

## INTRODUCTION

The Community Infection Prevention and Control Policies for Domiciliary Care staff have been produced by a dynamic NHS Community Infection Prevention and Control Team, with a vast experience of working with the Health and Social Care sector. These Policies describe the precautions and control measures that are essential to prevent and control infection in Domiciliary Care settings.

The Policies provide advice on infection prevention and control (IPC) practices and give specific guidance in relation to the infection prevention and control implications of infections, such as *Clostridioides difficile*, MRSA. The contents incorporate the latest national guidance and should be seen as a guide to best practice.

These evidence-based Policies have been developed with the aim that they can be adopted by Domiciliary Care organisations. To facilitate this, we have incorporated an adoption statement that can be signed and dated before accepting and utilising these documents. This will help demonstrate compliance with *The Health and Social Care Act 2008: Code of Practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance (The Code of Practice)*, Department of Health 2015, and Care Quality Commission (CQC) requirements.

Good infection prevention and control practices can substantially reduce healthcare associated infection. Every year more than 300,000 people contract an infection associated with healthcare. Therefore, effective prevention and control of infection must be part of everyday practice and consistently applied by everyone. All staff play an important part in the control of infection and, therefore, it is important to report any illness, e.g. diarrhoea, vomiting, to your manager as this may have serious implications for service users. Staff should read and apply the principles and practices in the Policies to demonstrate commitment to high quality care and patient safety.

We have also developed a 'one-stop-shop' Infection Prevention and Control website specifically for Domiciliary Care, Care Homes, General Practice and other Healthcare Professionals. This innovative website has numerous resources to help organisations with CQC compliance, including guidance, posters, leaflets, educational tools, including the award winning 'Preventing Infection Workbook: Guidance for Domiciliary Care staff.

It is also a requirement of *The Code of Practice* that an audit programme is in place to ensure that the appropriate IPC Policies have been implemented.

The website can be found at:

[www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk](http://www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk)

**When caring for service users in relation to COVID-19 or any other new emerging infections, staff should refer to national infection prevention and control guidance.**

Please do not hesitate to contact us for further information on our innovative Infection Prevention and Control educational resources.

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Contact details for your local area	
<b>Local Health Protection (HP) Team</b> (Enter contact details below)	
Contact details:	Tel:
<b>Local Community Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Team (this could be your local HP or Hospital IPC Team)</b> (Enter contact details below)	
Contact details:	Tel:

[www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk](http://www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk)