



COASTAL MEDICAL PARTNERSHIP

BETTER TOGETHER

Coastal Medical Partnership

Infection Control Annual Statement 2026 - 2027

Purpose

This annual statement will be generated each year in May in accordance with the requirements of The Health and Social Care Act 2008 *Code of Practice on the prevention and control of infections and related guidance*. It summarises:

- Any infection transmission incidents and any action taken (these will have been reported in accordance with our Significant Event procedure)
- Details of any cleaning / infection control audits undertaken, and actions undertaken
- Details of any risk assessments undertaken for prevention and control of infection
- Details of staff training
- Any review and update of policies, procedures and guidelines

Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) Leadership

Each site within Coastal has a Lead GP and Lead Infection Control Nurse, supported by the Healthcare Assistants.

Infection Control Leads continue to have regular training and updates from the ICB IPC Team.

Infection transmission incidents (Significant Events)

Significant events (which may involve examples of good practice as well as challenging events) are investigated in detail to see what can be learnt and to indicate changes that might lead to future improvements. All significant events are reviewed in the Quarterly Practice meetings and learning is cascaded to all relevant staff.

In the past year there have been **NO** significant events raised that related to infection control.

Infection Prevention Audit and Actions

A new audit tool has been developed, incorporating the latest guidance from the ICB. This tool has been implemented across all sites, with audits conducted locally and results centrally collated. Each area is scored individually, and the overall score for Year Two is **83.95%** versus the score for year one of **79.25%**.

Key actions taken under each audit section are outlined below:

General Infection Prevention and Control (IPC)

- We have updated the cold chain policy that covers all surgeries, not a separate one for each one
- We have reviewed and updated the list of who can order vaccines
- Visual checks on all vaccines, including expiry dates, are now completed weekly

Environment

- Barton mini-refurbishment has included plastering of exposed brick walls and removal of all shelves in clinical rooms, as well as creating a new fully IPC-compliant clinical room with an IPC sink unit

- Clinical rooms have been cleared, and there is an ongoing check of these in each site by appointed staff members

Waste & Hygiene

- Following last year's audit, all general waste bins in all clinical rooms are foot-operated
- Repairs have been made to the exterior bin storage at the Arnewood site to ensure the gates can be closed

Immunisation

As a practice we ensure that all of our clinical staff are offered any occupational health vaccinations applicable to their role (i.e. Hepatitis B, MMR, Seasonal Flu). We take part in the National Immunisation campaigns for patients and offer vaccinations in house and via home visits to our patient population. We are also involved in the COVID 19 Immunisation programme at our New Milton Health Centre site and this is on going, with all infection control procedures in place.

PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)

Each practice provides PPE for all members of the team in line with their role.

Should it be necessary all clinical staff are provided with aprons and several different types and sizes of gloves, and there are no issues with supply. Masks are provided for all staff as these are still required to be worn in certain circumstances when seeing patients, for example those with respiratory symptoms and for personal preference.

FIT testing for FFP3 masks has commenced. There are enough clinicians trained in each site as the programme continues to capture all clinicians who can wear FFP3 masks.

Reception staff are provided with gloves for the handling of sample pots and sharps bins.

The correct lidded sharps bin is used depending on what is being disposed; for example, a live vaccine such as Rotarix would go into a purple topped bin. They are signed and locked as per protocol to avoid sharps injury and contamination.

Each Practice has in place an ISOLATION OF A CONTAGIOUS PATIENT Procedure, to guide all staff to isolate patients with possible infectious rashes i.e. chicken pox. An Isolation of a Contagious Patient Policy has been written, discussed and now in implementation.

All clinical staff members are made aware on induction of the new correct procedure introduced for the management of sharps and contamination incidents following a needle stick injury.

Domestic Cleaning

We have confirmed with Atlas, the practice cleaning company, that they are compliant with The Revised Healthcare Cleaning Manual as set out by the National Patient Safety Agency.

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments are carried out so that best practice can be established and then followed.

Training

Infection Control is included in staff inductions, and leads are in place at each site. We have recently purchased a handwash UV testing kit, and training has commenced in sites to compliment the online mandatory modules.

Policies

All Infection Prevention and Control related policies are in date for this year. Policies relating to Infection Prevention and Control are available to all staff and are reviewed and updated every two years and all are amended on an on-going basis as current advice, guidance and legislation changes. Infection Control policies are uploaded to our intranet system so that staff can access them easily.

Responsibility

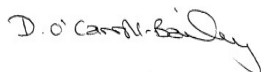
It is the responsibility of each individual to be familiar with this Statement and their roles and responsibilities under this.

Review date

May 2027

Responsibility for Review

The Infection Prevention and Control Lead and a Business Manager are responsible for reviewing and producing the Annual Statement.



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IPC Lead Partner



Mr Matt Perkins
Business Manager
For and on behalf of Coastal Medical Partnership