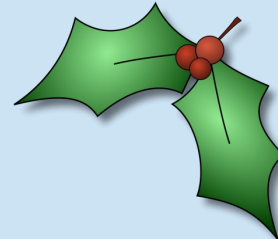
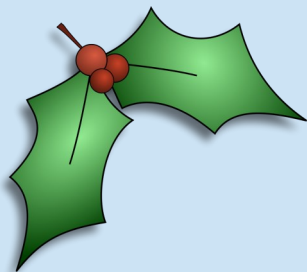


IPC Bulletin for GP Practice Staff

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Guidance for seasonal decorations

Seasonal decorations can impede effective cleaning of the environment and can harbour bacteria and viruses which can be passed onto others if they cannot be cleaned.

Below are some practical suggestions which would allow patients and staff to enjoy a cheerful atmosphere over the festive season without having an adverse impact on infection prevention and control.

- Decorations either be single season use and disposed of when taken down or washable/wipeable so they can be decontaminated before being stored away for next season.
- To facilitate frequent surface cleaning and disinfection procedures, try to avoid putting decorations on horizontal surfaces keeping them free from clutter.
- Garlands that are hung up high are less likely to be contaminated/touched.
- Remember, if there is an outbreak of infection in the GP surgery, take down and dispose of the decorations as part of the outbreak deep clean guidelines.
- Decorations can be displayed in staff offices and rest rooms following the above guidance.
- No decorations should be displayed in consulting or clinical rooms.



Following this guidance can help minimise the risk of infection, facilitate environmental cleaning, whilst ensuring a festive environment for your patients and staff.

What's new

- MRSA suppression treatments, information leaflet and factsheet (updated November 2022). Available to download at www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk and search 'MRSA'.
- Save the date: **27 March 2023** IPC training event for General Practice.

Visit our website to find lots of IPC resources, many of which are free to download.

www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk

Call us on **01423 557340**.

