

Practice Nurse IPC Forum

Speakers:

Sharon Egdell IPC Lead for the Integrated Care System

Erika Bowker Quality Lead Primary Care

IPC queries syheartlandsicb.shipc@nhs.net

17th January 2024



Agenda

- Regulatory requirements for IPC lead role
- CQC Infection Control Quality Standard
- Training & development opportunities for IPC Lead role





Regulatory requirements for IPC Lead role

- Health and Social Care Act 2008: code of practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) states that:
 - 1.4 Outside of NHS organisations, the responsibilities of the DIPC are discharged by the IPC lead for the registered provider. This role will vary across adult social care, primary dental care, primary medical care, independent healthcare providers and independent sector ambulance providers.
 - The IPC lead for the registered service provider should:
 - be responsible for the organisation's IPC (including cleanliness), the built environment (where appropriate) and antimicrobial stewardship programme, as well as management and structure and the establishment of relevant groups
 - oversee IPC policies and their implementation and work with other IPC system-wide leads when needed
 - the lead will report directly to the registered provider
 - promote respectful challenge of inappropriate practice amongst all workers and have the authority to set and challenge standards of cleanliness
 - assess the impact of all existing and new policies on infections and make recommendations for change
 - be an integral member of the organisation's governance, and safety teams and structures where they exist
 - produce an annual statement with regard to compliance with practice on IPC (including cleanliness) and make it available on request





NEW CQC quality standard on Infection Control

CQC will be more active in 2024 and may well look at the new IPC CQC quality standard as part of your inspection:

- [Infection prevention and control - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](https://www.cqc.org.uk)

Essentials you need to have in place to pass (CQC could ask you to send them)

1. Infection Prevention Control Policy

- Up to date IPC policy including external contacts for advice & support.
- Policy needs to include management of infectious patient if they turned up in the waiting room – what would you do?
- Policy must follow and reference IPC manual [NHS England » National infection prevention and control](#)
- Handling specimens process (in your IPC policy or separate policy)
- Cleaning & decontamination policies – particularly for all re-usable equipment used with patients

2. Comprehensive IPC audit completed within the last year with an **action plan** you are monitoring / completing or evidence of where you are tracking the actions found in the audit – how do you do this?

- Hand Hygiene audits too – if you have a light box – use it 😊

3. Annual IPC statement / report for the practice [Health and Social Care Act 2008: code of practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) – document your practice performance over the last year against the 10 IPC criterion.

- Where do you discuss this report? Can you evidence you have discussed it in clinical meeting minutes and any actions from it.





CQC IPC essentials continued

4. General Cleaning audits – these should be documented monthly checks of what the cleaner says they are doing – ideally the cleaning company manager should be doing these but if not, the practice will have to do them

5. What training has the IPC Lead had and how do they stay up to date?

- Look at Surrey Training Hub for relevant training for the role if you haven't had any [Infection Prevention Control Lead Training : Surrey Training Hub](#)
- The Primary Care IPC forum was commented positively on in a CQC inspection as a good way to stay up to date!

If CQC go in: (they will always go in to inspect this standard, if they choose to look at it)

5. Clinical Cleaning logs (3 months worth)

- Make sure you have a daily initialled record that clinicians have cleaning equipment like stethoscope, BP cuff etc between patients.

6. Ensure you have had a deep clean including all **high and low** surfaces – **top of door frames / cupboards, curtain rails, under couches** – they will check its dust free!

- Cleaners adhering to national cleaning standards [NHS England » National Standards of Healthcare Cleanliness 2021](#)
- Sharps bins not being opened for more than 3 months – not too full
- Clinical curtains changed 6 monthly
- Correct bins used – outside clinical waste bin locked

7. Stock check records of all expiry dates on drugs and dressings and everything else with an expiry date

[GP mythbuster 99: Infection prevention and control in General Practice - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](#)





External contacts for IPC policy

- [Contacts: UKHSA health protection teams - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)
- Surrey Heartlands ICB Sharon Egdell Infection Control Nurse Consultant via syheartlandsicb.shipc@nhs.net





IPC Lead role- training & development requirements

- <https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/infection-prevention-and-control-education-framework/>:
- IPC lead role falls into the “Introduction level” category
- Accredited learning opportunities for achieving Introduction level are being provided and funded by Surrey Training Hub , as follows on the next slide
- CQC will expect to see that this education framework had been acknowledged by your organisation and that you have been given the opportunity to access these learning courses, in order that you can develop your knowledge to enable you to fulfil the IPC lead role (as detailed in slide 3





IPC Lead Role training & development opportunities:

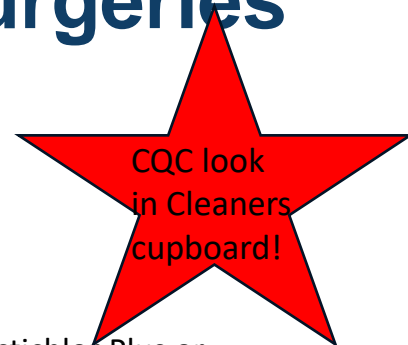
- The recommended training for IPC Leads is to complete Skills for Health modules 1&2. Each module costs £12 and you can reclaim the full £24 via our CPD Application Process. It is also important to understand the regulatory requirements. These are set out in section 1.4 of the following link: Health and Social Care Act 2008: code of practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)
- There is also an expectation that you will attend the quarterly forums run by the ICB which will help to keep you updated in accordance with the National IPC Manual, build on that knowledge base to implement into clinical practice, professionally develop your skills and also support your colleagues to comply with IPC standards. For more information on the forums and to book this training
- [Infection Prevention Control Lead Training : Surrey Training Hub](#)





Cleaning Products to use in GP Surgeries

- Have you looked in your cleaners cupboard recently?
 - Are they using clinically appropriate cleaning products?
 - **No String Mops** – replace with disposable colour coded Mop heads
 - Neutral detergent, such as Hospec (from NHS supplies) is effective for general cleaning .
 - In toilets would advise routinely using a combined detergent & chlorine product, such as Actichlor Plus or Chlorclean, as urine spills and aerosols from diarrhoea and or vomiting are invisible to the eye.
 - Cleaning staff must be COSHH trained to use any cleaning or disinfectant product.
-
- Going round practices I see quite a few products that are not appropriate for clinical environments and still seeing lots of string mops – particularly if you have a local cleaner rather than a cleaning company – please check!
 - Cleaners often seem to have one high duster – just **moving dust around the practice!** Should place a Clinel or similar wipe around the duster and dust tops of cupboards, tops of curtain rails and under clinical couches – check yours now!





Free Webinars

- The RCGP and TARGET Antibiotics will be hosting a series of free webinars designed to help healthcare professionals understand the importance of ensuring antibiotics continue to work, and the issues surrounding overuse.
- These webinars are aimed at clinicians in the primary care setting including GPs, general practice/PCN pharmacists and pharmacy technicians, practice nurses, advanced clinical practitioners, community pharmacists and ICB medicines optimisation teams. Upcoming webinars include:
 - **Improving Antibiotic management of respiratory tract infections: cough and sore throat:** Tuesday 23 January 2024 | 18:30 - 19:30 | Online
 - **Urinary tract infections: Applying diagnostic and prescribing guidance in practice:** Thursday 21 March 2024 | 18:30 - 19:30 | Online
 - Further details and registration information can be found at [Free webinars for 2023/24: Develop your clinical and professional confidence | RCGP Learning](#)
 -





Bookings for all IPC Forum dates for this year

- These have now been added to Eventbrite and also added to the Surrey Training Hub website. It is on a page that is linked under the “Training Courses” page - link below:
- [Infection Prevention Control Forum : Surrey Training Hub](#)
- [Handy references:](#)
- [GP mythbuster 17: Vaccine storage and fridges in GP practices - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](#)
- [NG152 Leg ulcer infection: antimicrobial prescribing visual summary \(nice.org.uk\)](#)





Topics for next Forum?

- Please send suggestions to:

syheartlandsicb.shipc@nhs.net

We would particularly like to hear from you about these topics below:

- Implementation of skin prep guidelines, prior to venepuncture
- Wound clinics- leg ulcer management (leg washing, escalation of wounds that are failing to heal etc)
- Engaging GP colleagues with IPC
- Managing patient monitoring equipment from a cleaning & disinfection perspective- i.e., BP machines in reception

Thankyou for your continued support to achieve continuous IPC improvements within the Primary Care setting

