

The Hart Surgery Infection Control Annual Statement 2022

January 2023

Hart Surgery
York Rd
Henley on Thames
RG9 2DR

Purpose

This annual statement will be generated each year *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 infection control risk assessments undertaken and resulting actions
- Details of staff training
- Any review and update of policies, procedures and guidelines

We are now working to the new standards of healthcare cleanliness

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/B0271-national-standards-of-healthcare-cleanliness-2021.pdf>

Responsibilities- Infection Prevention and Control Leads

The Hart Surgery has two leads for Infection Prevention and Control:

Practice Nurse Fiona Nugent and Nominated GP Dr Chee Pavey

The IPC leads are supported by Hilary Munube , Infection prevention and Control lead OCCG.

There haven't been any face-to-face Infection Control updates again this year due to Covid restrictions but Fiona Nugent has attended all the 'virtual' OCCG updates.

Significant Events (Infection Transmission Incidents)

Significant 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 weekly partner meetings and learning is cascaded to all relevant staff. All are also reviewed/discussed at specific significant event meetings.

- We had one significant event re Infection risk in 2022 when one of our GPs suffered a needlestick injury. She was seen and treated appropriately in A&E.

Covid 19 infection control

- Covid 2019 proved to be an enormous IC challenge leading to big changes in the way that we conduct our surgery's since early 2019 in order to protect ourselves and our patients from Coronavirus. PPE is available in every clinical room and is worn by all staff according to the current national guidelines. Face masks continue to be worn by all clinical Hart Surgery staff whilst in contact with patients.
- All staff continue to take lateral flow tests if symptomatic/unwell as per national healthcare staff guidelines.
- We now offer a mixture of telephone or face to face appointments reducing the risk of transmission of infections.
- There are increased cleaning procedures carried out across the building.
- We continue to try and keep windows open in clinical rooms to increase ventilation.
- We continue having clinical system access from home for staff to work from home if self-isolating.
- Since the introduction of the Covid vaccines we have run vaccine clinics for all our eligible patients, we have also immunised against flu as usual over the winter. All of our staff have been vaccinated against Covid 19.

Infection Prevention Audits and Actions

- The Annual Infection prevention and Control audit 2022 was completed by Fiona Nugent in January 2023. Under the IPC guidelines the audit required 95% compliance in all areas, we scored 92% up by 3% on last year. Most of our issues continue to be related to the pressure on storage space in the Hart Surgery.
- Minor surgery is carried out at the Hart Surgery and post-operative infection levels are closely monitored.
- Fiona Nugent now completes monthly audits of the cleaners work with their manager and she liaises with our regular cleaner when required. We have also liaised with them re increased cleaning requirements during the pandemic. We had the surgery deep cleaned in Autumn 2022. All internal glass is also to be cleaned early 2023.
- We are well in to the annual flu vaccine season and with the added threat from Covid over the winter leading to an increase in the eligible population being offered an NHS flu vaccine again and this winter has also seen an increase in the numbers of flu cases.

Risk Assessments

Risk Assessments are carried out so that best practice can be established and then followed.

Legionella: Annually a Legionella advisor prepares and reviews the risk assessments for legionella which is a bacterium that may colonise water systems in cooling towers, hot or cold water systems and storage tanks and could pose a risk to patients, staff or visitors. Regular checks of hot water temperature are carried out by one of our administrative staff.

Immunisation: As a practice we ensure that all our clinical 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. We have since Dec 2020 been fully involved with the Covid vaccine programme as part of the HenleySonnet PCN.

Antibiotics: We continue to prescribe according to the BOB current antibiotic guidelines in the continuing battle to prevent overprescribing of antibiotics and therefore reducing antibiotic resistance.

Decontamination lead: Our HCA Becky Rogers is our decontamination lead, she checks a random selection of equipment for cleanliness weekly.

Training

All our clinical and non-clinical staff have completed when due an infection control e learning module. We have an Infection control workbook for all new staff to complete as part of their induction.

Fiona Nugent our IPC Lead Nurse has attended all 'virtual' IC updates this year and fed back information to the rest of the Hart staff.

Review Date

December 2023

Responsibility for Review

The Infection Prevention and Control Leads and the Practice Management are responsible for reviewing and producing the Annual Statement