

# **Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Annual Statement 2023 – 2024 Review date 28 March 2025**

## **Confidentiality Notice**

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## **Executive Summary**

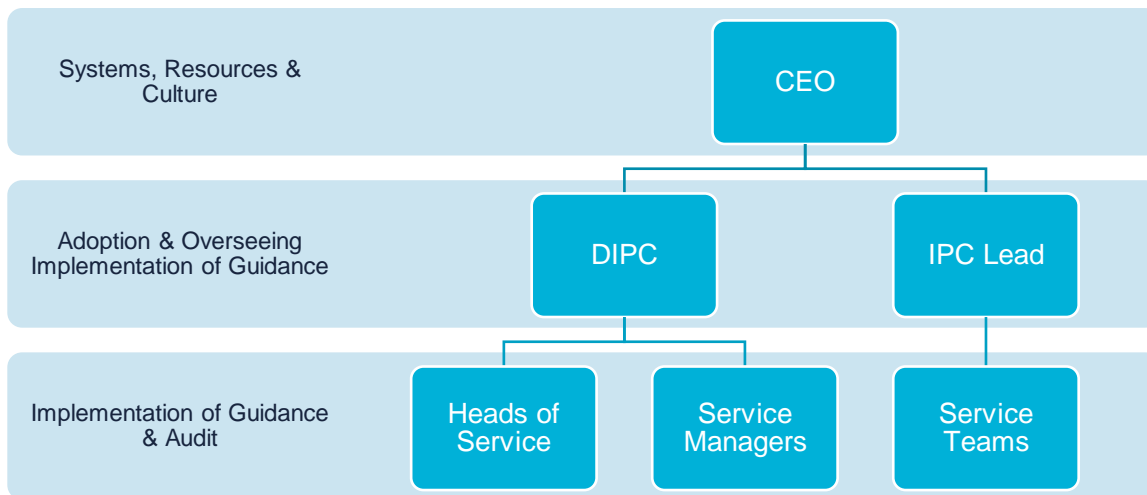
The Health and Social Care Act 2008 Code of Practice on the Prevention and Control of Infections and related guidance<sup>1</sup> (Appendix D) states that the Infection Prevention Control (IPC) lead is to prepare an annual statement, “for anyone who wishes to see it, including patients and regulatory authorities”.

The following short review complies with these requirements and includes the following:

- Infection control incidents and actions arising from these
- Audits undertaken and subsequent actions
- Risk assessments undertaken for the prevention and control of infection
- Education and training received by staff and review and update of policies, procedures.



## Our Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) structure



<https://www.england.nhs.uk/national-infection-prevention-and-control-manual-nipcm-for-england/>

### The following service leads have overseen compliance with IPC requirements for 2023-2024:

- Dr Samia Kidwai - Equity Service
- Rachel Winter – RASS Service
- Richard Visick – Clinical Services

### Responsibilities:

The Lead Nurse will have overall responsibility for promoting good infection prevention and control (IPC) practice across ABC, ensuring that there are effective arrangements for infection control including training, regular IPC environmental audits and the annual audit of infection control. The IPC service leads are responsible for IPC across the relevant services. In respect of the vaccine services this includes responsibility for the maintenance of the cold chain. The service / operational managers are responsible for the day-to-day implementation of IPC requirements in their area including:

- the maintenance of personal protective equipment (PPE) and the provision of personal cleaning supplies within service clinical areas
- the maintenance of the provision of personal cleaning supplies within service nonclinical areas
- the maintenance of sterile equipment and supplies, and for ensuring that all items remain 'in date'
- ensuring there are appropriate supplies of sharps containers, PPE and materials for hand decontamination.

[Health and Social Care Act 2008: code of practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/health-and-social-care-act-2008-code-of-practice-on-the-prevention-and-control-of-infections-and-related-guidance)



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## IPC Incidents

There was 1 IPC incident reported in the year.

Incident Date & Number	Site or Service	Summary	Actions taken
15/11/23 (162)	RASS Hotel	Patient transferred with active TB on 14/11/23 and clinicians not notified	Clinical lead spoke to senior manager at previous location who confirmed that the medical team there were unaware of the patient's transfer. They notified the ICB and the home office and will be filing as an SI. UKHSA were also made aware and were to arrange a meeting with the TB team. RASS Nurse requested he is moved to a single room and should remain in isolation until 18/11/23. TB team from previous hospital were to refer to the ESH TB Team. Local ICB and safeguarding teams to be made aware by RW. RASS team to support follow up and repeat bloods and continue welfare checks daily.

## Audits

Audit is an essential component of any infection prevention and control strategy.

## Enhanced Access Host Sites

A copy of the annual IPC audit is requested from all of the host site practices as part of their annual quality audit. This is not always easy to obtain and a completion usually has to suffice as evidence.

## Occupational Health

As part of the recruitment process all staff are screened as part of their pre-employment checks which includes their vaccination status.

The ABC Infectious Diseases Policy and Sickness Absence Policy provide guidance that promotes the prevention of spread of infection.

Sickness, Absence and Attendance policy was approved in June 2022 which took account of absence owing to the pandemic. The Management of Infection Spread in Covid Vaccination Sites followed national guidance and was used across the NICS vaccination sites.



## Training

E-learning mandatory training is provided regarding the standard principles of infection prevention control on an annual basis for clinicians and every three years for non-clinical staff. In March 2024 the training compliance rates were 82% for non-clinicians and 73% for clinicians.

### **The content of the course for clinicians includes information about:**

- How to obtain information about infection prevention and control
- The different organisms and conditions that pose an infection risk
- How to safely manage patients with specific infections
- The importance of hand hygiene
- Use of appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) that should be used when performing clinical procedures and how to use single-use items appropriately
- How to clean up different types of fluids and spillages and how to dispose of waste safely

### **The content of the course for non-clinicians includes information about:**

- How to contribute to infection prevention and control
- How to identify local policies and procedures for infection prevention and control
- Responsibilities for infection prevention and control and standard precautions (including hand hygiene, personal protective equipment (PPE), management of blood and body fluid spillage, management of occupational exposure including sharps, management of the environment and management of care equipment)
- Identify when personal health and fitness may pose a risk of infection to others at work

**The Lead Nurse for RASS has recently completed the Royal College of Nursing Infection Prevention and Control Programme and will be the IPC Lead for ABC.**

## IPC Policy

The Infection Prevention and Control Policy was last updated in June 2023 with the next review due in June 2024.

## Communications

Information regarding recent national infectious disease outbreaks such as monkeypox, Group A Streptococcus (iGAS), Scarlet Fever, TB and Bordetella Pertussis were shared with teams to ensure appropriate management.

A new Infectious and Notifiable Diseases tile is to be added to the Clinical Services Handbook so that staff can easily access the Notifiable Diseases Policy which will include the process for notification and any local pathways that are developed for example Diphtheria screening and disease outbreak plans.

