

# IPC Bulletin for GP Practice Staff

## Issue No. – 50 December 2023



### Community Infection Prevention and Control Policies for General Practice

A **new set** of Community Infection Prevention and Control Policies for General Practice is now available. There has been a comprehensive review to ensure the Policies reflect national guidance.

The full suite of 27 Policies can be downloaded free of charge at [www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk/gp-practices/policies/](http://www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk/gp-practices/policies/). Alternatively, a Policy folder is available to purchase by completing an [order form](#) or telephone 01423 557340. These will be despatched in January 2024.

### Significant changes to the following policies

#### **GP 01 Antimicrobial stewardship: New policy**

reflecting the requirements of the revised 'Health and Social Care Act 2008: *code of practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance*', (Code of practice), December 2022. It details the role of General Practice staff in ensuring appropriate antimicrobial use and stewardship to optimise outcomes for patients and reduce the risk of adverse events and antimicrobial resistance.

**GP 02 Aseptic Technique:** Addition of '2 in 1' product for cleaning dressing trolley and also use of alcohol swabs to wipe cleansing agent sachet before opening.

**GP 06 Hand hygiene:** Clarification relating to religious bangles, use of disposable over-sleeves, use of nail brushes and surgical hand antiseptis.

**GP 08 MRGNB, including CPE:** Change in terminology from MDRO and CPO.

**GP 09 MRSA:** Inclusion of information regarding naseptin and peanut/soya allergy.

**GP 13 PPE:** Consideration of overuse of PPE and its environmental impact. Revised glove selection.

**GP 14 PVL-SA:** Use of fluid resistant surgical mask for PVL-SA pneumonia and information regarding naseptin and peanut/soya allergy.

**GP 16 Respiratory illnesses: New policy** in accordance with the revised 'Code of practice' covering transmission of viral respiratory infections and IPC management of patients with respiratory illnesses.

**GP 17 Safe disposal of waste, including sharps:** Use of temporary closure mechanism on sharps container 'when not in use'. Sharps containers no longer require disposal at 3 months. Waste bags to be secured when 2/3 full using a swan neck or plastic tie. Clarification of yellow and orange waste streams.

**GP 19 Safe management of care equipment:** Each Practice to have a designated Lead for Cleanliness.

**GP 26 Venepuncture:** Clarification regarding use of reusable tourniquets, gloves, skin decontamination and dressings. Addition of action in the event of a failed attempt.

**GP 27 Viral gastroenteritis/Norovirus:** Isolation of care home residents until 72-hours symptom free.



#### Save the date

**IPC training events for General Practice**  
15th April, 2024 or  
11th November, 2024

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

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

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