centre has one Lead for Infection Prevention and Control: Sarah Konig Practice Nurse

The IPC Lead is supported by: Sue Crook Practice -- Manager.

--Sally Davies, Karen McDermott Practice Nurses.

Wendi Vince Health Care Assistant

Sarah Konig has attended IPC training courses in 2021 Virtually and keeps updated on infection prevention practice.

Annual Prevention Audit and Actions.

Due to Covid over the last 2 years we have not had a formal audit of the treatment room, but have been keeping up-to-date with our own internal audit of the surgery Treatment room. And we have managed to maintain a safe IP environment during this testing time.

The Treatment room is the main focus of patient intervention and the surgery hub where we have concentrated our high IPC standards.

We are awaiting the building of new surgery, so in the meantime we have lots of challenges keeping other areas of the Surgery IPC safe. This includes, Doctor consulting rooms, Waiting room and reception area. The building is owned by others so this as well limits and IPC improvements we can make.

At the end of last year Solent IPC team come in to audit our Treatment room and passed with a score of 94%. We are very pleased with. The only things that stopped us from getting a higher score are things that are beyond our control and are related to undertaken by our buildings owners.

There are areas of infection control practice that needs improving such as:-

- Improving the IPC environment in the Doctors consulting rooms. This can be achieved by decluttering surfaces so they are easily accessible to be cleaned effectively.
- Engaging all staff to engage in Infection control learning and implementation. Depending on their role within the surgery.
- Involving staff in IPC audits, such as Hand hygiene, Surgery Infection Control audits.

COVID -19

COVID- 19 presented us with lots of difficult challenges, but we have risen to them and worked hard from an infection control point of view. Ensuring the surgery has been COVID secure.

Covid – 19 risk assessments were carried out regularly in 2020/21 ensuring North Harbour. All Infection control recommendations from the DOH and Public Health England were implemented prioritising staff and patient safety.

Actions included:--

- New signage and ways of communicating with patients and each other.
- Face to face appointments replaced with telephone / photo consultations
- The creation of a Covid secure isolation room.
- Screens fitted in reception areas
- Lateral Flo testing twice weekly for staff (Voluntary)
- Increased cleaning and hand decontamination
- PPE adherence
- social distancing, ventilation and the compulsory wearing of face coverings.
 - Creating a one way system during COVID vaccine clinics.
 - Decluttering the waiting of Toys and fabric chairs, Wipeable chairs were put there instead.

Risk assessments: -

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, Coronavirus). We take part in the National Immunisation campaigns for patients and offer vaccinations in house. Also the Practice nurses and GP's have provided Flu and COVID 19 vaccines via home visits to our house bound patient population.

- All clinical staff assisting with the coronavirus vaccine program received e-learning training on both the Pfizer and Astra Zeneca vaccines

We as part of our Primary care Network, have been a designated site for delivery of COVID -19 Vaccines. While this has been a huge challenge and has been extremely rewarding to be part of the recovery plan for the Pandemic.

A deep clean is carried Bi-annually by our cleaning contractors, this includes cleaning of the Carpets

On the walls in the waiting room area, there is a copy of the dail/weekly cleaning programme that is undertaken each week.

There has been a change in the policy regarding Curtains found in the Gp consulting rooms, which return to wanting the disposable curtains renewed every 6 months. I will look into this shortly.

Action plan for the next twelve months.

1. Ensure all staff understand the importance of infection control and that they need to undertake their online or face to face training for this.
2. Encourage everyone to declutter their working areas or I as IPC lead will undertake this.
3. Perform a hand hygiene audit.
4. Keep Policies up to date for IPC.

All staff have a responsibility to be engaged in infection control learning and implementation. I will be sending out Up to date IPC policies to all clinical staff and the practice Manager so they are aware of them.

Review date
January 2023