**IP&C, National Cleaning standards and useful Documents, Links, and top tips for Lead Nurses**

**IP&C**

Practices are often managing IP&C very well; however, they may not be documenting this formally.

**Generic Policies**

There is no need to rewrite IP&C policies. Generic ones can be found via the link below

<https://www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk/gp-practices/policies/>

**NHS Somerset link with ALL relevant documents for IP&C and cleaning standards**

<https://nhssomerset.nhs.uk/for-clinicians/infection-control/infection-control-in-primary-care/>

Infection control audit tool

<https://www.somersetlmc.co.uk/infectioncontrolaudittool>

Good Practice Guide (for primary care)

<https://nhssomerset.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/IPC-Good-Practice-Guide-V7.1-May2021.pdf>

**National Cleaning standards**

Recent statement

NHS Somerset and Somerset Local Medical Committee (LMC) representatives met recently to discuss how we could provide further support for GP Practices to implement the NHS National Standards of Healthcare Cleanliness, published in April 2021. It was agreed by all participants that:

1. the NHS Cleaning Standards include mandatory requirements for all providers of NHS-funded services.

2. National Standards of Healthcare Cleanliness 2021 replace the 2007 specifications for NHS cleanliness. This guidance mirrors Care Quality Commission expectations for GP practices as set out in Regulation 12 and 15 and the Code of Practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance. The national standards are not part of these regulations or the code of practice.

3. Some elements of the standards are mandatory while other aspects are recommendations to ensure good practice which give patients and visitors confidence of the cleaning standards in their healthcare setting e.g. Star Ratings.

4. The mandatory requirements are:

1. Functional risk categories

2. Elements, frequencies and performance parameters

3. Cleaning responsibilities

4. Audit frequency

5. Efficacy audit to review cleaning policy and standard operating procedures

6. Commitment to Cleanliness Charter displayed

NHS Somerset and Somerset LMC are committed to provide support to any GP practice who requires further guidance in implementing the cleaning standards. It has been recognised that most of the cleaning standard requirements will already be in place such as daily cleaning, cleaning responsibilities, schedules and monthly audits. Please feel free to contact the NHS Somerset IP&C Team on somicb.infectionpreventioncontrolteam@nhs.net, Primary Care Contracts Team via somicb.generalpractice@nhs.net or Somerset LMC via lmc.sgpet@nhs.net for any assistance you may need or require.

**See NHS somerset website for documents, commitment to cleanliness and primary care cleaning audit tool (available to download).**

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/estates/national-standards-of-healthcare-cleanliness-2021/>

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/our-commitment-to-cleanliness/>

**Functional risk links**

FR2 is for treatment rooms where invasive procedures take place

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Commitment-to-Cleanliness-Charter-FR2.Primary-Care.pdf>

FR4 is for treatment rooms where non-invasive procedures take place, receptions, waiting areas, consulting rooms

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Commitment-to-Cleanliness-Charter-FR4-revised.Primary-Care.pdf>

FR6 is for offices, medical records, educational rooms

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/Commitment-to-Cleanliness-Charter-FR6-revised.Primary-Care.pdf>

Audit score sheet and Efficacy audit checklist can be found in the link below

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/national-standards-of-healthcare-cleanliness-2021-supporting-documents/>

**Top Tip**

Administration time

Best practice would be to allocate time every week for IP&C/Cleaning Standard workstreams to ensure you keep up with audits and updates. You may need to negotiate this with your practice manager.

**Infection control Training**

If you are the lead for IP&C you will need to access training appropriate for you to lead the practice.

Nurses within the practice should undertake annual IP&C training and updates.

**CQC**

A good website is GP mythbusters. GP mythbusters clear up some common myths about our inspections of GP services, independent doctors and clinics and out-of-hours services and share agreed guidance to best practice.

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/gps/gp-mythbusters>

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/gps/gp-mythbuster-99-infection-prevention-control-general-practice>

**PGD's**

Link below to sps (all you need to know about PGDs, PSD’s and professional medicines advice)

<https://www.sps.nhs.uk/articles/retaining-pgd-documentation/>

**Resus equipment**

Link to CQC regarding resus equipment and drugs

<https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-providers/gps/gp-mythbuster-1-resuscitation-gp-surgeries>

**Statutory mandatory training link**

<https://www.rcn.org.uk/get-help/rcn-advice/training-statutory-and-mandatory>​

**Smears**

Sample takers should undertake a minimum of one-half day update training every three years.

This can be face to face or e learning.

**Ear irrigation**

Rotherham Ear care centre advise every two years for an invasive procedure such as irrigation. This can be a formal training course.  It can also be during clinical supervision when a suitably qualified clinician observes your practice and technique and feeds back to you. This should be recorded.

**Imms and vacs**

Annual update training and appraisals are required to ensure personal development, meet professional requirements for safe practice (e.g., NMC Code) and support the delivery of safe, up to date, high quality care.​

**LTC**

No formal guidance however, an annual update is recommended or at least evidence of CPD and keeping up to date with changes in care pathways/drugs.

**QOF Indicator points**

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/B133-update-on-quality-outcomes-framework-changes-for-22-23-guidance.pdf>

 Arden's have a blood test analyser

The Ardens Blood Test Due Analyser alerts practice staff to any blood tests due for the patient. This is based on any long-term conditions they are diagnosed with, prescribed medication, and recorded diary entries. We also include patients eligible for CVD primary prevention screening based on NICE guidance.

<https://support-ew.ardens.org.uk/support/solutions/articles/31000165373-blood-test-due-analyser>