

# HUNTCLIFF SURGERY

## INFECTION PREVENTION & CONTROL ANNUAL STATEMENT

### **Infection Prevention and Control Lead Person**

K Ward Advanced Nurse Practitioner

The role of the Infection Prevention Control [IPC] lead is to facilitate the practice in ensuring a clean and safe environment for staff, Patients and anyone else attending the surgery.

### **Staff**

As a practice we ensure that all of our clinical staff are up to date with their hepatitis B immunisations and all staff are offered any occupational health vaccinations applicable to their role (flu, covid and MMR vaccinations).

Staff are encouraged to raise any issues with regards to infection control so that this can be discussed and addressed.

Clinical staff training on infection control is provided annually and more recently the “donning and doffing” of PPE and handwashing during the Covid – 19 pandemic. Any recommendations to changes to practice with regards to IPC are cascaded to the whole team.

Non-clinical staff training is 3 yearly.

We review our policies annually to ensure that they meet national standards and guidance.

### **Significant Events**

There have been no reports of significant infection transmission in the period covered by this report.

A significant event relating to Infection Prevention Control [IPC] is regarded as a needle stick injury, vaccine fridge malfunction or major outbreak of infection such as diarrhoea and vomiting, norovirus or covid 19

A clinical meeting is held within the practice once a month and any significant events are discussed then.

### **Audits and Risk Assessments**

An infection control risk assessment was last performed on 14.5.2021 – no major hazards were identified in our last audit cycle.

An audit on Minor Surgery was undertaken in May 2021. No infections were reported for those patient who had attended for minor surgery during the last year. [At intervals during 2020/21 routine minor surgery procedures were suspended in line with Standard Operating Procedures].

A thorough COVID – 19 risk assessment was undertaken throughout 2020/21 and is regularly updated as new information and procedures are cascaded from the government.

We have implemented the following covid 19 restrictions:

- Masks must be worn by all patients or visitors entering the Practice [unless exemptions apply]
- Owing to social distancing restrictions one person at any one time is allowed in the foyer in order to have face to face communication with the receptionist; they can then enter the waiting room if they have an appointment
- Adjustments to the seating area in the waiting room have been made in line with social distancing recommendations
- In line with standard operating procedures telephone triage has been implemented for doctors/prescribing nurses.
- Face to face appointments with doctors/prescribing nursees are staggered to allow for social distancing in the waiting room
- Nursing appointments remain face to face, but are staggered to allow for social distancing in the waiting room
- PPE stocks are maintained and staff are trained in appropriate usage
- Appointment times have been extended to allow for cleaning in between patients.
- Alcohol hand gel is available throughout the practice
- The flooring in all nursing consulting rooms, minor surgery rooms and 2 GP rooms are fitted with washable coverings
- Modesty curtains are changed every 6 months unless they become soiled and then they are replaced immediately
- Social distancing is maintained between staff in admin offices or communal spaces.
- All staff wear masks in communal spaces.

## **Policies**

All Infection and Prevention and Control policies are up to date and are reviewed and updated at least annually and staff are informed of changes.

**Karen Ward – Advanced Nurse Practitioner – 14 May 2021**