

IPC CQC Advice Bulletin for GP Practices

Top IPC tips for pre-CQC visits

Issue No. 01 – January 2016

To further support GP Practices before visits from the CQC, we have researched some of their latest Inspection Reports and as a result suggest the following recommendations.

CQC stated: *'Systems and processes for infection prevention and control (IPC) were not adequate.'*

Action: Ensure safe systems of work for your patients, staff, equipment and environment:

- patients can expect safety as part of their care and are entitled to ask you whether you have washed your hands before you examine them or perform a procedure – display appropriate posters
- keep handwashing facilities clean and stocked up with liquid soap and paper towels
- place alcohol handrub dispensers at the entrance – display appropriate poster.

CQC stated: *'Appropriate standards of cleanliness and hygiene were followed.'*

Action: You can achieve this by ensuring cleaning schedules for equipment and the environment are monitored, cleaning recorded, dated and signed – items previously inspected include glucometers in GP domiciliary bags.

Infrequently used items, e.g., wheelchairs, pat slides, sonicaids, need to be cleaned and labelled detailing date, time and signature. Make sure these items are added to or included on your cleaning schedule.

CQC stated: *'An infection control audit had taken place and we saw the audit with comments and a full action plan to be completed. Part of this was to ensure staff had training for infection Control.'*

Action: Ensure you have completed an Infection Prevention and Control audit tool and you have drawn up action plans.

Remember, the CQC will check patient areas including toilets, clinic rooms, waiting areas and reception.

CQC query: The CQC contacted us last week for advice regarding warm air hand dryers.

Response: We advised them that warm air hand dryers are acceptable for use in patient/visitor toilets, but should not be used in a clinical area or staff toilets.

Resources available at:

www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk

We will be in touch with further recommendations as these are highlighted by the CQC