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The Limes Medical Practice

Annual Statement:

Infection Control July 2021 - 2022

Purpose

In line with the Health and Social Care act 2008: Code of Practice on Prevention and Control of Infection, July 2015, and its related guidance, this annual statement will be generated each year.

It will summarise:

Any infection transmission incidents and lessons learnt and action taken:

- In the last 12 months there have been 4 minor infections following procedures undertaken in the surgery, all successfully treated with antimicrobials and did not require secondary care management.
- All infected wounds are documented as infected and any high risk wounds – e.g. Carbapenem Resistant Organisms (CRO), Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA), are highlighted on patient's notes. This has been added to the patients notes from this year so that clinical staff are immediately made aware of any IPC issues when seeing a patient.
- Audit undertaken in April this year identified some minor cosmetic decorating requirements in clinical rooms that need attention.

Our IPC policy was updated and reviewed in February 2021 and will continue to be reviewed and updated annually.

ACTION PLAN FOR THE LIMES SURGERY

Infection Control Lead:

The Infection Control Team will carry out the following within the practice:

- Increase awareness of infection control issues amongst staff and clients
- help motivate colleagues to improve practice
- improve local implementation of infection control policies
- Ensure that practice based infection control audits are undertaken
- Assist in the education of colleagues
- Help identify any infection control problems within the practice and work to resolve these, where necessary, in conjunction with the local infection control team.
- Act as role model within the practice
- Disseminate key infection control messages to their colleagues within the practice

Practice Infection Control Lead: Dr S Maxted supported by Lyn Errington, Lead Nurse and Kate Jones, Assistant Practice Manager.

Significant events

There have been no significant events reported regarding infection control issues in the last 12 months.

Audits

The following audits have been undertaken in the last 12 months:

Infection Control Annual Audit April 2021

The practice needs to produce an annual statement that is available to all staff and patients to read. It will be available on the practice website.

It will be located on the shared drive for staff to view.

Cleaning

Cleaning issues via the cleaning team employed to do the environment cleaning. Nil identified since recent change of external cleaning staff.

Staff Training:

Due to the Covid Pandemic, not all staff have attended the IPC refresher training in last 12 months.

Dates will be identified for staff to receive appropriate training.

There is educational input for staff to ensure they are up to date with cleaning up hazardous waste correctly and are aware of the procedure for management of a needle stick injury, hand hygiene and know the contents and where to find the Infection Control Policy. Protected Learning Time is usually utilised for updating/training staff in this area. However, due to the covid vaccination programme, this year it has not been. The team leaders are working towards finding time when this can be addressed. It is mandatory that all staff complete Infection Control e-learning modules using Blue Stream.

However, it is the responsibility of each individual to be familiar with The Limes IPC Statement and their roles and responsibilities under it.

Policies, Protocols and Guidelines:

The policies below have been updated this year. They are reviewed annually or earlier when appropriate, due to changes in regulations and evidenced based guidance.

- Standard infection control precautions
- Aseptic technique
- Isolation of service users with an infection
- Safe handling and disposal of sharps
- Prevention and management of occupational exposure to blood and bodily fluids.
- Safe handling and disposal of waste
- Packaging and handling of specimens
- Immunisation of patients
- Decontamination of reusable medical devices and equipment
- Single use medical devices
- Outbreaks of infection / communicable diseases/ isolation of infected patients
- Reporting of infections to the health protection agency or local authority
- CJD – handling instruments and devices
- Environmental cleaning
- Uniform policy / dress code
- Antimicrobial prescribing

Patients

For patients that are thought to be contagious, an isolation room is available rather than using the main patient waiting room. Patients known to have MRSA will be treated at the end of a nurse clinic list so that the room can be appropriately cleaned after the consultation.

PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)

All members of staff have access to PPE in line with their role.

- Hazard spill kits are available for all types of spills. Staff are aware of where the spill kits are stored.
- Clinical staff are provided with aprons, gloves and goggles/face shields as required necessary for the task.
- Reception staff/clinical staff are provided with gloves and aprons for cleaning up spillages.

Waste

- Clinical waste is categorised and stored in line with our waste management policy. The clinical waste is collected bi-weekly. Waste transfer notes are stored in the Practice Manager's office and are archived for 5 years.
- Domestic waste is disposed of by Blaby District Council. Collections take place weekly.

Staff Immunisation

We use the occupational health services at Glenfield Hospital to ensure all our staff are offered any vaccinations they require to fulfil their role.

This is a confidential service for all staff employed at the Limes.

We take part in the National Immunisation campaigns for patients and offer vaccinations in house and via home visits to our patient population.

Sepsis

We are a sepsis aware Practice. Staff have/ or are in the process of completing mandatory e-learning modules on Sepsis and Sepsis Awareness. There are patient information posters displayed within the surgery.

Review Date: April 2022