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# Infection Control Statement 2022

## Infection Control Annual Statement 2022

### Purpose

The annual statement will be generated each year – Date of statement: 16.03.23

It will summarise:

- Any infection transmission incidents and action taken (these will be reported in accordance with our Significant Events procedure)
- The annual infection control audit summary and actions undertaken
- Control risk assessments undertaken
- Details of staff training (both as part of induction and annual training) with regards to infection prevention & control
- Details of infection control advice to patients
- Any review and update of policies, procedures and guidelines.

### Background

The Mitchley Avenue Surgery Lead for Infection Prevention & Control is Caroline Bridgeman -Practice Nurse, who is supported by the Practice Manager - Meryl Doherty and Administrator-Kim Oliver. This team keep updated with infection prevention & control practices and share necessary information with staff and patients throughout the year. The IPC is discussed regularly as an agenda item for clinical meetings.

### 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 partner 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.

## Audits

The in house Infection Control Audit was carried out on 01-08-22 by Caroline Bridgeman, Practice Nurse: as a result of the audit, no changes in procedures were deemed necessary.

## Risk Assessments

Regular risk assessments are undertaken to minimise the risk of infection and to ensure the safety of patients and staff. The following risk assessments related to infection prevention & control have been completed in the past year and appropriate actions have been taken:

- Control of substances hazardous to health (COSHH)
- 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. The last assessment was in May 2021 and is performed every 3 years
- Health & Safety – whole practice & individual rooms
- Disposal of waste
- Healthcare associated infections (HCAIs) and occupational infections
- Sharps injury
- Use of personal protective clothing/equipment
- Risk of body fluid spills
- 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. All staff have had a Covid19 vaccination
- Curtains: The NHS Cleaning Specifications state the curtains 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. 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. The modesty curtains 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
- Cleaning specifications, frequencies and cleanliness: We work with our cleaners to ensure that the surgery is kept as clean as possible.

Various risk assessments have been carried out and regularly reviewed with regard to the impacts of Covid-19 on staff and patients. In-house infection control training has been delivered to all clinical staff, policies and guidance updated in line with national instruction from PHE, NHSE and the government.

### Staff training

1 new staff joined the Mitchley Avenue Surgery in the past 12-months and received infection control and hand-washing training within 12 months of employment.

100% of the Practice Clinical staff completed their annual infection prevention & control update training, using e-learning modules online.

100% of the Practice non-clinical staff completed their annual infection prevention & control update training, using e-learning modules online.

The Infection Control Lead, Caroline Bridgeman, attended a training updates for her role on 16th February 2023.

### Infection Control Advice to Patients

Patients are directed to use the alcohol hand gel/sanitiser dispensers upon entering and leaving the surgery and encouraged to use those that are available throughout the Surgery. In addition, all patients must currently wear a face covering when entering the surgery building to prevent the spread of Coronavirus.

### Policies, procedures and guidelines

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 bi-annually, and all are amended on an on-going basis as current advice, guidance and legislation changes. Infection Control policies are circulated amongst staff for reading and discussed at meetings on an annual basis.

The Practice Infection Prevention and Control Policy was last reviewed and updated on 10.7.20 by Meryl Doherty.

Further policies and guidelines have been produced by Meryl Doherty specifically relating to Covid-19 and have been shared with all staff and are kept under regular review.

## Responsibility

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

Review date

20-06-21

## Responsibility for Review

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

For and on behalf of Mitchley Avenue Surgery