

Ixworth Surgery - Infection Prevention & Control (IP&C)

Annual Statement 2020

Purpose

This annual statement will be generated each year in January in accordance with the requirements of The Department of Health (2015) 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) Leads

Whilst all staff at Ixworth surgery are responsible for maintaining high standards of infection prevention, the two nominated leads for Infection Prevention and Control are as follows:

- Lead GP Dr Karoline Chan
- Lead Nurse Georgina More

Both Dr Chan and Georgina are responsible for the management and structure of infection prevention and control in the surgery and oversee the delivery of local policies; whilst also continually monitoring the standards of IP&C and compliance across all areas (clinical and non-clinical) of the surgery establishment.

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 staff meetings and learning is cascaded to all relevant staff.

- In the past year there has been no significant event raised that related to infection prevention and control.

Infection Prevention Audit and Actions

The Annual Infection Prevention and Control audit was completed by Georgina More in Dec 2019/Jan 2020

As a result of the audit, the following recommendations have been put forward;

- Ongoing systematic review of all IP&C documentation in relation to governance & assurance.
- Ongoing replacement/updating of certain fixtures & fittings throughout the surgery that pose the potential for transmission of infection
- Improving staff awareness & compliance with IP&C training (as detailed below)

- Maintaining communication with representative(s) from 'Minster Cleaning Company' to ensure high standards of environmental cleanliness are achieved throughout the Surgery building as detailed in the 'Cleaning Schedule'.

Ixworth Surgery plan to continue to undertake the following audits in 2020:

- Weekly Environmental Cleanliness Audit
- Monthly Hand Hygiene Competency Audit (alongside rolling annual mandatory Hand Hygiene Training)
- Monthly Decontamination of Equipment Audit
- Annual Aseptic Non-Touch Technique Competency Assessment (ANTT) Audit
- Annual Sharps Management Audit
- Annual Infection Prevention & Control Audit – Compliance for General practice (Environment, IP&C Policies and Practices)
- Annual Infection Prevention & Control Audit – Compliance with The Code of Practice

In the event of any non-compliance, action plans will be drawn up locally, reviewed and monitored.

Risk Assessments

As part of managing the health and safety of the surgery, we must control the risks in the workplace. To do this we need to think about what might cause harm to people and decide whether we are taking reasonable steps to prevent that harm.

Risk assessing identifies sensible measures to control the risks in the workplace. The following IP&C risk assessments have been conducted and documented;

- Compressed medical oxygen storage
- Liquid nitrogen storage, handling, and usage
- Clinical handwashing sinks
- Floorcoverings in clinical rooms
- Sharps Management
- Children's toys and books in the waiting room
- Use of non-disposable tourniquets
- Cleaning products – storage, handling and disposal by domestic (Minster Cleaning) staff
- Use of Perasafe® - high-level disinfectant - storage and handling
- Use of super-absorbent polymer granules – storage and handling
- Acetone (nail varnish remover) – storage and handling

Completed and/or reviewed Infection Prevention & Control risk assessments are highlighted on the monthly Staff Newsletter which is circulated to all staff members. In addition to being discussed at monthly Clinical meeting.

Training

All our staff are expected to complete mandatory annual training in Infection Prevention and Control via Bluestream Academy (e-Learning) at the appropriate level.

Blustream Academy is the UK's leading provider of online training to healthcare providers such as GP Practices, Dental Practices, Nursing/Care Homes, Hospices, and Urgent Care; working in partnership with the NHS and professional bodies to support patient care by providing e-learning to educate and train the health and social care workforce.

Face-to face teaching of Hand Hygiene & handwashing technique (theoretical and practical assessment) is carried out annually as a mandatory requirement for all staff. (In addition to random monthly competency audits).

Nursing staff will also be trained in the use of aseptic non-touch technique (ANTT) and compliance with this technique will also be audited annually.

Georgina is due to attend annual Infection Prevention & Control update training for IP&C lead nurses in April, facilitated by Julia Shields, IESCCG Infection Prevention and Control Lead.

Policies

Policies relating to Infection Prevention and Control are available to all staff and visitors and are reviewed and updated at least annually. The current policies are found in the CCG 'Infection Prevention & Control Manual. All are amended on an on-going basis as current advice, guidance, and legislation changes.

All Infection Prevention and Control related policies will be reviewed and updated accordingly for this year.

Any changes to Infection Prevention & Control policies are highlighted on the monthly Staff Newsletter which is circulated to all staff members. In addition to being discussed at monthly Clinical meeting.

Responsibility

Prevention and management of infection is the responsibility of all staff working in health and social care, and an integral element of patient safety programmes. It is applicable to all health and social care organisations, regardless of the patient setting or care provider.

It is therefore the responsibility of each individual member of staff to be familiar with this Statement and their roles and responsibilities in relation to Infection Prevention & Control and the agreed Ixworth Surgery Policies & procedures.

Review date

December 2020

Responsibility for Review

The Infection Prevention and Control Lead Nurse Georgina More is responsible for reviewing and producing the Annual Statement.

Georgina More

Practice Nurse / Infection Prevention & Control Lead Nurse

For and on behalf of Ixworth Surgery.