

THE GROBY SURGERY



Infection Control Annual Statement (April 2023-March 2024)

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: Danielle Donlan – Practice Nurse
Cleaning and Decontamination Lead: Practice Manager

3. SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

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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 – 28th June 2024
- Infection control is a topic at all staff meetings where IPC can be discussed if any matters arise.
- All staff have been immunised with at least 1 dose of covid-19 vaccination.

PRIORITIES AND KEY POINTS FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS

1. Ensure surface decontamination wipes are available in all clinical rooms and reception area for cleaning in between patients or as needed
2. There have been a few areas of risk identified and after discussions will not be possible to resolve. These are:
 - No specimen fridge
 - No handwash basins or arm-levered taps on sinks
 - Carpets in reception area not washable
 - No sluice room or hopper for bodily wasteThey have therefore been placed onto a risk register with appropriate risk assessments to ensure that risk is minimalised.
3. Hand hygiene audit is outstanding and this will be prioritised to do as soon as possible – potentially at the next neighbourhood PLT.

5. STAFF TRAINING

The infection control lead has completed the refresher training and all staff have this as a mandatory item on their e-learning accounts

6. 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

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- 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

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