# **Infection Control Annual Statement**

## (April 2020 - March 2021)

## 1. PURPOSE

In line with the Health and Social Care Act 2008: Code of practice on prevention and control of infection (July 2015) and its related guidance, this Annual Statement will be generated each year. It will summarise:

- Any infection transmission incidents and any lessons learnt and action taken
- Details of any infection prevention and control (IPC) audits undertaken and any subsequent actions taken arising from these audits
- Details of any issues that may challenge infection prevention and control including risk assessment undertaken and subsequent actions implemented as a result
- Details of staff IPC training
- Details of review and update of IPC policies, procedures and guidance
- To highlight priorities for the upcoming year.

## 2. INFECTION CONTROL LEAD

The Infection Control Lead will enable the integration of Infection Control principles into standards of care within the practice, by acting as a link between the surgery and Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Infection Control Team. They will be the first point of contact for practice staff in respect of Infection Control issues. They will help create and maintain an environment which will ensure the safety of the patient / client, carers, visitors and health care workers in relation to Healthcare Associated Infection (HCAI).

The Infection Control Lead will carry out the following within the practice:

- Increase awareness of Infection Control issues amongst staff and clients
- Help motivate colleagues to improve practice
- Improve local implementation of Infection Control policies
- Ensure that practice based Infection Control audits are undertaken
- Assist in the education of colleagues
- Help identify any Infection Control problems within the practice and work to resolve these, where necessary in conjunction with the local Infection Control Team
- Act as a role model within the practice
- Disseminate key Infection Control messages to their colleagues within the practice

Practice Infection Control Lead: Jo Marlow/Link Nurse: Rebecca Liquorish Environment and Decontamination Lead: Jo Marlow/Link Nurse: Rebecca Liquorish

## 3. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

There have been **(no) significant events** reported regarding infection control issues in the period covered by this report.

## 4. AUDITS / RISK ASSESSMENT

The following audits/ assessments were carried out in the practice

- Infection control annual audit
  7<sup>th</sup> April 2020
- Environment and Decontamination Audit
  14<sup>th</sup> April 2020
- <u>Cold Chain Audit</u>
  **14<sup>th</sup> April 2020**

#### These audits are to be carried out on a 6-monthly basis.

All 3 audits have been upgraded following a visit from Samantha Coulson (Infection Prevention and Control Nurse, West Leicestershire CCG).

The audits high-lighted several areas for discussion and following a meeting with Dr Chotai, Executive Partner, Deb Bradley, Operations Officer and myself, Jo Marlow, Infection Control Nurse, we have identified some priorities and key points for the next 12 months, as stated below:

#### 5. PRIORITIES AND KEY POINTS FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS

- Infection Prevention Control (IPC) to be put onto the weekly agenda for any issues to be discussed.
- Danicentre and Clinical Waste Bin to be purchased for the Sluice Room
- X2 internal thermometers (as stated in PHE Cold Chain) to be purchased for the vaccine refrigerators.
- Dr Chotai has decided against purchasing data-loggers as he feels the daily temperature checks on the fridges are sufficient.
- Approved cool box to be purchased for home flu visits (to include cool packs allowing vaccines to be stored at +2 8°c)

- Deb Bradley will look into Occupational Health forms for all staff and forward these to Glenfield Hospital to be checked and vaccines offered accordingly.
- We currently have no cleaners for the surgery. Dr Chotai will ensure when new contractors have been appointed, the cleaning schedules, vaccine requirements for the cleaning staff and audits will be discussed and put into place.
- Dr Chotai to discuss with other prescribers within the surgery, National Surveillance Data on Anti-microbial prescribing and HAI such as C.Difficile.

#### 6. STAFF TRAINING

The infection Control Lead and Link Nurse for the Practice have attended Infection Control training in the last year. All other clinicians and members of admin staff have completed Infection Control training on Blue Stream. As part of new recruitment, all new members of staff are asked to complete an Infection Control Assessment Sheet.

## 7. POLICIES, PROTOCOLS AND GUIDELINES

The Policies below have been updated this Year. They are reviewed annually or earlier when appropriate due to changes in regulations and evidence based guidance.

- Standard Infection Control Precautions
- Aseptic Technique
- Isolation of Service Users with an Infection
- Safe Handling and Disposal of Sharps
- Prevention and Management of Occupational Exposure to Blood and Body Fluids (including sharps injuries)
- Safe Handling and Disposal of Waste
- Packaging and Handling of Specimens
- Immunisation of Patients
- Decontamination of Re-usable Medical Devices and Equipment
- Single Use Medical Devices
- Outbreaks of Infection / Communicable Disease/ Isolation of Infective Patients
- Reporting of Infections to the Health Protection Agency or Local Authority
- CJD / vCJD handling of instruments and devices
- Environmental Cleaning
- Uniform Policy / Dress Code
- Antimicrobial Prescribing