

IPC Annual statement

Purpose

This annual statement will be generated each year in January 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 risk assessments undertaken for prevention and control of infection
- Details of staff training
- Any review and update of policies, procedures and guidelines

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Leads:

GP Lead: Dr Louise Reynolds

Nurse Lead: Hannah Gilbert

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.

Infection Prevention Audit and Actions

This involves a comprehensive review of all aspects of infection prevention and control within the surgery.

As a result of this audit, the following changes are planned at Lyndhurst Surgery:

- To ensure that all walls / surfaces are wipeable and damage free
- All clinicians' chairs will be wipeable

As a result of the audit, no changes in procedures were deemed necessary.

The Lyndhurst Surgery plan to undertake the following audits in 2026

- Annual Infection Prevention and Control audit
- Cold Chain (for safe storage and handling of vaccinations)
- Domestic Cleaning audit
- Hand hygiene audit

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments are carried out so that best practice can be established and then followed. In the last year the following risk assessments were carried out / reviewed:

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. This is done monthly

Immunisation: As a practice we ensure that all 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.

Other examples of Infection Prevention and Control activities:

Curtains: The NHS Cleaning Specifications state the curtains should be cleaned or if using disposable curtains, replaced 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.

Toys: we have few toys in the Surgery which are regularly cleaned by the cleaners on a regular schedule. We have a cleaning policy that our staff and cleaner adhere to.

Cleaning specifications, frequencies and cleanliness: We work with our cleaners to ensure that the surgery is kept as clean as possible. Bimonthly assessments of cleaning processes are conducted with our cleaning contractors to identify areas for improvement. We also have a cleaning specification and frequency policy which our cleaners and staff work to.

Hand washing sinks: The practice has clinical hand-washing sinks in every room for staff to use. We have replaced our liquid soap with wall mounted soap dispensers to ensure cleanliness. We Audit all staffs' hand hygiene Annually

Training

All our staff receive annual training in infection prevention and control.

Policies

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 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.

Responsibility

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

Review date

20/12/2026

Responsibility for Review

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

