

Document level: Trustwide (TW)  
Code: IC1  
Issue number: 8.1

## Trustwide Infection Prevention and Control Operational Policy

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Type of document	Policy
Target audience	All CWP staff
Document purpose	<i>The policy sets out the arrangements for infection prevention and control across the trust and identifies roles and responsibilities pertaining to this.</i>

Approving meeting	Infection Prevention and Control Sub Committee (IPCSC)	Date 22-Jan-20
Implementation date	22-Jan-20	

CWP documents to be read in conjunction with	
<a href="#">IC2</a>	Hand Hygiene SOP
<a href="#">IC3</a>	Standard (universal) infection control precautions policy
<a href="#">IC4</a>	Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) Policy
<a href="#">IC5</a>	Clostridium Difficile Policy
<a href="#">IC6</a>	Contingency plans for the control of infectious outbreaks / incidents
<a href="#">IC7</a>	Patient Isolation Policy
<a href="#">IC8</a>	Aseptic Technique using the principle of Aseptic No Touch Technique
<a href="#">IC9</a>	Pandemic Influenza Policy
<a href="#">IC10</a>	Prevention and management of exposure to health care associated infections (HCAI) and inoculation incidents
<a href="#">IC15</a>	Creutzfeldt Jakob Disease (CJD) Policy
<a href="#">IC17</a>	The control of Legionellae for safe water
<a href="#">IC18</a>	Operational cleaning policy
<a href="#">IC19</a>	Dress code policy
<a href="#">SOP15</a>	Cleaning Toys and Other Therapeutic Equipment
<a href="#">SOP23</a>	Handling of Linen and Clothing

Document change history	
What is different?	List of IPC policies and standard operating procedures updated
Appendices / electronic forms	Appendix removed and quick reference flow chart created
What is the impact of change?	Minimal

Training requirements	Yes - Training requirements for this policy are in accordance with the CWP Training Needs Analysis (TNA) with Education CWP.
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Document consultation	
Clinical Services	via policy discussion forum

Corporate services	via policy discussion forum
External agencies	N/A

Financial resource implications	None
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External references
1. Department of Health (2008) Health and Social Care Act: Code of Practice for the NHS on the 2. Prevention and control of healthcare associated infections and related guidance. Criterion 2 <a href="https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/449049/Code_of_practice_280715_acc.pdf">https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/449049/Code_of_practice_280715_acc.pdf</a>

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) - Initial assessment	Yes/No	Comments
Does this document affect one group less or more favourably than another on the basis of:		
- Race	No	
- Ethnic origins (including gypsies and travellers)	No	
- Nationality	No	
- Gender	No	
- Culture	No	
- Religion or belief	No	
- Sexual orientation including lesbian, gay and bisexual people	No	
- Age	No	
- Disability - learning disabilities, physical disability, sensory impairment and mental health problems	No	
Is there any evidence that some groups are affected differently?	No	
If you have identified potential discrimination, are there any exceptions valid, legal and/or justifiable? Select		
Is the impact of the document likely to be negative?	No	
- If so can the impact be avoided?	N/A	
- What alternatives are there to achieving the document without the impact?	N/A	
- Can we reduce the impact by taking different action?	N/A	
Where an adverse or negative impact on equality group(s) has been identified during the initial screening process a full EIA assessment should be conducted.		
If you have identified a potential discriminatory impact of this procedural document, please refer it to the human resource department together with any suggestions as to the action required to avoid / reduce this impact. For advice in respect of answering the above questions, please contact the human resource department.		
Was a full impact assessment required?	No	
What is the level of impact?	Low	

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## Quick reference flowchart

Infection prevention and control (IC) policies and procedures	
Code	Title
IC1	Trust-wide Infection Prevention and Control Operational Policy
IC2	Hand Hygiene SOP
IC3	Standard (universal) infection control precautions policy
IC4	Meticillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) Policy
IC5	Clostridium Difficile Policy
IC6	Contingency plans for the control of infectious outbreaks / incidents
IC7	Patient Isolation Policy
IC8	Aseptic Technique using the principle of Aseptic No Touch Technique
IC9	Pandemic Influenza Policy
IC10	Prevention and management of exposure to health care associated infections (HCAI) and inoculation incidents
IC15	Creutzfeldt Jakob Disease (CJD) Policy
IC17	The control of Legionellae for safe water
IC18	Operational cleaning policy
IC19	Dress code policy
SOP15	Cleaning Toys and Other Therapeutic Equipment
SOP23	Handling of Linen and Clothing

### Please note:

**Antibiotic prescribing guidance regarding the safe use of antibiotic treatment and antimicrobial usage within the trust is included within the trust medicines policies and formularies.**

**Management of occupational exposure to blood borne viruses (BBV) is incorporated within the policy for the prevention and management of exposure to health care associated infections (HCAI) and inoculation incidents (IC10)**

## **1. Introduction**

Infection prevention and control (IPC) is an important component of any programme or initiative that improves the quality of patients' care, the occupational health of staff and the safety of visitors to healthcare premises. It is the intention of the infection prevention and control team working within Cheshire and Wirral Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (CWP) to promote the prevention and control of infection within all healthcare facilities and all healthcare provision.

## **2. Policy statement**

IPC is an important part of an effective risk management programme to maintain, and where possible improve the quality of patients' care, the occupational health of staff and the safety of visitors. In addition to the need to prevent avoidable infections, there are also legal requirements that must be met which ensure the appropriate steps to protect patients, staff and visitors from avoidable harm are taken.

To protect patients and staff CWP has in place an IPC work programme and assurance framework which reflect the standards set out within the Health and Social Care Act (2015). Moreover, the programme and framework provide the basis for which CWP will implement and monitor standards to provide assurance regarding IPC policy and practice to the Board of Directors.

It is the intention of the CWP IPC team to promote the prevention and control of infections and act as a resource for both staff and the general public within all healthcare facilities and all care provision.

In order to achieve this CWP will implement an effective infection prevention and control operational policy which aims to reduce risks and any potential harm to CWP patients, employees and visitors. This policy should be read in conjunction with all relevant health and safety and supporting IPC policies.

The work of the CWP IPC team is supported by the Countess of Chester's microbiology team.

## **3. Scope**

Implementing the control of infection measures applies to all CWP patients, employees both permanent and temporary and visitors and forms part of CWP's approach to health and safety.

## **4. Aim**

The aim of this policy is to ensure a cultural shift towards the control of infection within CWP and commits CWP to ensuring that there is an effective overarching IPC strategy in place.

The overarching strategy will ensure an effective IPC programme with defined objectives that will guide regular reviews of IPC policy and practice. The aim being to create opportunities for managerial or leadership action that will assist the implementation of this programme and ensure services are compliant with the Health and Social Care Act (2015).

## **5 Reporting to Public Health England**

CWP will ensure that it complies with directives from the Department of Health (DH) with regards to reporting Healthcare Associated Infections (HCAI) to PHE and or CQC where appropriate.

## **6. Monitoring**

The IPC work programme, which includes the assurance framework for infection prevention and control and HCAI, will be reviewed during the quarterly Infection Prevention and Control Sub – Committees. The work programme / assurance framework is available via the IPCT intranet page.