

ANNUAL INFECTION CONTROL STATEMENT

Introduction

This practice is committed to the control of infection within the building and in relation to the clinical procedures carried out within it. This statement has been produced in line with the Health and Social Care Act 2008 and details the practice's compliance with guidelines on infection control and cleanliness between the dates of 1st January 2019 and 31st December 2019.

The author of this statement is Olga Starobinskaya and Barbara Carroll.

Purpose

This annual statement will be generated each year in January 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 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

Granta Medical Practice has two lead clinicians responsible for Infection Prevention and Control:

Dr Tim Wright (GP Partner) and Barbara Carroll (Senior Practice Nurse).

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 on a regular basis via our Clinical Site Meetings and a quarterly digest of learning points is circulated to all staff.

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

Infection Prevention Audit and Actions

The Annual Infection Prevention and Control audit was completed by the Infection control leads for each site (B.Carroll, G.Brookman, N.Briggs in January 2019.)

As a result of the audit, the following things have been changed in Granta Medical Practices:

- Agreement for a plan to standardise clinical rooms across sites
- New clinical trollies are being purchased and a standardisation of its contents agreed
- A designated isolation room has been introduced at the Shelford site
- Full review of our contracted domestic cleaning service, with emphasis on following the National colour coding for cleaning. We are in the process of changing to disposable cloths for cleaning and Granta will provide the CHLOR-CLEAN tablets for the specialist cleaning of our Minor operations rooms and our isolation rooms
- Implementation of latest recommendations on clinical and non-clinical waste disposal procedures

An audit on Minor Surgery was undertaken by Dr Morrow in January 2018.

No infections were reported for patients who had had minor surgery at the Surgery. As a result of the audit, no changes in procedures were deemed necessary.

Granta Medical Practice plans to undertake the following audits in 2019:

- Annual Infection Prevention and Control audit
- Minor Surgery outcomes audit
- Domestic Cleaning audit
- Hand hygiene audit
- Anti-microbial prescribing

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments are carried out so that best practice can be established and then followed. In the last year the following risk assessments were carried out / reviewed:

Legionella (Water) Risk Assessment: The practice has conducted/reviewed its water safety risk assessment to ensure that the water supply does not pose a risk to patients, visitors or staff.

Immunisation: As a practice we ensure that all of our staff are up to date with their Hepatitis B immunisations and offered any occupational health vaccinations applicable to their role (i.e. 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.

Other examples:

Curtains: The NHS Cleaning Specifications state the curtains in Treatment rooms should be cleaned or if using disposable curtains, replaced every 6 months. To this effect we use disposable curtains and ensure they are changed every 6 months in our operating room, Invasive procedure rooms, Isolation rooms, Treatment rooms. The modesty curtains in most of our GP/Nurse clinical rooms although handled by clinicians are never handled by patients and clinicians have been reminded to always remove gloves and clean hands after an examination and before touching the curtains. All curtains are regularly reviewed and changed if visibly soiled but otherwise changed yearly. The window blinds are very low risk and therefore do not require a particular cleaning regime other than regular vacuuming to prevent build-up of dust.

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/gps/nigels-surgery-6-guidance-about-privacy-curtains>

Toys: NHS Cleaning Specifications recommend that all toys are cleaned regularly and we therefore provide only wipeable toys in waiting / consultation rooms.

Cleaning specifications, frequencies and cleanliness: We have a cleaning specification and frequency policy which our cleaners and staff work to. An assessment of cleanliness is conducted by the cleaning team and logged. The infection control leads for each site conduct separate checks on all aspects in the surgery including cleanliness of equipment.

Hand washing sinks: The practice has clinical hand washing sinks in every room for staff to use. Some of our sinks do not meet the latest standards for sinks but we have removed plugs, covered overflows and reminded staff to turn off taps that are not 'hands free' with paper towels to keep patients safe. We also have plans to refurbish our Barley and Shelford sites which will include replacing old sinks.

Training

All our staff receive annual training in infection prevention and control. There is an induction programme covering Infection control in place for new staff on joining Granta Medical Practices. Clinical Staff undertook Level 2 Infection Prevention and Control training online throughout 2018/19. All Infection control leads for each site will be attending an external training in Infection control before the end of the year.

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.

Antimicrobial prescribing

Granta Medical Practices adheres to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG local policy for antimicrobial prescribing which is important in primary care as it is in secondary and tertiary care and where appropriate, is harmonised with the *British National Formulary*.

We have a Medicines Management team at practice led by Dr Ian Head, Prescribing and LTMC Lead. We aim to achieve maximum therapeutic effect whilst minimising the risk of contributing an additional burden on antimicrobial resistance and *Clostridium difficile* infection. We comply with local antimicrobial guidelines and check that we are adhering to policy by carrying out regular audits and reporting to CAPCCG.

We adhere to the local antibiotic prescribing formulary. Direct contact and liaison with the consultant microbiologist is sought when further queries are raised.

Granta Medical Practices has reduced its overall antibiotic prescribing to date.

Review of Infection Control Statement and Procedures (July 2019)

Barbara Carroll is now a member of the Infection Prevention Society.

Other changes introduced during 2019:

- One of our IC Lead Nurses has retired and we are in the process of recruiting and training a replacement.
- Two all-site inspections to review standards have been conducted since January with many positive findings and changes now implemented.
- New pedal bins rolled out across sites.
- Standardisation of isolation equipment across sites.
- Standardisation of multipurpose antibacterial cleaning agent (Clinell) has been deployed throughout Granta.
- Training of all staff on Infection Control issues, including hand hygiene methods (April 2019).
- Identified short-, medium- and long-term action plans to bring all sites in line with our desired standards.
- Significant work to streamline clinical rooms and waiting areas.
- Working towards displaying cleaning schedules in all sites.

Responsibility

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

Review date	31/01/2020
Responsibility for Review	The Infection Prevention and Control Leads and the Practice Manager are responsible for reviewing and producing the Annual Statement.