

Completing the Annual Statement for Infection Prevention and Control (Primary Care)

It is a requirement of The Health and Social Care Act 2008 *Code of Practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance* that the Infection Prevention and Control Lead produces an annual statement with regard to compliance with good practice on infection prevention and control and makes it available for anyone who wishes to see it, including patients and regulatory authorities.

As best practice, the Annual Statement should be published on the Practice website.

The Annual Statement should provide a short review of any:

* known infection transmission event and actions arising from this;
* audits undertaken and subsequent actions;
* risk assessments undertaken for prevention and control of infection;
* training received by staff; and
* review and update of policies, procedures and guidance.

Below is a suggested template for the Annual Statement compiled from national guidance and examples of best practice found on the internet. Practices can (and should) adapt the template and add further detail/headings/examples but the five key headings (above) must be included. If the practice are unable to complete one or more of the five key headings, it is likely that the practice are not compliant with the health and Social Care Act.

**Infection Control Annual Statement**

Purpose

This annual statement will be generated each year in January 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

Alma Road Surgery has a Lead for Infection Prevention and Control: Kathy Lawrence (KL) Practice Nurse.

The IPC Lead is supported by: Cordelia Wadsworth (CW) Practice Nurse

KL & CW have attended an IPC Lead update in 2022 and have kept updated on infection prevention practice.

Infection transmission incidents (Significant Events)

Significant events (which may involve examples of good practice as well as challenging events) are investigated in detail to see what can be learnt and to indicate changes that might lead to future improvements. All significant events are reviewed in the monthly Education Meetings and learning is cascaded to all relevant staff.

As a result of these events, Alma Road Surgery has:

* Continued with an annual infection control update for both clinical and non-clinical staff
* Ensured Infection Control Guidance remains accessible to all staff, including ongoing COVID guidance.

Infection Prevention Audit and Actions

The Annual Infection Prevention and Control audit was completed by KL in August 2022.

As a result of the audit, the following things have been changed:

* Monthly cleaning audit to be carried out by KL & Lia in protected time

An audit on Minor Surgery will be undertaken by KL August 2022

An audit on hand washing will be undertaken in June 2023. All audits will be discussed at the Practice meeting.

The Practice plan to undertake the following audits in 2022:

* Annual Infection Prevention and Control audit
* Minor Surgery outcomes audit
* Domestic Cleaning audit
* Hand hygiene audit
* MRSA audit
* Specimen collection audit

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments are carried out so that best practice can be established and then followed. In the last year the following risk assessments were carried out / reviewed:

Legionella (Water) Risk Assessment: The practice has conducted/reviewed its water safety risk assessment to ensure that the water supply does not pose a risk to patients, visitors or staff.

Immunisation: As a practice we ensure that all of our staff are up to date with their Hepatitis B (Clinicians) and MMR immunisations and offered any occupational health vaccinations applicable to their role (i.e. Seasonal Flu, COVID vaccination). We take part in the National Immunisation campaigns for patients and offer vaccinations in house and via home visits to our patient population.

Curtains: Disposable curtains are used in clinical rooms and are assessed at least 6 monthly according to manufacturer instruction and latest CQC guidance. All curtains are changed if damaged or soiled.

Patients are triaged for potential COVID infection prior to receiving a face to face appointment. They are either reviewed in Hot Room or seen in Hot Hub if there is a risk they may be COVID positive.

PPE: Appropriate PPE is available to all Staff and guidance adhered to in the wearing of PPE. Areas are cleaned and decontaminated according to up to date COVID guidance.

Training

All our staff receive annual training in infection prevention and control.

Infection Control Leads have an annual update. Information is then disseminated to the clinical team within the monthly Education Meeting, and the non-clinical staff via annual e-learning.

KL & CW attend a regular Infection Control Leads Forum led by West Hampshire CCG.  This has been operating remotely since the COVID period.

The nurse team either attends an annual Infection Control Update or complete an annual e-learning update.

Policies

All Infection Prevention and Control related policies are in date for this year.

Policies relating to Infection Prevention and Control are available to all staff and are reviewed and updated annually, and all are amended on an on-going basis as current advice, guidance and legislation changes. Infection Control policies are circulated amongst staff for reading and discussed at meetings on an annual basis.

Responsibility

It is the responsibility of each individual to be familiar with this Statement and their roles and responsibilities under this.

Review date

August 2023

Responsibility for Review

The Infection Prevention and Control Lead and the Practice Manager are responsible for reviewing and producing the Annual Statement.

Mary Orgill (Practice Manager):

Kathy Lawrence (Practice Nurse)

For and on behalf of Alma Road Surgery