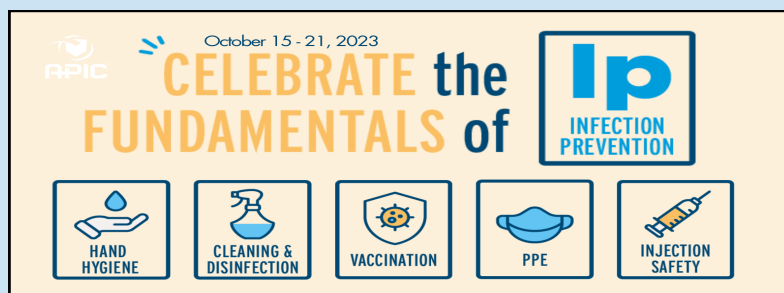


IPC Bulletin for GP Practice Staff

Issue No. 47- September 2023

**Stop and refresh - get back to basics for
International Infection Prevention Week (IIPW), 15th-21st October, 2023**



<https://infectionpreventionandyou.org/iipw/>

The theme for the IIPW this year is ‘**Celebrating the Fundamentals of Infection Prevention**’ which highlights getting back to the basics of infection prevention for everybody. Over the winter months, the number of cases of COVID-19, influenza (flu) and stomach infections, e.g. Norovirus, increase. It may have been a while since you have encountered these infections in your Practice, so now is the time to

‘Stop and refresh and get back to the basics of IPC’.

Hand hygiene

- Ensure staff follow good hand hygiene practice.
- Promote patient and staff hand hygiene by displaying notices and posters showing the correct technique.



⇒ **Don't forget:** Alcohol handrub is not effective at killing viruses that cause diarrhoea and vomiting

Decontamination

- Decontaminate care equipment and the environment using appropriate products or disinfectant wipes.



Vaccination

- Ensure Practice staff are vaccinated against flu and COVID-19.
- Encourage eligible patients within the Practice to be immunised against flu and COVID-19.



Personal protective equipment

- Ensure all staff are trained in the correct use of personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Remind staff of the importance of safe removal of PPE.



⇒ **Remember:** Gloves can spread diseases so remove them promptly after single use

Injection safety

- If you sustain a sharps injury ‘Bleed it, Wash it, Cover it, Report it’.



Now is a good time to look at your IPC Policies and your ‘Practice business continuity plan’ and ensure they are up-to-date.



Save the date



IPC training event for General Practice 13th November, 2023

www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk/events/infection-prevention-and-control-training-event-for-general-practice-and-dental-practice-3

Ideal for IPC Leads and will help you meet CQC educational requirements.

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

www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk

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