

## The Arnewood Practice – J82007 Infection Control Annual Statement 2020-21



### 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 cleaning / 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

The Arnewood Practice has a Lead GP, Dr. Hannah Rycroft, and a Lead Practice Nurse, Sister Carole O'Neil, for Infection Prevention and Control.

The IPC Leads are supported by Health Care Assistant (HCA) Hilary Veal.

Sister O'Neil was scheduled to attend an Infection control update training session in October 2019- this was completed 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020 via telephone due to the current Covid-19.

### 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 Quarterly Practice meetings and learning is cascaded to all relevant staff.

In the past year there have been **NO** significant events raised that related to infection control.

### Infection Prevention Audit and Actions

An Infection Prevention and Control audit was completed in April 2016 by Matthew Richardson, Lead Infection Prevention and Control Specialist and Lead for Primary Care Quality following an invitation from the Practice, with the intention for 2020-2021 invitation to assess all 3 sites.

As a result of the audit and observations, the following actions were taken during 2018:

Clinical rooms are no longer carpeted

All patient chairs in the ground floor waiting room and GP consulting rooms have been covered with a wipeable vinyl.

Every GP who performs minor surgeries reviews their patients on an annual basis for the purpose of appraisal and revalidation. The infection rate remains at 0%.

## **IMMUNISATION**

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

## **PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)**

The practice provides PPE for all members of the team in line with their role

Clinical staff are provided with aprons, several different types and sizes of gloves and goggles/face shields

Reception staff are provided with gloves for the handling of sample pots and sharps bins

We have installed a new suggestion/comments box in the practice reception available for patients to make comments, feedback or express concerns with regards to infection control issues such as cleanliness of the premises.

The Practice has in place an ISOLATION OF A CONTAGIOUS PATIENT Procedure, to guide all staff to isolate patients with possible infectious rashes i.e. chicken pox. An Isolation of a Contagious Patient Policy has been written, discussed and now in implementation.

All staff members are made aware on induction of the new correct procedure introduced for the management of sharps and contamination incidents following a needle stick injury.

## **DOMESTIC CLEANING**

We have confirmed with Two Counties, the practice cleaning company that they are compliant with **The Revised Healthcare Cleaning Manual** as set out by the National Patient Safety Agency.

## **Risk Assessments**

Risk assessments are carried out so that best practice can be established and then followed.

## **Training**

Infection Control Education Meetings, including Hand Washing training, led by the lead Nurse & HCA to update the current and educate new members of reception and other non-clinical staff over the past 2 years. We plan to continue this in 2020, with handwashing training and Infection control as part of new staff induction programmes.

## **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 linked to our Practice Policies Index which can be viewed by all staff at any time.

## Responsibility

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

## Covid-19

With the emergence of Covid-19, the majority of face to face GP consultations have moved to total telephone triage, more GPs are remote working sometimes because of self-isolation or the fact they maybe at greater risk or even by choice, and with the establishment of Hot site (New Milton Health Centre) and Cold sites (Arnewood practice and Barton Surgery) the practices are working together and sharing resources.

Our clear aim remains to provide efficient and effective patient care.

The waiting room seating has been rearranged to allow for social distancing.

The digital checking-in machine has been switched off, therefore all patients check in at the reception desk, which is surrounded by a social distancing barrier, to protect the patients and the Reception staff.

The children and teenage immunisation programmes are still being undertaken.

We have access to all types of PPE which is worn appropriately by the clinical staff in the correct situation, our Reception staff wear face masks at all times, and have access to hand gel dispensers. Hand gel dispensers are also accessible for patient use on entry to clinical areas and we encourage patients to wear a face covering if possible. The Practice Nurses and Health Care Assistants are undertaking home visits to shielded and at risk patients to provide necessary care.

## Review date

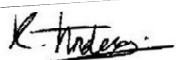
March 2021

## Responsibility for Review

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



Dr. Hannah Rycroft  
IPC Lead Partner



Miss Kelly Anderson  
Practice Manager  
For and on behalf of The Arnewood Practice