

IPC Bulletin for GP Practice Staff

Issue No. 63 - October 2025

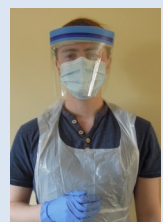


Produced by an NHS Community Infection Prevention and Control Team based in North Yorkshire for distribution to subscribers.

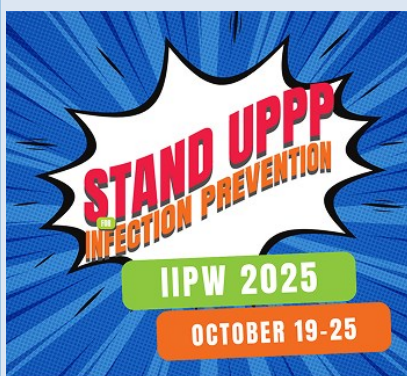
Are you prepared for the winter season

The winter season results in an increased pressure across the healthcare system with more respiratory illnesses, such as flu and COVID-19, and an increase in gastrointestinal infections, e.g. Norovirus. These can affect both patients and staff which result in staff shortage at a time when workload is high. The following steps can help you be better prepared to manage the increase of infection during the winter season.

- ✓ Check your Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Policies are up-to-date and accessible for staff.
- ✓ Promote uptake of vaccinations for eligible patients and staff.
- ✓ Ensure clinical rooms have a good supply of gloves, aprons, facemasks and eye protection.
- ✓ Declutter communal spaces and clinical rooms to facilitate cleaning.
- ✓ Check the expiry dates of alcohol handrub and cleaning solutions to ensure they are in date.
- ✓ Do refresher training on hand hygiene and how to put on and remove PPE safely.
- ✓ Ensure alcohol handrub is available for patients and staff.
- ✓ Consider having masks available for patients who have symptoms of a respiratory virus.
- ✓ Display respiratory and cough hygiene posters, e.g. '[Catch it, Bin it, Kill it](#)' and '[Respiratory and cough hygiene](#)', available to download at www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk.
- ✓ Ensure the Practice 'Business continuity plan' is up-to-date.



International Infection Prevention Week (IIPW) 19th-25th October, 2025



- International Infection Prevention Week (IIPW) is a global initiative dedicated to raising awareness about the critical importance of infection prevention.
- This year, you are invited to Stand UPPP for infection prevention.
- UPPP stands for '**Unite, Protect, Prevent, Prevail**' - four pillars that reflect what it takes to stop the spread of infection and create safer spaces for all.
- When we unite across roles and settings, protect our communities, prevent infections through everyday actions, and prevail over emerging threats, we build a stronger, healthier future.
- Activities are available for the week on infectionpreventionandyou.org.

What's new:

- IPC training event for General Practice: 10th November, 2025, or 9th February, 2026. **BOOK NOW to reserve your place** at www.infectionpreventioncontrol.co.uk/events/
- '[QICN General Practice Network Webinar](#)': 3rd December, 2025 - free event.

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.

