SECTION 12
Prevention of Infection Related to Devices and Procedures

• Introduction
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The Third Hospital Infection Society (HIS) Prevalence Survey of Healthcare-Associated Infection 2006 illustrated that one third of all healthcare associated infections are invasive medical device related.

The 2010 and 2011 Health Care Associated Infections in Long Term Care Facilities (HALT) surveys identified high dependency levels, urinary catheters and wounds as risk factors for Health Care Associated Infections (HCAI’s). Therefore it is imperative that policies, procedures and systems are implemented to minimise the risk of device related infections (HIQA 2009).

The following applies to all invasive medical devices and their management.

• Single use invasive medical devices are not reused.

\[\text{Single use items} \] must be disposed of after use.

Single use only is denoted by this symbol on packaging.
Medical Device Agency (MD DB 2000(04))

• Adherence to aseptic procedure and hand hygiene before and after any invasive procedure.

• A record keeping system is in place to track the management of the medical device from the date of insertion, inspection and review of the need for the invasive medical device.

• Staff are competently trained in invasive medical device insertion, maintenance, replacement and care, and this is documented.

• The Infection Prevention and Control nurse is consulted regarding the introduction of all new invasive medical devices the appropriateness of changes in practice in relation to the prevention and control of HCAIs relating to invasive medical devices.

• The use and management of invasive medical devices is regularly audited.

References and Bibliography

National Standards for the Prevention and Control of Healthcare Associated Infections; Standard 8 Invasive medical device related infections are prevented or reduced. 2009